



Friends of Fairsted

Advancing the mission of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

Charles E. Beveridge Research Fellowship

The Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site (Olmsted NHS) preserves the home, designed landscape, office, and design records of America's foremost landscape architect and his firm. It was here that Frederick Law Olmsted established the nation's first full-scale office for the practice of landscape architecture in 1883. Today, an estimated 1,000,000 original landscape design records are housed within the office, as well as an adjunct facility at Springfield Armory National Historic Site. These records document over 6,000 projects proposed or undertaken by the Olmsted firm between 1860 and 1980, which continue to enhance our understanding of local, regional, national, and international trends in landscape design and city planning. To encourage the use of the Olmsted Archives and collections at the Olmsted NHS, and foster the continued development of Olmsted scholars in the United States, the Friends of Fairsted (Friends) has established an annual research fellowship. One fellowship will be awarded in 2015. This fellowship honors Charles E. Beveridge, the eminent scholar, editor of the Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, and longtime friend of the Olmsted NHS.

Eligibility

This fellowship is expressly to support scholarly research in the Olmsted Archives at the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site. In 2015, the Fellowship is not restricted; student (undergraduate and graduate) research, scholarly post-graduate work, or work by an independent researcher is eligible. Previous applicants are welcome to re-apply.

Stipend

The fellowship stipend is \$1,500; it may be used to defray the living and travel expenses of researchers who wish to come to the Brookline/Boston area for research utilizing the Olmsted Archives at Fairsted. The fellowship stipend will be awarded to the selected recipient shortly after selection and notification in early May 2015.

Research Parameters

Award recipients are expected to be in residence conducting their research in Brookline for a one to two-week period between May 2015 and April 2016. Coordination with the Olmsted NHS Archivist is needed well in advance of the actual research appointment. Applicants should assume that the Archives can accommodate three days of research per week, with an anticipated capacity of approximately 200 plans/week. Recipients are required to send the Friends a copy of the results in a published or unpublished form and present the results in an informal talk or dinner with the Friends and National Park Service.

Submittal Requirements

- Beveridge Fellowship Application Form (attached to this announcement)
- Brief (1-3 page) project description (11 point, double spaced)
- Resume/curriculum vitae
- One (1) written recommendation from an academic advisor, professor, or professional knowledgeable about the applicant's work and research proposal.

Hints for a Successful Application

Projects with a demonstrable public benefit or outcome that advances the knowledge and understanding of the Olmsted legacy are reviewed most favorably. Applicants should do their homework, so that the application describes very specifically the archival material that will be used, including the collection or job number, as well as the quantity and type of material to be examined. For example, a project that states “I’m interested in understanding more about the relationship between trees and road design” (without more specifics) would be much less likely to be successfully than “I’m interested in documenting the relationship between trees and road design in the public park system of Anytown, USA, to inform a new public education program” and followed by a discussion of the specific landscape(s) and job number(s). It is not necessary to state exactly which plans, photographs or other material you’d like to examine, but you should have a clear research strategy in mind with an outcome or product. There are a number of resources readily available to assist in this advance preparation, any of which are online and listed above. When using ORGO (the Olmsted Research Guide Online), be sure to check both the Advanced Master List Search and the Advanced Archival Records Search, as they both contain information that is critical to understanding the breadth of materials available for your research. The first can give you a quick snapshot of the quantity and dates of plans for a specific job; the second yields much more detail, including description of collections containing photographs, plan index cards, planting lists, and correspondence held at both the Olmsted NHS and Library of Congress, as well as a list of specific plans held in the Olmsted NHS archives.

Please do not embed your application or any supporting information in the body of an email. All submittal materials should be prepared according to the guidelines and attached as a pdf. Letter(s) of recommendation may be sent separately, but are due on April 1, 2015.

Deadline and Application Submittal

Deadline for receipt of completed applications is **4:00 PM EDT, Wednesday, April 1, 2015**. **Late submittals cannot be accepted.** Applications and supporting materials may be sent by USPS, fax, delivery, or email attachment (single pdf file) to:

Mail: Friends of Fairsted Fellowship Coordinator
c/o Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site
99 Warren Street
Brookline, MA 02445

Email: friendsoffairsted@gmail.com (10 meg max. file – including pdf attachment).

Please indicate Beveridge Fellowship in the subject line and on the envelope or fax.

Selection and Notification

Applications will be reviewed first for completeness and eligibility by the Friends of Fairsted Fellowship Coordinator (Lauren Meier, ASLA), and then for content, innovation, and overall research strategy by the Fellowship Committee and Dr. Charles Beveridge. The Committee will select a short list of candidates whose research topic and requisite primary material make best use of the Olmsted Archives at Fairsted. The short list will be reviewed by the NPS Archivist to ensure that the proposed research can be carried out within a 1-2 week research period as described above. It is possible that the Committee may respond to the potential Fellow with suggestions related to the research strategy, based on suggestions from the Archivist. The final selection will be made by the Friends of Fairsted Fellowship Committee. Notification will be made by USPS and/or email shortly after May 1, 2015.

For More Information

Requests for further information about the fellowship competition, submittal requirements, deadlines, etc., should be sent by email to the Fellowship Coordinator, Friends of Fairsted (friendsoffairsted@gmail.com). Please indicate "Beveridge Fellowship question" in the subject line.

For more information on the contents of the Olmsted Archives and other museum collections at the Olmsted NHS, please see the Archives information on the Olmsted NHS Archives web page (www.nps.gov/frla/olmstedarchives.htm), consult the *Master List of Design Projects of the Olmsted Firm, 1857-1979* published in 2008 by the National Association for Olmsted Parks and National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, or review the list of holdings for individual projects searchable through the Olmsted Research Guide Online (ORGO) at ww2.rediscov.com/olmsted. Information regarding research policies and other relevant information is also available on the Olmsted NHS website. If necessary, specific questions about archival holdings at Fairsted may be made directly to the Olmsted NHS Archivist, Jill Trebbe at 617 566-1689 ext. 230. Questions will be answered in the order received, and could take up to 1 week to answer.



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Charles E. Beveridge Research Fellowship APPLICATION FORM – 2015

1. Background	
Applicant's Name:	_____
Mailing Address:	_____
Email:	_____
<i>Contact information including Email on May 1, 2015 if different from above</i>	_____ _____ _____
Organization and current position or title:	<i>List current academic or professional affiliation:</i> _____ <i>Please also attach a curriculum vitae.</i>
Professional/academic reference:	<i>Include one academic reference from an advisor, professor or professional knowledgeable about your work and research proposal.</i>
Reference's Name:	_____
Relationship to you:	_____
Address and phone number:	_____
	<i>Attach written reference letter to application.</i>
2. Project Information	
Project title:	_____
	<i>Please attach a 1-3 page project description including a statement of how this research fits into a larger project or publication, if applicable. Description should 11pt. type, double spaced, not to exceed 3 pages in length.</i>
3. Research Scope	
Approximate dates you would like to conduct research at the Olmsted NHS:	_____ _____
Archival materials needed and/or Olmsted Job #'s:	_____ _____

Send the application form, curriculum vitae, project description, and letter of reference by fax (617 232-3964), USPS mail, delivery (e.g. Fed EX/UPS) or email attachment (pdf) by **4:00 PM EDT April 1, 2015**, to:

Fellowship Coordinator, Friends of Fairsted
c/o Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site
99 Warren Street / Brookline, MA 02445

Email: friendsoffairsted@gmail.com (indicate Beveridge Fellowship on the subject line).