

The mission of the Fitch Foundation is to encourage new thinking and excellence in American historic preservation. To achieve this aim, the Foundation awards research grants to mid-career professionals who have an academic background, professional experience, and an established identity in one or more of the following fields: historic preservation, architecture, landscape architecture, urban design, environmental planning, history of architecture, and the decorative arts.

Fallingwater Premiere at the Guggenheim

2011 Fitch Fellow Kenneth Love's film *Fallingwater: A Conversation With Edgar Kaufmann jr.* premiered to a standing room only crowd at the New Media Theater at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum on October 13, 2011 and was screened as part of the museum's Friday Film Series in October and November. The film tells the remarkable history of Fallingwater, the Edgar J. Kaufmann house designed by Frank Lloyd Wright between 1934 and 1937. The film was supported by the Fitch Foundation, The Edgar A. Tafel Living Trust, and the Laurel Foundation.



Kenneth Love addressing the crowd at the *Fallingwater* film premier at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

View Highlights of the Fitch Forum

Highlights for the 2011 Fitch Forum, *45 Years of Preservation Law*, are now available on the Fitch Foundation website. Watch Fitch Trustee Anne Van Ingen challenge the next generation of preservationists to think about how to use new media to better communicate preservation practice, or listen to keynote speaker Jerold Kayden address the state of preservation law today. The event was co-sponsored with the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, the Law Department of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and *Widener Law Review*.



Kate Wood, Executive Director of Landmark West!, Tom Mayes, Deputy General Counsel to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and Fitch Trustee Anne Van Ingen. Photo by Katie Chao.

NCPE's Annual James Marston Fitch Award

There are many awards and honors named after Professor James Marston Fitch. At the 2011 National Trust Conference in Buffalo, the National Council of Preservation Educators presented Professor Eugene Cizek its annual James Marston Fitch Award for both his founding the Masters in Preservation Studies at Tulane School of Architecture and for overseeing the program until his retirement earlier this year. Eugene Cizek's successor at Tulane and Fitch Foundation Chair, John Stubbs, led the salute.

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Fitch Foundation
c/o Neighborhood
Preservation Center
232 East 11th Street
New York, NY 10003
tel: 212-252-6809
fax: 212-471-9987
www.fitchfoundation.org
info@fitchfoundation.org

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A Report From The Field

Philosophies and Practices of Preservation among Pueblos
By 2011 Fitch Fellow Shawn Evans

This study examines the preservation of the pueblo villages in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. These historic communities maintain the oldest architectural traditions in the United States. The study began with background research, including the gathering of historic photographs that document dramatic architectural change. These photos raise important questions inherent with all vernacular structures and critical for tribal communities: For whom are indigenous objects, structures, and landscapes to be preserved and whose value systems determine treatment methods?

Preservation and housing leaders at the pueblos have been eager to discuss their perspectives and learn about the efforts of other tribes. At the Ohkay Owingeh, for example, the community determined that the most appropriate preservation treatment was full rehabilitation. The exteriors of the homes are being returned to their multi-storied massing, with historically appropriate mud plaster and wood doors and windows, while the interiors are being adapted to contemporary life. Use of federal housing grants has required a difficult balancing of preservation and housing standards.

Each group of elders from the various tribes has expressed different priorities for preservation. Some favor the preservation of exterior appearances with less concern for the interior, while others are more focused on dirt floors and fireplaces as direct and private connections to the earth and those who came before. While most would prefer the homes to be built in the traditional ways, many openly accept and advocate for modern materials. In every case, however, there is an understanding that the gatherings of homes are the containers of the earthen plazas, the ceremonial hearts of these cultures. The preservation of these open spaces is essential to the survival of these peoples.



Taos Pueblo has resisted architectural change for the last century. Restrictions against utilities have resulted in usage of homes for traditional activities over daily life. The five-story buildings are still maintained with traditional mud plaster. Photo by Shawn Evans.



Acoma Pueblo is also without utilities but there is less restriction on architectural change. While the overall massing of the village has remained, details have evolved. Cultural leaders are seeking ways to provide a better balance. Photo by Shawn Evans.

Catch Up with Fitch Fellows

This Fall the Fitch Foundation embarked on a project to collect and organize the work of past Fellows, and publish these materials, or links to these materials, on the Fitch Foundation website, www.fitchfoundation.org. Log on today to catch up with past Fellows, including Donna Ann Harris (2003 Fellow) who studied new futures for house museums, Robert Weyeneth (2001 Fellow) who examined racial segregation as a spatial system and proposed a conceptual framework for assessing its significance, and Dr. Andrew Gulliford (1991 Fellow) who wrote about preserving Native American Tribal traditions. We look forward to hearing from other past Fellows and will continue to add content to the website in the months ahead.

Fitch Foundation News

The Fitch Foundation would like to thank the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and The Edgar A. Tafel Living Trust for their generous grants that allow us to continue to support the work of dedicated preservation professionals.

Become a Friend of the Fitch Foundation!

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