

Cultural Heritage and Digital Preservation – Thursday 15 FEB 1:00-4:00

UC Berkeley and the Presidio Trust will offer a discussion forum and workshop on this important topic. This workshop will look at workflows that integrate the best digital practices with the standards for documenting cultural heritage sites – like the Presidio.

Agenda:

- Discuss principles for digital information in cultural heritage preservation.

What standards of practice mind both sides of the cultural/digital gap? What technological solutions are of lowest risk and highest impact for heritage preservation and research? We will point to real-world standards in practice that are effective and will seek from the workshop participants other examples from the Presidio.

- Defining the digital technologies/practices already in use.

While best practices and standards are useful when followed, the majority of legacy information for cultural heritage is squirreled away in hard drives, outdated software applications and retrieved with outmoded methods. We raise this issue for discussion and offer an action plan for collecting a comprehensive list of risk areas and solutions for the digital deluge that is already upon us.

- Documenting our decision-making and creating the record.

Documenting the decision-steps in heritage preservation – from photography, CAD drawings, lab work, GIS modeling, etc – are essential to building context for our actions, evaluating our process, and providing transparency. Documenting documentation is rarely done to a sufficient level, for it is time consuming and the perceived, present value is minimal. We will demonstrate and offer up solutions that make this documentation painless and immediately valuable.

- Sharing our cultural heritage digitally.

We will end our discussion with some time dedicated to digital dissemination, from powerpoint and email to websites and weblogs.

Outcomes: Participants will come away with strategies for coping with their own digital deluges, as well as key opportunities to contribute to a growing network of heritage professionals who are dedicated to preserving our cultural past in a digital future. We will work to integrate the outcomes from this workshop into existing working groups and form new collaborative opportunities.

Who should attend: Anyone interested in digital preservation strategies for cultural heritage are encouraged to attend. We welcome input and contributions from the Presidio community at large on these vital topics.