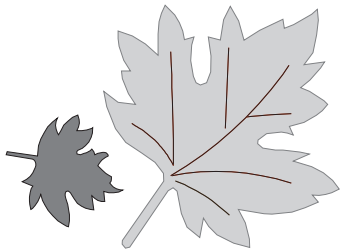


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Spotlight on a CAPPed Museum

Logan Museum of Anthropology at Beloit College

The Logan Museum of Anthropology at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin, is a teaching museum focused on world cultures, anthropology, and museology. Through its collections and programs it fosters the integration of knowledge and experience to enrich liberal learning. It has its roots in a donation from Beloit College trustee Frank G. Logan of more than 3,000 artifacts that had been exhibited at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. The collection was bolstered over the years by several collecting expeditions to Africa, Europe, and the American Southwest, which were funded by Logan.

In 2002 the Logan developed a strategic plan that identified collections improvements as a key goal. The first step outlined in the plan was to obtain a Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) survey. The CAP allocation enabled the Logan Museum to consult with an architect and an objects conservator familiar with anthropological collections to assess the current condition of collections and to help prioritize collection needs.

The CAP report became the foundation of the Museum's preservation plan, which was then used as a supporting document in federal grant proposals.



Logan Museum of Anthropology Storage, Before (left) and After (right) 2002 CAP Assessment

It's Fall! Have you...

- informed your local police and fire departments if your building will be closed for the winter?
- checked the storage and display areas for insect and vermin infiltration?
- cleaned away fall leaves from the building foundations, gutters, and roof?

In 2005 the Logan Museum applied for a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Grant for Stabilizing Humanities Collections to upgrade the preservation of and access to the Museum's anthropological collection. Nicolette Meister, Curator of Collections of the Logan Museum, affirms that "the key to our success in obtaining the competitive NEH grant was the proposal's grounding in a comprehensive needs assessment and a preservation plan charting a course of action to meet those needs." From 2006 to 2008, the Logan Museum implemented the NEH-funded project and renovated storage areas with new cabinets and compactor storage and rehoused collections in archival materials and mounts. *(Continued on the next page)*

One of the CAP report recommendations was that the Museum purchase data loggers so environmental data could be stored electronically and easily accessed. In 2010 the Museum applied for an IMLS American Heritage Preservation Grant to purchase data loggers and present a workshop on environmental monitoring to the staff and students in the College's Museum Studies program. Meister notes, "since 2002, the Museum has subscribed to a program of incremental improvements, resulting in an increase in our ability to care for and provide access to over 350,000 ethnographic and archaeological objects, none of which would have been possible without CAP."

After years of concerted efforts to improve collections care and to achieve other institutional goals, the Logan Museum was awarded accreditation by the American Association of Museums (AAM) in 2007. The AAM Visiting Committee noted the Museum's programmatic commitment to improving collections care.

Thanks to Nicolette Meister for her help with this article.

CAP Program Updates

If your museum is considering applying for ReCAP or if you would like to tell colleagues about the program, please note that for the 2011 program year CAP applications were released on November 18, 2010. The due date to submit applications is January 21, 2011. CAP applications are available on CAP's Web site at www.heritagepreservation.org/CAP/application.html in PDF and Word formats. The Web site will also have a link to an online version of the application. Please contact the CAP office at cap@heritagepreservation.org or at 202-233-0800 with any questions about participation in 2011.

TELL US YOUR STORY!

If CAP jump-started collections care efforts at your museum, please let us know! We are interested in learning about your efforts in implementing recommendations from your CAP report, long-range planning, fund-raising, or community outreach. Please email your story to cap@heritagepreservation.org.

Former CAP Participant Receives 2010 Heritage Preservation/AIC Award

The 2010 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections, presented annually by Heritage Preservation and the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, was awarded to The Friends of Iolani Palace. The award is presented annually to recognize an organization that has been exemplary in the importance and priority it has given to conservation concerns and in the sustained commitment it has shown to the preservation and care of cultural property. Iolani Palace's award acknowledges the museum's exemplary stewardship of the historic collections in its care. The staff has worked as advocates for collections both within their organization and to the general public. Iolani Palace participated in CAP in 2006 and was featured in CAPabilities in Spring 2009 (www.heritagepreservation.org/CAP/IolaniPalace.html).

For more information about this year's recipients of the Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections, and how to nominate a museum for the award, please visit www.heritagepreservation.org/awards/aic2010.htm. The deadline to nominate a museum for 2011 is December 15, 2010.

Online List of Funding Sources for Historic Preservation

Looking for funding sources to implement your CAP historic structure assessment report recommendations? The Grants & Funding Sources page at PreservationDirectory.com (www.preservationdirectory.com/PreservationGeneralResources/GrantsFundingSources.aspx) is a good place to start. PreservationDirectory.com is a comprehensive online resource for historic preservation, building restoration and cultural resource management in the United States and Canada.



www.facebook.com/HeritagePreservation

Free Audiovisual Self-Assessment Tool Online!

Do you have stacks of audio cassette tapes and no idea what to do with them? Do you want to know the best way to store your 16mm film collections and are unsure where to start? Do you have a limited preservation budget and want to spend it in the best way possible to preserve your audiovisual media items? The University of Illinois Library has developed the Audiovisual Self-Assessment Program (AvSAP) to address these and other media-related needs.

AvSAP is software that will help you identify your audiovisual (AV) collections and prioritize them for future preservation. Priority in preservation is based on several factors, including format type, physical condition, and storage conditions. AvSAP requires no prior knowledge about audiovisual materials and their preservation. The software will guide you to answer targeted questions about your AV collection and provide popup windows or “information kiosks” to explain audiovisual preservation concepts and principles.

For more information, check out the AvSAP Web site at www.library.illinois.edu/prescons/avsap/.

One Thing You Can Do: Get the Big Ideas for Small Museums e-Newsletter

Big Ideas for Small Museums is a quarterly e-mail just for people who work in small museums. The Small Museums Committee of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH-SMC) intends this new communication to share resources that are pre-tested and approved by actual small museum professionals. The articles will be brief and practical – giving you the shortcuts you need when you don't have enough time, money or people. The newsletter is free to Small Museums Affinity Group members. A museum need not be a member of AASLH to join the Small Museums Affinity Group. Visit www.aaslh.org/SmallMuseums.htm to join the Small Museums Affinity Group.

Become a Member

Heritage Preservation provides its members with timely, useful information and represents them before decision-makers in the cultural heritage arena. For information on how to join please visit us at www.heritagepreservation.org or call us toll-free at 888-388-6789.

Do's and Don'ts: When Photographing Artifacts . . .



DO use inert, archival auxiliary supports for objects such as padded or cushioned blocks, padded hangers, cushion donuts, wedges, and archival bean or sand bags.

DO NOT use adhesive tapes, waxes, modeling clay, pressure clips, pins, staples, or flimsy cardboard boxes to position objects for photography.

DO NOT leave photo flood lights on any longer than necessary because the heat and high light intensity can cause damage to objects.

DO NOT position yourself unsafely when taking photographs.

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Dates and Deadlines

Below is a list of upcoming grant deadlines and national conference dates. For a complete list of preservation workshops, including ones near you, visit www.heritagepreservation.org/calendar.htm.

- December 6-7** Sustainable Preservation Practices Workshop, Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, Minnesota, Midwest Art Conservation Center, www.preserveart.org
- December 15** Connecting to Collections Statewide Implementation grants deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov
- December 15** Essential Policies and Procedures for Cultural Institutions Workshop, Philadelphia, PA, The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, www.ccaha.org
- January 18** Museum Grants for African American History and Culture deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov
- January 21** Conservation Assessment Program application deadline, Heritage Preservation, www.heritagepreservation.org
- February 1** National Leadership Grants deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov
- February 15** National Medal for Museum and Library Service nomination deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov

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