

WORLD MONUMENTS 2019 Watch



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This page: The Jewish cemetery of Essaouira, Morocco. WMF has recently partnered with graduate students to map sites in the city's Jewish Quarter, a 2018 Watch site, and gather oral histories from residents.

Cover: A view of l'timad-ud-Daulah and its Mughal Gardens in Agra, India. Conservation of the site is nearing completion.



Learn more about the Jewish Quarter of Essaouira and the oral history project underway in our slideshow.



Dear Friends,

At World Monuments Fund, it is our mission to protect the world's irreplaceable treasures through sustainable solutions that empower local communities. The World Monuments Watch plays an invaluable part in this endeavor by issuing the call to action for places we aim to protect.

The Watch was launched more than 20 years ago with founding sponsor American Express to advocate for grassroots conservation initiatives on the global stage. Since then, each biennial cycle has highlighted diverse narratives of culture and heritage, enabling community stakeholders to implement activities that pave the way for sustainable site stewardship. Today, it has evolved to become an important entry point for our conservation work, with two-thirds of our projects originating in the program.

We are thrilled to announce two new partners who will allow the Watch to reach new potential. Stavros Niarchos Foundation has awarded the program a two-year, \$600,000 challenge grant, half of which has been matched by The Ford Foundation. These new funds will allow WMF to assemble resources for strategic interventions at Watch sites, while also building capacity for program development and evaluation. We are grateful for their support.

Last October, we launched the first edition of *Watch* magazine by debuting the 25 sites of the 2018 World Monuments Watch. This year, we are excited to bring you updates from our sites and projects around the world, many of which first came to World Monuments Fund through the Watch. In the pages that follow, you will meet some of the trainees, advocates, and conservators who are helping World Monuments Fund restore and steward their places of meaning.

Thank you for all you do to support our vital work. We look forward to continuing to share with you the stories of these important sites and the people who are dedicated to their preservation.



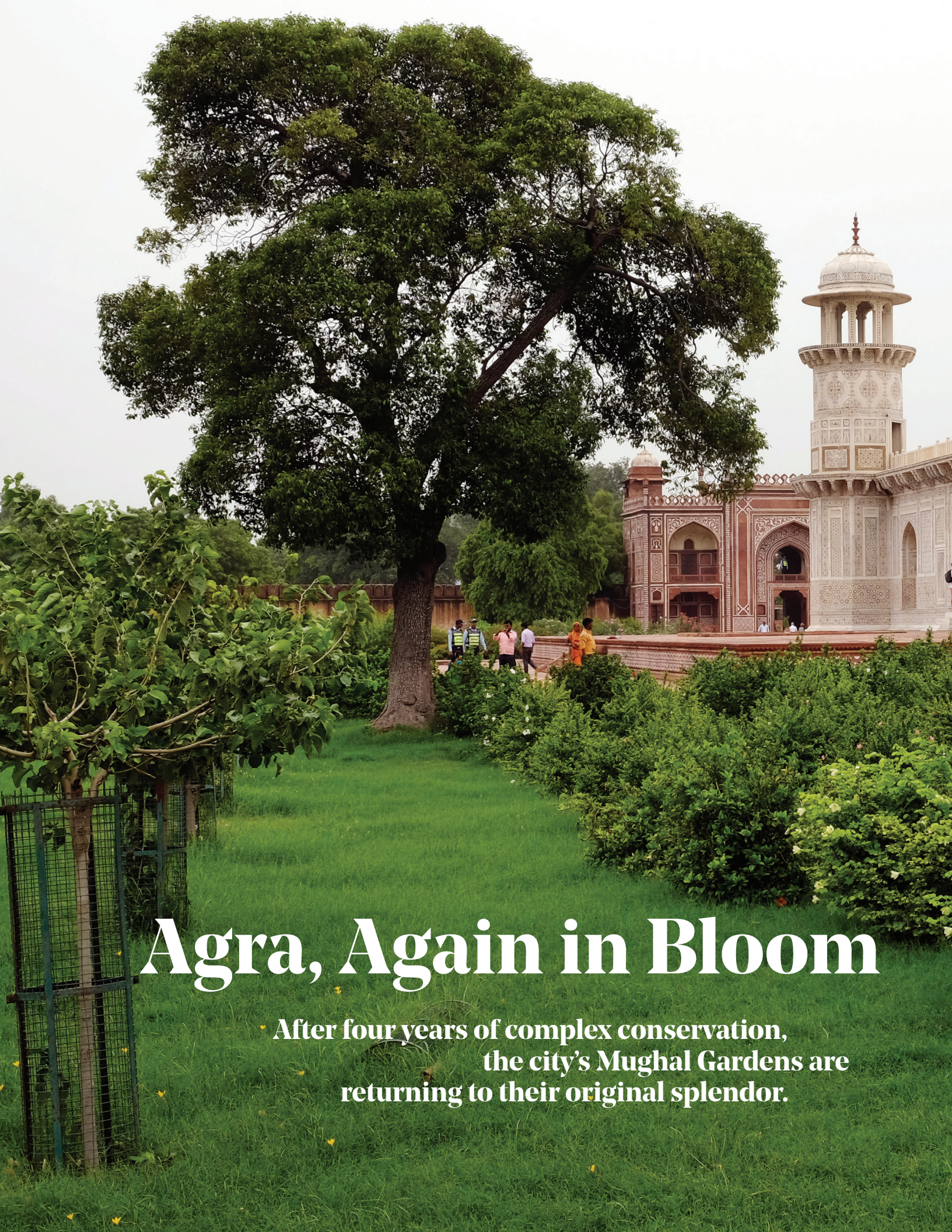
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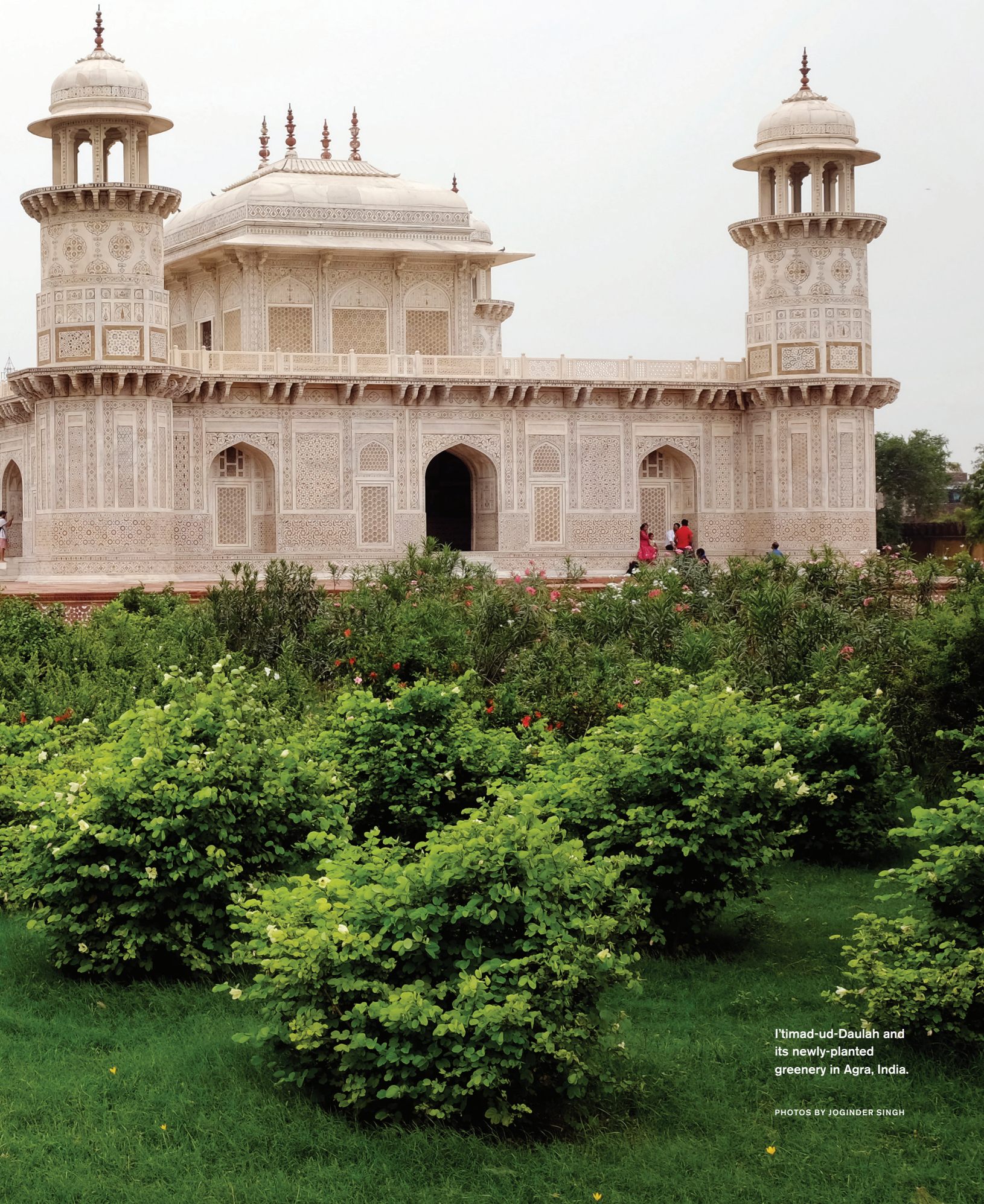


Learn more about all
of the 2018 Watch sites.



Agra, Again in Bloom

After four years of complex conservation,
the city's Mughal Gardens are
returning to their original splendor.



I'timad-ud-Daulah and
its newly-planted
greenery in Agra, India.

PHOTOS BY JOGINDER SINGH



The scent of jasmine. Oleander blooms in various shades of pink. Butterflies hovering over flowering hibiscus. These are the sights and smells you encounter today at the Mughal Gardens in Agra, India—just as they were experienced in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. But it wasn't always the case.

The Yamuna riverfront in Agra was once enclosed by high-walled gardens, mansions, and pavilions that served as sanctuaries for royalty and nobility from the city's heat and dust. Later, some became funerary gardens, venerating Agra's deceased. Today, only a few of the original 44 gardens survive intact. Others have been significantly altered and eroded over time.

Four years ago, World Monuments Fund embarked on a rigorous conservation project in partnership with the Archaeological Survey of India at two of Agra's most celebrated gardens—Mehtab Bagh, and the Garden of the Tomb of I'timad-ud-Daulah—aiming to restore them to their authentic form, re-activate their water features, and enhance visitor experience. Never before had the restoration of an entire garden been attempted at these sites. It soon became clear that one thing would be central to their success: water.

“There is no doubt that the Yamuna river, which was once irrigated with melting Himalayan snow, was the lifeline of the gardens in the seventeenth century,” said Annabel Lopez, project coordinator at the Mughal Gardens. “In comparison,

Above left to right: Conservation technicians work on the pathways and water channels of the northern boundary wall; and I'timad-ud-Daulah as seen through the western gateway.



Take a closer look at The Mughal Gardens of Agra.



the polluted trickle that we are left with today is more harmful than good.”

The challenge required an innovative approach, fusing the original and existing water systems and installing a water treatment system. The resulting integrated water solution optimizes existing water resources—including all of the water available within the site—without impacting neighboring areas. This spring, clean water again flowed through the gardens for the first time in centuries.

Extensive research was also used to identify original plant species and reestablish a grid for planting. The introduction of spacious lawns some 100 years ago made the strategy more difficult. But within only a few short years, pomegranates were growing on the trees and floral fragrance filled the air.

As the gardens develop, Amita Baig, WMF’s representative in India, hopes they will become an oasis in the overcrowded city. “To enter this very secluded site and hear the sound of water flowing, to smell the fragrance of a flower and see it bear fruit in different seasons, will be magical.”

The project will finish with the completion of a visitor center at I’timad-ud-Daulah, to open later this year. Raising awareness and visibility of the gardens that are often overshadowed by their more famous neighbor, the Taj Mahal, was an important objective of the conservation. The enhanced visitor services will offer local residents and tourists an opportunity to learn more about the history of the magnificent gardens.

As the project comes to a close, reflecting on the original

spirit of the gardens provides even more context for what has been achieved.

“The Mughal Gardens have four fundamental prerequisites, four allegorical essentials for the afterlife: shade, fruit, fragrance and running water,” said Baig. “We have accomplished this.”

The Agra Garden project is generously supported by The Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation, Mr. Richard Broyd, American Express India, The Selz Foundation, and Elbrun and Peter Kimmelman. Additional support is provided by Jack Shear/Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, Tianaderrah Foundation/Nellie and Robert Gipson, and The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation.

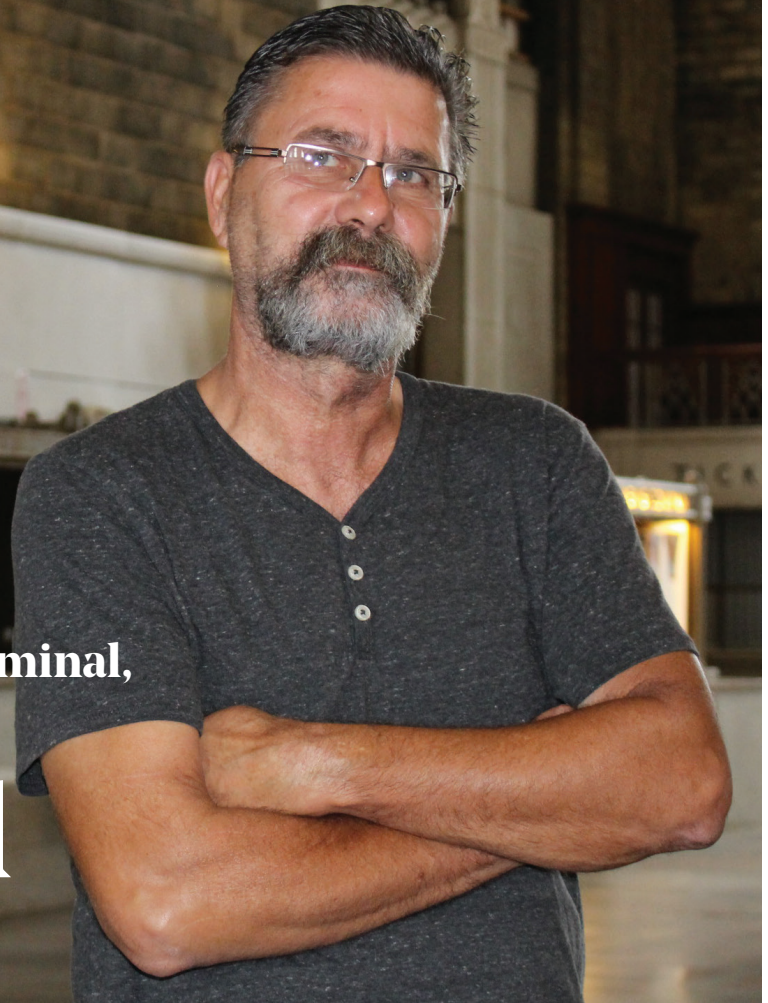


See the latest on the effort to save Buffalo Central Terminal.

PHOTOS BY BUFFALO CENTRAL TERMINAL RESTORATION CORPORATION

For one volunteer at 2018 Watch site Buffalo Central Terminal, the work is personal.

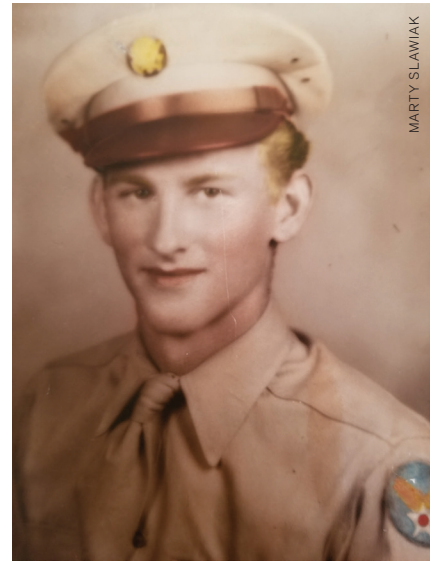
All Aboard



Marty Slawiak has lived his whole life in Buffalo, New York. He married, had a couple of children, and built a career in the sheet metal business that he continues to this day. But it wasn't until the death of his father that he truly discovered Buffalo Central Terminal. "After my father passed away, I found out from my mother that he had worked at the terminal. Those were stories I had never heard as a kid."

Eager to connect with his father's past, Slawiak decided to take a tour of the historic train station. "I was hooked immediately," he said.

Ever since that day twelve years ago, Marty Slawiak has been volunteering at Buffalo Central Terminal—giving tours, painting door frames, installing lighting, windows, and railing, and advocating for the future of the abandoned Art Deco icon that is now sometimes used for events. Last year, Buffalo Central Terminal was included on the 2018 World Monuments Watch to bring awareness to the positive impact redevelopment could have at the site, giving new life to both the landmark and its surrounding community.



MARTY SLAWIAK

Clockwise from top right: A view of the exterior of the soaring terminal present-day; Marty Slawiak rests on platform stairs in need of repair; Slawiak's father during WWII; and Slawiak in the concourse of Buffalo Central Terminal.



JOE CASICO



The site is personal for Slawiak. While he was raised in the suburbs of Buffalo, his grandmother and extended family planted roots in the streets of the Broadway-Fillmore neighborhood where the terminal has towered since 1929. His mother once told him that Buffalo Central Terminal was “like a galleria mall, a gathering place for everybody.”

During World War II, when Buffalo Central Terminal was the second most heavily used train station in the country for departing and returning G.I.s, Slawiak’s mother and other members of the community would provide hospitality to soldiers as they passed through. “That was our country and that was our duty,” she told him.

Slawiak’s mother also regularly visited his father when he worked at the terminal’s commissary. After they married, his parents left from Buffalo Central Terminal for their honeymoon in Boston—a free trip that was a perk of his job. One day while volunteering, Slawiak found himself standing on the same platform where they had departed 60 years earlier to the day. “It was like the presence of my father drawing me in.”

It turns out everyone has a story about Buffalo Central Terminal. During his time volunteering at the site, Slawiak has heard them all: women who

waved goodbye to their husbands as they departed for war, never to see them again; newly-minted American citizens from the old country who traveled through the terminal to their new homes; adults who as children roamed the halls of “the greatest place in the world,” where “you could be free to do whatever you wanted to do.”

“You can’t believe how much this building has touched so many people in so many different ways,” said Slawiak. “Because it’s so beautiful, people remember this building.”

Slawiak was 22 years old when the last train left the station in 1979. Construction of the interstate highway system and the growth of the airline industry led to a decrease in passenger rail traffic that was impossible to reverse. The closing of the terminal coincided with a larger slump for the city. “It seemed there was no progress [in Buffalo] after that,” he said.

Now, local advocates led by the Buffalo Central Terminal Restoration Corporation are envisioning a new future for the once-vibrant station—one with the potential to also revitalize its immediate neighborhood and the city as a whole. In April, the State of New York announced a \$5 million grant from the “Buffalo Billion” project to restore the terminal’s concourse and make the space fully functional for community and private use, year-round. Redevelopment discussions are ongoing.

Slawiak, for one, can’t wait for the day that Buffalo Central Terminal shines again.

“I think it’s the greatest building in the whole city,” he said. “When you walk in, you just know it. It’s got to be saved.”

A Stepping Stone



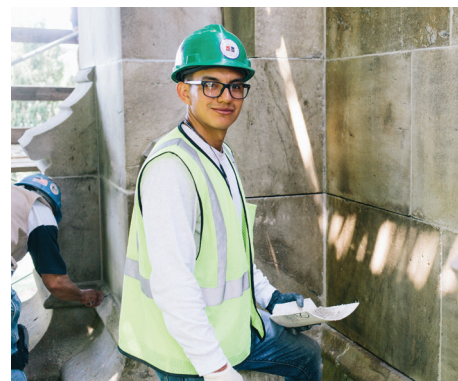
Worlds apart, training programs in New York City and Mafrq, Jordan, are empowering a new generation of craftspeople.



On an unseasonably hot spring day in Brooklyn, New York, resident craftsman Eddie Ramirez showed Tiara Campbell, 24, how to finish repointing the joints of a 148-year-old mausoleum in historic Green-Wood Cemetery.

“I want nothing but the best here,” said Ramirez, who has been working with young adults for 15 years. “To achieve the best, you have to strive for perfection. You may not achieve perfection, but you’re aiming at a high goal.”

Nearly 6,000 miles away in Mafrq, Jordan, master stonemason Tony Steel showed Mahmoud Rafeeq, a 40-year-old Syrian refugee, and other trainees how to carefully chisel a stone block into a beautiful arabesque design without shattering the rock. “Were they to be transported



back 2,000 years, the construction methodology they would witness would be immediately recognizable to them,” said Steel. “They have accomplished the intimate level of understanding only available to the mason, a truly privileged position.”

Their surroundings and circumstances are worlds apart, but their objectives are the same. Campbell and Rafeeq are part of two World Monuments Fund programs dedicated to helping members of underrepresented communities gain new technical skills and economic opportunity through heritage conservation. The stonemasonry skills they learn will help them conserve cultural heritage in their communities while also making them better



GREEN-WOOD PHOTOS BY ROWA LEE



Clockwise from top right: Five of Green-Wood's Bridge to Crafts Careers graduates with their instructors, Eddie Ramirez, left, and Neela Wickremesinghe, right; Caesar Espinoza, 25, rests on the scaffolding of Miller Mausoleum; Diego Mullo, 22; Tiara Campbell; and Campbell and Ramirez partner on repointing.

candidates for a range of job opportunities.

In New York City, Bridge to Crafts Careers was launched in 2015, in partnership with Woodlawn Cemetery and the International Masonry Institute. The program offers ten weeks of paid classroom and hands-on instruction in masonry conservation at Woodlawn Cemetery, in the Bronx, and Green-Wood Cemetery, in Brooklyn. Since then, 65 interns have graduated from the program, with 77 percent currently employed—the majority in preservation or preservation-related construction jobs.

This spring, Ramirez oversaw 13 young trainees, including Campbell, as they replaced the mortar joints of the Miller Mausoleum, one of the largest in Green-Wood Cemetery. He said he is most proud of the young people and the work they have accomplished in only a few months. “I’ve been around for a little bit and I’ve seen seasoned masons that would be hard-pressed to do what they’re doing

in actuality.”

Campbell came to Bridge to Crafts Careers with minimal construction experience. She said knowing the “whys” and not just the “hows” is her greatest lesson from the program. “I’m pretty good with my hands, so once I’m taught I can pretty much grasp it. But it’s the knowledge I probably wouldn’t get anywhere else.”

During the course, Campbell developed a passion for heritage conservation. Earlier this year, she told the *New York Times* that her dream gig would be traveling the world to breathe new life into forgotten or undiscovered historic structures. Following the completion of her internship in May, Campbell was accepted as an apprentice to the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Union. “The fact that these buildings have been here forever and they’re still standing, that says something,” she said. “I think we could learn a lot from that.”



Learn more about the Bridge to Crafts Careers program.



Across the globe in Jordan, the inaugural class of Syrian refugees and Jordanian citizens neared completion of a new stonemasonry conservation training program that teaches skills essential to restoring conflict-affected built heritage. Operated in partnership with the Petra National Trust, the program also provides professional development and promotes transnational learning.

Steel has been leading Rafeeq and his fellow trainees since October 2017. He said that along with physical decay, armed conflict, and natural disaster, a lack of appropriate training and conservation methodology in the region puts masonry heritage at risk. This program, he said, aims to change that. “We may only be a flea bite on the back of the problem, but from tiny acorns, mighty oak trees grow.”

Rafeeq fled from his home in Homs, Syria, in April 2012, during the country’s devastating

civil war. He heard about the training program through word of mouth within Mafraq’s refugee community, and began with no applicable experience. Though he lost his house, his shop, and the timber that he once traded, he said there is still hope.

“My dream is to be the first man to rebuild Syria, to place the first stone in my country.”

Steel said training ordinary Syrians to undertake the restoration of their built heritage on behalf of the rest of humanity gives rise to a complex range of emotions. “It is a great responsibility, privilege, and pleasure.”

For Rafeeq, the work is also personal. “This is not just about carving stone. This course establishes our identity and puts our mark on the history, heritage, and traditions of our countries.”

World Monuments Fund has ambitions to expand Bridge to Crafts Careers in the New York City area, and is fundraising

Clockwise from top right: Ayat and Balqeas, Jordanian trainees, measure a block of local stone; Rawaf cuts smooth lines into stone; Nawar, a Syrian trainee, measures stone before carving; and Nour Shdaifat, a leader of WMF’s stonemasonry training program, instructs Hasan, a Syrian trainee, on technical drawings.

for the second year of training in Mafraq, Jordan. Bridge to Crafts Careers is generously supported by Virginia James and Heckscher Foundation for Children. Additional support is provided by the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc.

Our training program in Mafraq is generously supported by the British Council Cultural Protection Fund and Friends of Heritage Preservation.



Meet the Stonemasonry trainees from Mafraq in our video highlighting the program in Jordan.



WMF Britain's John Darlington reflects on Watch Day held at the iconic but threatened seaside piers.

Postcard from Blackpool



PHOTOS BY CJ GRIFFITHS

“Is that who I think it is?” whispered a small girl, her head twisted to stare behind at a passing figure who looked very much like The Queen. “Quite possibly,” her mother smiled in reply. “Everyone is welcome to Blackpool.”



Learn more about our celebratory Watch Day events.





PHOTOS BY CJ GRIFFITHS

Elizabeth II's look-alike was just one of 5,000 people who turned up to celebrate Watch Day at the famous seaside resort on the northwest coast of England. The three piers, included on the 2018 World Monuments Watch, are a stunning sequence of historic structures and important symbols of a town built to provide pleasure for the working people of Northern England. They are also structures that epitomize the dilemma for heritage in a world where climate change is a reality. Increased tidal surges threaten the piers, and World Monuments Fund is working with local partners, led by Watch nominator Blackpool Council, to find solutions.

However, the climate was generous on a balmy Saturday in June when the North Pier opened its doors for Watch Day, an event that is celebrated at Watch sites around the world with the aim of encouraging community engagement and local stewardship in the sustainable preservation of heritage sites. Blackpool is renowned for being loud, brassy, humorous, and above all, fun, and that's what this Watch Day was all about. Promenaders dressed in Edwardian finery mixed with academics from the National Piers Society, while revellers from neighboring Pride celebrations took in the sea air and stunning views.

Over half the visitors were children who spent time making sandcastles, screaming with delight on the historic fairground rides, and enjoying a particularly English tradition, the Punch & Judy show. For those who wanted to understand more of the pier's history, there were expert-led tours that included its unique end-of-pier theatre, and displays showcasing the many famous singers, comedians, and entertainers who have performed on this watery venue in the decades since it opened in 1863.

A happy day ended with raucous strains of music playing in the open-air Victorian Sunset Lounge. Queues of children clutched sticks of Blackpool "rock"—a traditional seaside candy molded in the shape of WMF's logo—still waiting to have their faces painted. Those who attended came away with a renewed sense of urgency to explore ways to safeguard the precious piers that mean so much to so many.

As we were packing up a traditional coconut shy game at the end of the day, Carl Carrington of Blackpool Council said, "Do you know, I think we should have a Watch Day every year."

I for one look forward to returning in 2019.

Support for Blackpool Piers is generously provided by American Express.



WMF launches cross-project staff exchange in Southeast Asia.

Trading Spaces



A novel. That is how Notchaphan Praprudthum, born and raised in Thailand, first discovered the magnificent temples of Angkor in Siem Reap, Cambodia. But years later, Notchaphan, now a WMF conservator at Wat Chaiwatthanaram in Ayutthaya, Thailand, finally experienced them in person.



See more of First Baptist Church of Mawlamyine in our slideshow.





“I think everyone has read and dreamed about places from the past. But did you ever think that one day you might go there? How would you feel? What would you do?”

Notchaphan was one of several conservators to take part in a series of new staff exchanges between World Monuments Fund’s projects in the region. The program was designed to build a stronger regional network of conservation professionals and sustain emerging talent in the field.

For decades, training and capacity building have been pillars of World Monuments Fund’s global work. Now, the concept has taken a new and exciting form, focused on hands-on projects and the sharing of skill sets between WMF site teams.

The program encompasses interchange between four sites: Wat Chaiwatthanaram, a seventeenth-century temple where the effects of flooding have required extensive work; Shwe-nandaw Kyaung, a

nineteenth-century teakwood monastery in Mandalay, Myanmar, where traditional carpentry techniques are fostered and employed; First Baptist Church of Mawlamyine in Myanmar, a nineteenth-century structure emblematic of the country’s unity through diversity; and Angkor Archaeological Park, an iconic complex of temples in Siem Reap, Cambodia, where WMF has spent nearly 30 years building a corps of over 100 local, skilled workers.

Each site’s unique challenges, opportunities, and capacities have informed the roll-out. For example, the lack of existing documentation ahead of a complicated conservation at Shwe-nandaw Kyaung required immense investment. It also presented an opportunity for its staff engineers to become experts in recording form and mapping conditions. The engineers then took their skill sets to First Baptist Church of Mawlamyine and Wat Chaiwatthanaram, where they produced professional drawings and mapped conditions.

Clockwise from top: Wat Chaiwatthanaram and Shwe-nandaw Kyaung teams at Banteay Srei within Angkor Archaeological Park; Khun Mali demonstrates the lime mortar mixes used at Wat Chaiwatthanaram; and exchange staff at Angkor’s Preah Khan temple complex.

Later, Wat Chaiwatthanaram project staff visited First Baptist Church of Mawlamyine to conduct a one-week lime plaster workshop. Today, staff from Angkor and Wat Chaiwatthanaram are working with Shwe-nandaw Kyaung staff to conserve the masonry features surrounding the teakwood monastery.

This growing, multi-national exchange program is an example of sustainable solutions that are building technical capacity and leveraging our conservators’ unique knowledge—empowering communities to steward their irreplaceable sites.

Support for capacity building in Southeast Asia is made possible by the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation and Charities Aid Foundation of Canada.

Updates in Modernism



Modern landmarks of the past century today face a unique set of practical and intellectual challenges. Their age, novel design, and perceived obsolescence often leaves them undervalued and at risk. The preservation of modern architecture has long been a pillar of World Monuments Fund's work, addressed through projects and programs including advocacy, exhibitions, recognition awards, and conservation.

More than 40 modern buildings have been included on the World Monuments Watch since the program's inception over 20 years ago. While efforts to protect and preserve these structures have been largely successful, threats to our world's modern treasures remain very real.

Here is a look at what has happened this year at the three modern sites included on the 2018 Watch.

SIRIUS BUILDING

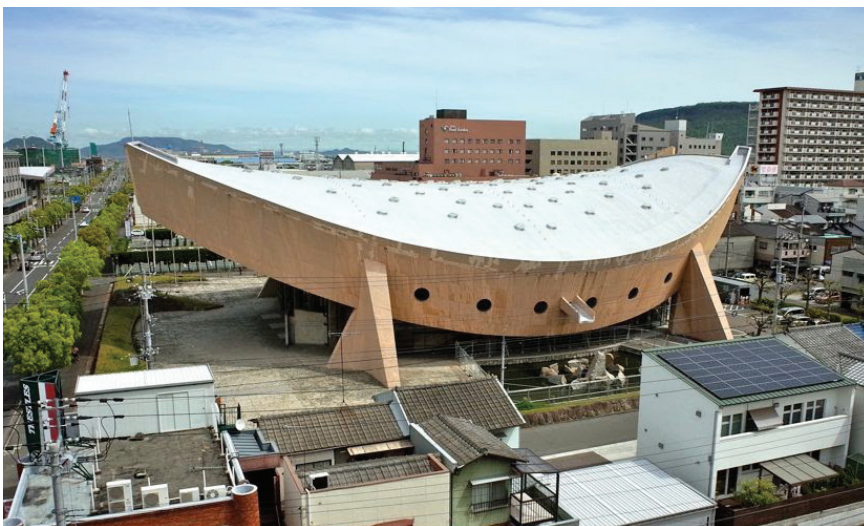
Built in 1974, the Sirius Building was part of an effort by the state government of New South Wales to provide public housing in Sydney, Australia. The Brutalist tower designed by Tao Gofers rose high above its neighbors in the Rocks area, adjacent to Sydney Harbor Bridge. Fast forward 40 years, and the Rocks have become

a desirable residential area with some of the highest land values in the city. The government's decision to reject landmark designation recommendations and relocate the residents of the Sirius Building prompted a local preservation group, Save Our Sirius, to nominate the structure to the 2018 Watch. In late 2017, the government issued a request for proposals to develop the site, allowing for the building's demolition. But the fight is not over. In January, Save Our Sirius announced their intention to assemble a bid for its purchase. Stay tuned for the latest on this ongoing struggle.



**Meet Myra Demetriou,
the last resident of Sirius.**

Clockwise from left: Sydney's Sirius Building overlooks Sydney Harbour; a tour stops at the Alliance Française during Watch Day for the Post-Independence Architecture of Delhi; and a view from above of the Kagawa Prefectural Gymnasium.



KAGAWA PREFECTURAL GYMNASIUM

Built by renowned architect Kenzo Tange in the 1960s, the beloved gymnasium hosted local sports events until it was closed to the public in 2014 after its suspended roof began to leak. Kagawa Prefectural Gymnasium was included on the 2018 Watch to support local advocates in their campaign to stimulate social demand for the preservation of the structure, with a new vision for its future use.

In March and April, an exhibition curated by the Association for the Preservation of Kagawa Prefectural Gymnasium explored the history and future of the site. In June, American Express announced the gym was one of eight 2018 Watch sites that will receive funding for preservation projects. WMF's efforts at the site will move forward in close collaboration with the local community.

POST-INDEPENDENCE ARCHITECTURE OF DELHI

The dramatic and unanticipated April 2017 demolition of Delhi's Hall of Nations led directly to WMF's work around the Post-Independence Architecture of Delhi, a group of legally unprotected sites that symbolize Indian self-confidence in industry, innovation, and progress. Since the group's inclusion on the Watch, WMF's local partner INTACH has offered walking tours and held a Watch Day that included educational activities for students and a lecture by architecture theorist Kaiwan Mehta, all with the goal of improving India's heritage regulations.

Recently, the professional community has been paying increasing attention to India's post-independence heritage, as proved by the creation of a Delhi chapter of Docomomo, the leading organization for the conservation of sites of the modern movement.

KNOLL MODERNISM PRIZE

This fall we will announce the winner of the 2018 World Monuments Fund/ Knoll Modernism Prize. Celebrating its tenth year, the prize recognizes architects or designers that have demonstrated innovative solutions to preserve or save threatened modern architecture.

Visit wmf.org/modernism-prize for the latest.

From Student to Teacher

One woman returns to the program that made her a conservator.

It was 2013, and Liu Renhao was pursuing her architecture degree at Beijing's Tsinghua University. When she began her internship in the Department of Architectural Heritage at the Palace Museum, which has called the magnificent Forbidden City home since 1925, she assumed she would be working on construction drawings of the iconic complex. Instead, she was tasked with a condition survey of the Building of Extended Delight in the Qianlong Garden, one of World Monuments Fund's largest projects encompassing 27 structures. That's when she knew she would become an architectural conservator.

"The first time I stood inside the Studio of Exhaustion from Diligent Service within the Qianlong Garden, I was deeply moved. I saw the most splendid, historic craftsmanship, and its careful conservation. I saw the repainting of the wooden balustrades, done by hand to resemble bamboo. I saw the

reproduction of the embroidery using the same materials and techniques as our ancestors. And then I thought, this is what I want to do."

Soon after, Renhao enrolled in the first class of a graduate degree program in conservation at Tsinghua University—a new layer to the CRAFT program (Conservation Resources for Architectural Interiors, Furniture, and Training) initially launched by WMF and the Palace Museum in 2011, which utilizes the Qianlong Garden as a conservation learning laboratory. Earlier this year, Renhao, now 27, came full circle when she was hired as an architect at the Qianlong Garden and the first Local Conservator in Residence of the CRAFT program. But it was her journey in between that made all the difference.

"CRAFT is not just a training program," said Renhao, who believes a lack of local trained conservators has been a great threat to her country's heritage. "In Beijing alone, there are seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites. But there was no conservation bachelor's program in China until the 1990s. Even now, only three colleges offer conservation degrees."

CRAFT addresses the issue by combining scientific conservation approaches with China's long history of craftsmanship to build local capacity of the highest standards.

"We need our own



PHOTOS BY PALACE MUSEUM



[Learn more about CRAFT](#)

conservators who have been well-trained and who will work in China for a long time," she said.

The Qianlong Garden within Beijing's iconic Forbidden City could not make a better backdrop for such an education. The garden's 27 structures across four courtyards represent some of the most significant, exquisitely designed interiors to survive relatively unchanged from imperial China. WMF began conservation at the site in 2001, and is working towards completion in 2020 to coincide with the 600th anniversary of the Forbidden City.

But it wasn't just the setting that had an impact on Renhao during her time at CRAFT. Her experience, she said, would not have been the same without the unmatched team of experts and instructors that guided her class.

"It's not only the theory or science they introduced, but also the way they thought and made decisions, the way they treated objects and the way they treated





us,” said Renhao. “The new technologies are interesting, but you can always learn them somewhere. The experience of these trained conservators, however, the stories of their lives, are something only CRAFT provides.”

Renhao credits her access to instructors from around the world with helping her build the confidence to seek another degree in conservation at University College London.

“Renhao’s training at CRAFT and her return to China following her continuing studies mark a turning point in the field of object and architectural conservation,” said Professor Liu Chang, Director of the Institute of Architectural Theory and Architectural Heritage Preservation at Tsinghua University’s School

of Architecture. “Not only am I expecting her long service at the Palace Museum, I am expecting service at a level beyond my imagination—as a conservator, a project manager, and a comprehensive designer.”

Today Renhao is one of four CRAFT graduates employed as full-time conservators at the Qianlong Garden. She is currently leading 13 students into their second year of CRAFT, and by 2019, 47 students will have successfully completed the program. As she reflects on her growth at such a young age, Renhao considers the Pavilion of Achieving Hopes within the Qianlong Garden to be the perfect lens.

“When I first came into the Pavilion as an intern, it was still an old building filled with dust. When I returned as an employee, the physical restoration work was almost done. The panels that I had cleaned during CRAFT were hanging on the wall, the screens had been replaced,” she said. “And now I continue to work in the Pavilion, researching how the furniture and panels were placed, monitoring the environmental data. It is interesting to look at all of this and see the progress I made. You know, I think that the Palace Museum and the Qianlong Garden have kind of witnessed my life.”

Qianlong Garden and the CRAFT program are generously supported by The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston/Mrs. Nancy Brown Negley, the Freeman Foundation, British American Tobacco, The Starr Foundation, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation, and Anonymous. Additional support is provided by Mrs. Catherine Curran*, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kimmelman, and Wilson and Eliot Nolen.

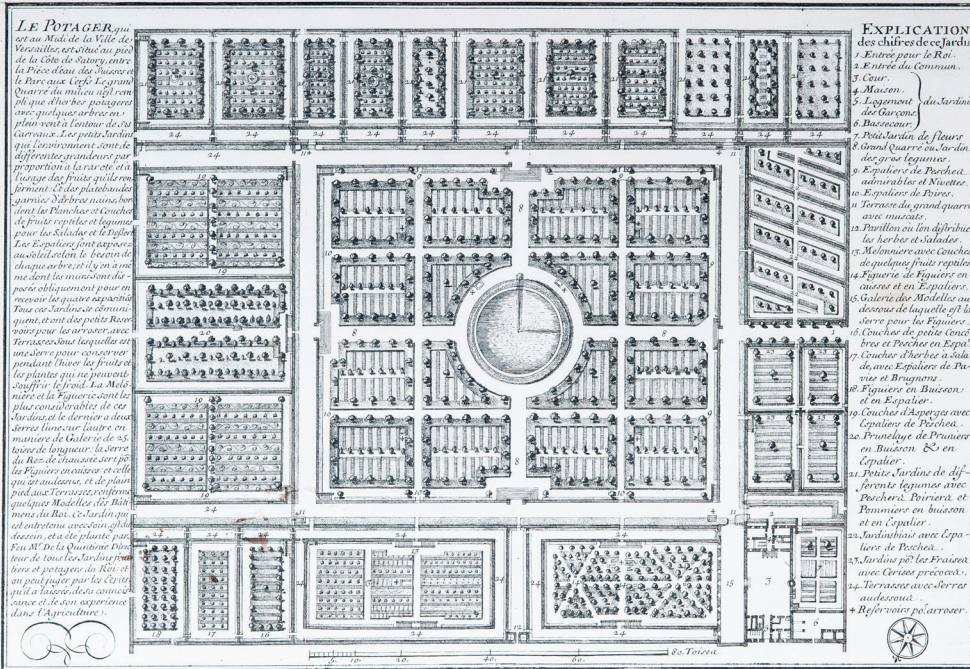
*Deceased



From top: Liu Renhao treats a detail of the interior of Fuwangge, or Belvedere of Viewing Achievements, within the Qianlong Garden; and the interior of Juanqinzhai, or Studio of Exhaustion from Diligent Service, the first Qianlong Garden structure to be conserved by WMF.

This fall, WMF launches a project at an iconic garden fit for a king.

A New Harvest



Fait par Perelle. A Paris chez M. Langlois. PLAN DU JARDIN POTAGER DU ROY, A VERSAILLES. Par Jacques à la Victoire Avec Privileg du Roy.



THREE PHOTOS BY ENSP



SYLVAIN DUFFARD

Can heritage help address some of the most pressing questions about nutrition, how we grow our food, and what impact modern agricultural practices are having on society and the environment?

For the community of Versailles and the Potager du Roi, a site included on the 2018 World Monuments Watch, the answer is yes. And beginning this fall, World Monuments Fund will help, with support from American Express.

The Potager du Roi, originally the fruit and vegetable garden for the Palace of Versailles and the court of Louis XIV, has always been a site for experimentation and innovation, as well as production. A school was first established on-site as early as the French Revolution. Starting in 1874, the Potager du Roi became home to France's national school of horticulture, spreading the

latest horticultural knowledge throughout the country and beyond. More recently, the site has been under the stewardship of the National School of Landscape Architecture, which operates the site as a working farm, urban park, and educational facility.

Now the Potager du Roi is at the forefront of a movement seeking new answers to the problems created by industrial agriculture. Agroecology is a national priority for France, established in 2012 and reinforced with a new law in 2014. A small, dedicated crew of gardeners and volunteers, led by Antoine Jacobsohn, director of the Potager du Roi, actively experiments



Learn more about Potager du Roi.



Clockwise from below: Rows of blooms at the Potager du Roi; a historic map of the seventeenth-century garden; visitors learn about the site's horticultural traditions; fresh foods produced on-site are served at its Watch Day; and children enjoy educational activities.



with long-forgotten varieties of fruits and vegetables and new techniques for their cultivation, without chemical treatments. The vision: a model garden for artisanal agricultural production, with a diversity of modern and historical varieties planted in proximity, and a source of delicious and healthy produce for the surrounding community, welcoming and educating visitors of all ages. “By experimenting and changing, we continue the great legacy of innovation that has always been at the heart of the Potager du Roi,” explained Jacobsohn.

Investment in the physical upkeep of the garden is necessary

to make this vision a reality. The masonry walls that separate the garden plots have been restored twice in the site’s history, at the end of the eighteenth and again at the end of the nineteenth century. This repair cycle is currently overdue by almost twenty years, and repairs have to be made before new trees can be planted. The walls provide shelter from the wind and are integral to the art of *espalier*, or training and pruning a fruit tree to grow flat against a masonry wall. Jean-Baptiste de La Quintinie, the seventeenth-century creator of the Potager du Roi, was a master of this technique, and issued canonical instructions for its use

by gardeners in a treatise that became a standard reference work.

Later this year, WMF will help the school undertake the highest priority repairs, starting at the Jardin Du Breuil—where plum trees used to grow at the time of Louis XIV. WMF will also be supporting the development of new educational materials for school groups of different ages: for the youngest students, focusing on the senses of touch, taste, and smell; for elementary-school students, focusing on the different stages of the cultivation of plants; and for middle school students, emphasizing the ecological aspects of agriculture.

New projects launch, including work at a 2018 Watch site, while three years of conservation at a synagogue in Romania comes to a close.

Jewish Heritage Spotlight



THE JEWISH QUARTER OF ESSAOUIRA, MOROCCO

This summer, World Monuments Fund launched a project to document stories about the diversity of Jewish experience in Essaouira, Morocco—a 2018 Watch site—and its diaspora community. Essaouira was once the thriving heart of a large Jewish community, of which approximately 98 percent has

departed. Today it has become a pilgrimage site for many former residents and descendants of Moroccan Jews, who visit the city in increasing numbers each year.

WMF is working with graduates from the World Heritage Studies program at Brandenburg University of Technology in Cottbus, Germany, to map sites in the Jewish Quarter and gather oral histories from current residents

and former inhabitants about their personal histories and connections to Essaouira. During a first mission in August, the team met with local stakeholders, including individuals and community groups who will contribute to the project. The cultural mapping and interpretation of the Jewish Quarter of Essaouira will provide insight into this former enclave and the role it played in the peaceful coexistence between religions—contributing to an intercultural and interreligious dialogue that could fight intolerance today. The Jewish Quarter of Essaouira is supported by World Monuments Fund's Jewish Heritage Endowment.

GREAT SYNAGOGUE OF IAȘI, ROMANIA

The *aron kodesh* (ark) of the Great Synagogue of Iași, a 2014 Watch site, has undergone a dramatic transformation thanks to a partnership between WMF and the Federation of Romanian Jews. The once-crumbling ensemble of carved and painted wood is now fully restored and reinstalled in the sanctuary following a four-year restoration campaign. The synagogue's inclusion on the Watch called for renewed local support for the stalled restoration of the building, while a conditions assessment in 2015 drew our attention to the much needed restoration of the ark. In 2015, as restoration efforts resumed in earnest for the synagogue building, our support for the stabilization and emergency treatment of the ark began. The subsequent restoration and reinstallation of the ark was carried out from 2016 to 2018. The Great Synagogue of Iași is supported by the David Berg Foundation, The Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, and WMF's Jewish Heritage Endowment.



The conservation team stands before the restored ark of the Great Synagogue of Iași. Left: The sanctuary of Pinto Synagogue in the Jewish Quarter of Essaouira.

This page: Scaffolding covers the interior of Keneseth Eliyahoo.

Opposite page, counter clockwise from top right; The central rose window of The Great Synagogue of Florence mid-restoration; the restored window being lifted for reinstallation; and a view of the dome, restored.



KENESETH ELIYAHOO SYNAGOGUE MUMBAI, INDIA

A campaign to restore the Keneseth Eliyahoo Synagogue—the second oldest Sephardic synagogue in Mumbai, built in 1884—was launched in the fall of 2017. Earlier, WMF funded the creation of a comprehensive conservation plan for the site. The building was designed by Bombay architects Gostling and Morris and today is a listed Grade II A Heritage Building in the Kala Ghoda Art District of Mumbai. It remains in active use by Mumbai's

Jewish community. Work to date has included repairs to the synagogue's roof and terrace, conservation of its masonry walls, and restoration of its windows and supports. This fall, restoration will begin at the synagogue's elaborate and unique stained glass window. The restoration of Keneseth Eliyahoo is made possible by a leadership gift from Sangita Jindal and the JSW Foundation. Additional generous support is provided by Dr. Scott Bonis and Mrs. Karen Bonis, Dawn Woods, and Dean Bonis.



Learn more about our long-standing Jewish Heritage Program, including the nearly 60 sites that have been supported.





THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE OF FLORENCE FLORENCE, ITALY

Emergency repair work to secure the integrity of the inner dome ornamentations of the Great Synagogue of Florence was carried out this spring. A team of conservators used acrobatic gear that allowed them to reach the underside of the dome and remove the central rosette and side grates for restoration. While the grates were treated at a local conservation laboratory, the central rosette was restored in the synagogue, providing visitors with a unique opportunity to see the conservation as it happened. The restored and reinforced objects were reinstalled at the end of March, and the area directly underneath the dome became once again accessible to the public. Having previously supported conservation of the site's cupola in 2003, WMF stepped forward to accept donations to undertake these critical repairs. The Great Synagogue of Florence is supported by David G. Berger. Additional support is provided by Giulietta Fargion and Alex Lash and the Simons Foundation.

A Year in Events

A series of lectures, fundraisers, and public programs brings together new friends and dedicated supporters to champion the world's cultural treasures.

WMF AND GOOGLE ARTS & CULTURE LAUNCH "PRESERVING IRAQ'S HERITAGE"

In June, World Monuments Fund and Google Arts & Culture came together at Google's New York City office to launch "Preserving Iraq's Heritage," an online platform showcasing the unique stories of Iraq's endangered heritage sites and the extraordinary efforts to preserve them. Panelists Salam Al Kuntar, Helen Malko, and Chance Coughenour, and moderator Arwa Damon, CNN's Senior International Correspondent, spoke about the country's devastation resulting from conflict and what the future holds. Afterwards, guests had a chance to explore and interact with the new platform.



AN EVENING FOR NINA SIMONE'S HOME

In March, WMF hosted a special evening in New York City to support efforts to save the birthplace of iconic musician and activist, Nina Simone. Guests listened as two of the four artists who purchased the structure—Adam Pendleton and Julie Mehretu—spoke with The Ford Foundation President Darren Walker about their dreams of transforming it into a place of creativity that honors Ms. Simone's legacy.





WMF HONORS DEBORAH LEHR AND FRANK STELLA AT 2017 HADRIAN GALA

World Monuments Fund held its annual Hadrian Gala at the Plaza Hotel in New York City, celebrating the accomplishments of champions of conservation who are helping to preserve and protect the world's shared cultural heritage. Guests enjoyed cocktails and tunes by DJ Franco V before a seated dinner, where the 2018 World Monuments Watch was announced. Later, the evening culminated with the presentation of the 2017 Hadrian Award to Deborah Lehr and the 2017 Watch Award to Frank Stella.



CELEBRATING MONTE ALBÁN

In May, WMF brought friends and supporters together for a celebratory evening to raise funds and awareness for quake-damaged Monte Albán Archaeological Site in Oaxaca, Mexico. Guests enjoyed cocktails and tacos at Tacombi in New York City while they learned more about efforts to restore the damaged sixth-century complex. The evening culminated with an announcement of more than \$1 million to support disaster response and restoration efforts at Monte Albán.



JONATHAN F.P. ROSE PRESENTS AT THE 2018 H. PETER STERN LECTURE

Guests were treated to both discussion and music at this year's H. Peter Stern Lecture, held in February at the University Club in New York City. Noted urban planner and author Jonathan F.P. Rose presented on how to create resilient urban centers, in part by looking at our world's past and future. The conversation was introduced with a raga performance from Ikhlq Hussain.

PHOTOGRAPHY AT THE 2018 PAUL MELLON LECTURE

Attendees at the annual Paul Mellon Lecture were given a visual showcase from photographer Iwan Baan, who presented on the role photography plays in bringing historic places to life. Held in April at the Morgan Library & Museum, guests enjoyed refreshments before sitting for Baan's presentation, which included photography and exploration of WMF projects Larabanga Mosque in Ghana, and the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela in Ethiopia.

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World Monuments Fund's important 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, 2017 and June 30, 2018. We also gratefully thank the many supporters who made contributions up to \$500 in this period. Thank you for all you do to create positive impacts at treasured sites around the world.

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Last Look



Captured here in the 1860s, Humayun's Tomb has inspired centuries of architecture, even the Taj Mahal. Built as the final resting place for Emperor Humayun in the sixteenth century, the World Heritage Site is the first example of Mughal architecture in India.

World Monuments Fund joined forces with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, the Archaeological Survey of India, and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi in 2010 to expand their conservation of Humayan's Tomb to the neighboring Isa Khan tomb complex. Research, documentation, and conservation revealed its enclosure to be the earliest known Mughal sunken garden in the country. In 2013, the tomb complex reopened to the public.

Back cover: A view of the interior of the main mausoleum of I'timad-ud-Daulah in Agra, India.



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