Charles E. Beveridge 2022 Research Fellowship

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Supporting research and projects utilizing the Olmsted Archives at Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

Application Deadline: April 30, 2022

BACKGROUND
The Charles E. Beveridge Research Fellowship honors the eminent scholar, Charles E. Beveridge, Series Editor of The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, and devoted friend of Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site and its archives and collections.

PURPOSE
The Beveridge Fellowship supports research and projects utilizing the Olmsted Archives at Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site and the continued development of scholarship related to the Olmsted legacy.

SELECTION CRITERIA
This year’s fellowship will be awarded in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted. In the spirit of exploring the wide-ranging impact of his legacy, we seek research proposals that move beyond the study of individual Olmsted landscapes. This theme can be broadly interpreted but may take the form of research projects that look at a specific or thematic aspect of the Olmsted firm’s landscape architecture practice, represented by projects from 1857-1979; planning and design projects reworked by subsequent members of the firm, individuals who went on to form their own practices, or the public; Olmsted's writings, including those predating his work in landscape architecture/planning; and critiques of

Left: Park ranger with World's Columbian Exposition photo album. Right: Historic view of Franklin Park, Boston, MA. Courtesy NPS, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.
how the “firm’s ideals for parks and open space relate to today’s calls for environmental justice and spatial justice,” a primary theme of Greater Boston’s Olmsted Bicentennial. Awardees will be selected based on the originality of their proposed project, its applicability to this year’s theme, and the extent to which proposed research utilizes the range of resources in the Olmsted Archives. The Beveridge Fellowship jury is composed of Friends of Fairsted board members and representatives from the National Park Service.

WHO SHOULD APPLY
Students and professionals engaged in art or architectural history, landscape architecture, architecture, urban planning, historic preservation, engineering, American studies, or related disciplines.

ELIGIBILITY
Applicants currently enrolled in graduate academic and professional programs, or who have completed their studies, are eligible to apply. Priority will be given to emerging professionals. Public agencies may also apply to broaden the understanding of the Olmsted legacy at the state, regional, and municipal level. Projects that dovetail with other Olmsted200 initiatives such as the 2022 Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) Challenge: Olmsted Landscapes will also be considered provided the grant is not used to supplement commercial contracts. The research project must utilize the Olmsted Archives at Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site; other related repositories will also be helpful given the 2022 Beveridge Fellowship theme of decentering Olmsted. For example, the Library of Congress contains the majority of the Olmsted firm’s correspondence, Harvard’s Loeb Library has an extensive collection related to John Charles Olmsted, and local historical societies across the country hold material related to environmental justice campaigns.

AWARD
The Fellowship consists of a stipend of up to $3,000. There may be more than one award in a given year.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
The awardee will submit a brief report to the Friends of Fairsted summarizing their work and how the funds were spent by June 1, 2023. The awardee may also be asked to participate in a webinar or write a short article to present their project to the National Park Service and Friends of Fairsted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
For more information on the Friends of Fairsted and the Beveridge Fellowship, please see the Friends of Fairsted website. Information on the Olmsted Archives, as well as related repositories, can be found at Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site website.

Please note that the COVID-19 public health crisis may limit Fairsted archive staff access to materials and in-person visits by the awardee as well as delaying response from the Friends.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 30, 2022
NOTIFICATION TO APPLICANTS: June 1, 2022
QUESTIONS: Contact Friends of Fairsted by email fellowship@friendsoffairsted.org.
APPLICATION DETAILS

Prior to completing the online application, have the following items ready for upload. Please notify your Recommender well in advance to ensure that your recommendation is received by the deadline. Note that each upload should be in pdf format and limited to 64MB per file.

Applications are submitted online through the Friends’ Fellowship portal. 

Upload your application.

ITEMS TO INCLUDE:

A. Contact information of applicant: Name, mailing address, telephone/cell, and email.

B. Cover letter (suggested 1,000 word limit) containing the following:
   • Description of the proposed research project including a title, goals, objectives, methodology, and final product
   • Archival material anticipated for use
   • Explanation of how this project advances the applicant’s educational, personal, and/or professional goals

C. CV or resumé

D. Contact Information for Recommender*

* Letter of Recommendation from an advisor or principal professor is required and submitted separately by the Recommender directly to fellowship@friendsoffairsted.org. Note that professionals may choose an allied professional, government or institutional official, or other relevant individual who can speak to the applicant’s interests and capabilities.

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Charles Eliot Beveridge, PhD, is the preeminent scholar and expert on the life and work of Frederick Law Olmsted. He is Series Editor of The Frederick Law Olmsted Papers, published by Johns Hopkins University Press; the final book in the 12-volume series, Plans and Views of Communities and Private Estates, was published in 2020. Dr. Beveridge is also the author of several publications on Olmsted and his career, including Frederick Law Olmsted: Designing the American Landscape, prepared with photographer Paul Rocheleau and Frederick Law Olmsted: Writings on Landscape, Culture, and Society in the Library of America series.