



# Research Fellowship

**Getty Conservation Institute**  
(April-June, 2022)

Report

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# Research Fellowship at the Getty Conservation Institute

## Project: Cultural Landscapes Recording & Documentation. Theories, methods and techniques

### Background

The Research Fellowship reported here was requested through an open competitive call made by the Getty Conservation Institute (henceforth GCI) in September 2018. The main aim of the application was to undertake a project titled *Cultural Landscapes Recording & Documentation. Theories, Methods and Techniques*. Applications to this call, which is open, international and competitive, were assessed in terms of their quality, potential contribution for the advancement of the field of heritage conservation, the CV of the applicant and their ability to execute the project, as well as the benefits involved for the GCI.

This fellowship, initially scheduled for the spring of 2020, was postponed twice of account of the international health crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. It was eventually carried out in the spring of 2022.

### Achievement of the project's aims

In the proposal submitted in 2018, the main aim of the project was described as *“to analyze different proposals for the registration and documentation of cultural landscapes for their knowledge, protection, research and/or conservation, in order to identify both the common and distinguishing elements in addition to the underlying conceptual base of each one.”*

The achievement of that aim was based on a bibliographic research, developed in the following phases:

1. Search of information regarding the recording and documenting of cultural landscapes

A series of national, regional and local cultural landscape inventories from Europe (Germany, Wales, Spain, Italy and France) and North America (USA and Canada), as well as others of international scope, were reviewed. These inventories were selected, among other reasons, for having published in an explicit manner the criteria followed in their elaboration. The resources and services of the Information Center Staff (ICS) of the GCI and the Getty Library of the Getty Research Institute (GRI) were particularly useful during this stage of the work.

### Description of the Conservation Guest Scholar Program

*“The Conservation Guest Scholars Program provides an opportunity for professionals to pursue research on topics that bring new knowledge and fresh perspectives to the field of conservation. Guest Scholar grants are for established scholars, or individuals who have attained distinction in their fields. Recipients are in residence at the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles, where they pursue their own projects free from work-related obligations, make use of research collections at the Getty Center and Villa, and participate with other Getty scholars, fellows, and interns in the intellectual life of the Getty.”*

<https://www.getty.edu/foundation/>

## 2. Comparative analysis of the criteria used to produce the inventories selected for analysis.

The data structure of each inventory was reflected in a number of tables together with information pertaining to their most characteristic aspects. This was followed by a comparative analysis of the following elements:

- Cultural landscape concept and aim of the inventory
- Criteria for the identification of cultural landscapes
- Delimitation and scale of the cultural landscapes included in the inventory
- Taxonomies, contents and management of the information stored in the inventories
- Perceptual aspects and public outreach

The tables were designed in the separate document that will be archived in the Repository de of Digital Assets of the IAPH, and later linked to the final text as supplementary research data.

## 3. Discussion and assessment of the results

After the comparative analysis, a discussion has been made on each of the elements mentioned above in order to assess the state of the art in each of them. To this end, the use of complementary specialized literature, available through the resources and services of the ICS (GCI) and Getty Library of the GRI was of great value.

Finally, a series of recommendations have been drafted in way of good practice for the making of inventories of cultural landscapes.

## 4. Preparation of a scientific paper

While the Project was undertaken according to the phases or stages described above, a scientific paper was written, which will be submitted to a major, high-impact journal listed in the Scopus database and ranked as Q1/Q2 in the Scientific Journal Ranking<sup>1</sup>.

## Other activities

The Getty Foundation “Scholars in Residence” program includes the participation of fellows in a series of supporting academic and social events:

- These events offer an important support for the adaptation of the fellows to the Getty facilities and services, including library access, as well as practical issues such as health insurance, security or taxation.
- Academic activities organized by the GRI increase and expand the scope of each fellow’s approach to their own project, fostering a general perspective of all the project under way at the same time, which are presented and discussed.
- Social events were very useful to make possible a fruitful interaction among visiting fellows included in the “Scholars in Residence” program, both between the GCI and the GRI and between the visiting fellows and the Getty staff.



<sup>1</sup> A copy of the manuscript, currently under review process, is annexed to this report.

Similarly, I participated in meetings with a number of people working at the GCI and also with colleagues undertaking research projects at the GRI through Getty scholarships, and visited a number of cultural institutions and heritage sites, with a particular interest in those catalogued as Landmarks or Cultural Landscapes (districts) according to US law.



Scholars in Residence Group Portrait (Spring-2022)

The following table lists the activities in which I participated during my Spring of 2022 stay at the GCI:

Type of activity	Denomination	Date
<b>ABRIL</b>		
Visit	Academy Museum of Motion Picture	April 11
Academic	Spring Scholar Welcome - Present Your Project. Webinar.	April 13
Support	Spring Scholar Computer & Library Q & A	April 14
Support	Benefit overview	April 14
Visit	Getty Villa	April 15
Visit	Griffith Observatory	April 15
Support	Sabine Schlosser (Scholar Program Associated) and Cameron Trowbridge (Manager II, Communications & Dissemination Department) welcome.	April 18
Playful	Breakfast in the Scholars Common Room	April 18
Support	Spring Scholar Security & Emergency Training	April 19
Playful	Museum Scholar Welcome Tea.	April 19
Academic / Playful	Spring Scholar Mini-Retreat & Group Portrait	April 20
Support	Visa/Tax Orientation for International Scholars	April 21
Playful	Scholar Housing Welcome Reception	April 21
Visit	LACMA & La Brea Museum	April 24
Visit	Santa Bárbara & Ancient Chumash Native American Cave Paintings	April 25
Meeting	César Bargaúes. Project Specialist. Department of Buildings & Sites	April 29
<b>MAYO</b>		
Academic	<i>Folk Music Data: Harry Smith and Alan Lomax's Computational Imaginations.</i> Michael J. Kramer, Assistant Professor, History, the College at	May 2

	Brockport, State University of New York	
Academic	Remote Scholar Cohort Gathering	May 2
Visit	Norton Simon Museum	May 7
Visit	Mission of San Juan Capistrano	May 8
Visit	Getty Museum Paintings Collection and Guests	May 9
Meeting	Meeting about ARCHES with David Myers & Annabel Enríquez, Project specialist. Department of Building and Sites (GCI),	May 11
Academic	Scholars Symposium: <i>The Fragment</i>	May 12
Visit	San Francisco Bay Area's Landscape Legacy	May 13-15
Meeting	Anna Duer (Research Assistant)	May 16
Meeting	César Bargués (GCI), David Escudero (Polytechnic of Madrid University – Fulbright Fellows) & Verónica Uribe (Los Andes University, Bogotá)	
Academic	<i>Black California: (In)visibility on the American Frontier</i> . Tobias Wofford, Assistant Professor, Art History, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmon	May 18
Playful	Potluck at the Scholar Housing	May 18
Meeting	Jeffry Levin. Editor Lead. Communication & Dissemination Department	May 25
Meeting	David Meyers (ARCHES)	May 25
Visit	Cultural Landscape of Palos Verdes & Wayfarers Chapel	May 29
Academic	Reading Against the Fragmentary Archive: Rewriting Mongol Empire's Art History. Yong Cho, Assistant Professor, Department of the History of Art, University of California, Riverside	May 31
JUNIO		
Visit	Huntington Museum, Gardens and Library	June 5
Playful	Lunchtime Picnic promoted by Jim Cuno, President & CEO of the Getty	June 6
Meeting	Scholar Photography Location Scout: Meeting with Ben Glassman, Asst. Digital Media Producer, y Cassia Davis, Creative Producer Photography). Digital Content Department at the GCI	June 6
Playful	Scholar Housing Farewell	June 6
Academic	<i>Reassembling the Fragments: Humanitarianism, Orphan Care, and Architecture Against Displacement</i> . Aslihan Günhan, GettyFellow	June 7
Meeting	Meeting with Cesar Bargués Ballester (GCI)	June 10
Playful	Potluck at the Scholar Housing	June 10
Visit	The Broad Museum	Junio 11
Academic	<i>The Nineteenth-Century Metasketch: Sketches of Artists Sketching Outdoors</i> . Verónica Uribe Hanabergh, Associate Professor, Art History, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia	June13
Meeting	GCI Scholar Photo Shoot - Silvia Fernandez Cacho. Ben Glassman y Cassia Davis (Comunication & Dissemination Department)	June 13
Academic	<i>They live one hundred and fifty years: The trope of longevity and epidemic diseases across the early modern Atlantic</i> . Maria Berbara, Professor, Art History, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	June 15
Playful	Potluck at the Scholar Housing	June 15
Visit	The Hummer Museum	June 19
Meeting	Meeting with Tim Whalen. Director	June 21
Playful	End of the Scholar Year Reception	June 21
Visit	Eames House (Landmark)	June 22
Visit	MOCA Museum	June 25



Spring Scholar Mini-Retreat (April 20)



Scholar Housing Welcome Reception (April 21)



Visit: Getty Museum Paintings Collection and Guests (May 9)



*They live one hundred and fifty years: The trope of longevity and epidemic diseases across the early modern Atlantic.* María Berbara. Rio de Janeiro University.(June 15)

## Conclusion

My research stay at the GCI in the Spring of 2022 has been an extremely positive and enriching experience, both professionally and personally. I have been able to establish contact with colleagues from various countries (Korea, Brazil, Germany, Colombia, Bulgaria, Italy, USA, United Kingdom and France) which I expect will have a very positive impact in my work in the future. In this sense, the Getty scholarships produce very positive outcomes in terms of networking and collaboration.

The resources available to the visiting scholar and the kind availability, efficiency and helpful disposition of the whole Getty staff (whether in administration, technical or documentation services) arguably justify the reputation of these scholarships as the most renowned in the field of heritage research and conservation, world-wide. Thanks to these resources, the project *Cultural Landscapes Recording & Documentation. Theories, Methods and Techniques*, has been successfully completed on time, covering all the stated aims.

Similarly, I have been able to develop new ideas for future research projects within the field of cultural landscape inventories. To this end, already while at the GCI, I maintained online meetings with colleagues of the Spanish Higher Research Council as well as various Spanish universities (Madrid Polytechnic and Seville) and also the Instituto Andaluz del Patrimonio Histórico itself. I have also held contacts with various members of the GCI team and with several scholars of the Getty “Scholars in Residence” program with the aim of promoting future collaborations in way of scientific international meetings.

Los Angeles, June 28, 2022

Silvia Fernández Cacho