

International National Trusts Organisation



INTO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The National Trust
for Historic
Preservation, USA

The National Trust
for Scotland

Din l'Art Helwa
The National Trust
for Malta

Cross-Cultural
Foundation of
Uganda

The National Trust
of Fiji

Indian Trust for
Rural Heritage and
Development

BPPI Indonesian
Heritage Trust

The Saint Lucia
National Trust

The National Trust
for England,
Wales and
Northern Ireland

Czech National
Trust

National Trust for
Canada

Taiwan
Environmental
Information
Association

National Trust of
Korea

Bermuda National
Trust

Henri de Lépinay
President
Union Rempart
1, rue des Guillemites
75004 Paris
France

11 June 2016

Dear Mr de Lépinay

Today as you celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of REMPART, I wanted to add my personal congratulations to an organisation which embodies so completely the spirit of the National Trust movement.

With your focus on collaborative and practical conservation projects, REMPART plays such a vital role in engaging people with their built environment, creating opportunities and developing skills. It is sometimes tempting to think that the safeguarding of heritage is someone else's job. Organisations like REMPART show that the opposite is true and that by working together we can save, protect and find new uses for neglected historic buildings.

I love your hands-on, can-do approach; bringing together people from different backgrounds to learn new skills, connect with local communities and deliver positive change. This was very much the ethos of the National Trust established in our country 120 years ago.

Today however, heritage all over the world is under increasing threat from neglect, conflict, poor planning and environmental decay. We strongly support your commitment to passing on our shared heritage, wherever it is in the world, and your vision of a fairer, more harmonious society.

For the past five decades, Union REMPART has worked tirelessly to safeguard and protect heritage in France and beyond, but perhaps more importantly has used these sites as the backdrop for passing on traditional skills, for building a sense of collective responsibility and creating a movement of citizens committed to heritage conservation.

I congratulate you all for your efforts and encourage you to keep going amid sometimes difficult circumstances. I am honoured and humbled that you are part of the INTO network and National Trust movement. Here's to fifty more years!

Yours sincerely

Dame Fiona Reynolds DBE
Chairman