

## Pearl S. Buck's Historic Home Enters Final Phase of Restoration

06 June 2012 | Affiliate News

The living preservation of the Pearl S. Buck House, the anchor of both the historic site and the accomplished woman's life, enters its final phase of construction. The third phase of preservation, designed by Mills + Schnoering Architects LLC and contracted by **Wu & Associates, Inc.**, ensures the safety of the site and its long-term sustainability for the enjoyment of future visitors.



"While stewardship responsibilities can overburden some nonprofit organizations in their efforts to keep momentum through the many stages of the preservation process, Pearl S. Buck International prides itself on the organization's ability to move this project forward quickly from grant acquisition in December to matching fundraising and bidding the project by January. "Preservation is paramount to our mission, goals and overall objectives, This last phase is the final leg of an 8 year journey and we upheld a tenacious focus to see it through to fruition," Teri Mandic, vice president of programs, Pearl S. Buck International said.

Pearl S. Buck's dynamic legacy creates interest in all aspects of her accomplished life. The site is one of very few collections of goods used by a family during a period of significance and one of even fewer attributed to a woman. The site attracts many visitors who are in awe of Ms. Buck's dedication to her adopted family, while others find inspiration in her Nobel and Pulitzer prizes.

"There is so much depth to the story that we can peel back the layers of the onion for the next 10 to 20 years and still have more stories to tell about the legacy of Pearl S. Buck," said Pearl S. Buck International Marketing Director Pamela Carroll. Wu & Associates Inc.'s **Chairman Raymond Wu** is honored to be included in the preservation of the site considering Ms. Buck's commitment to fostering appreciation between Eastern and Western cultures. "She had a very deep understanding of the lives of the Chinese people and villages at the time—their struggles, their poverty," reflected Wu.

Visitors to the site can experience the many facets of Ms. Buck's legacy as well as become a part of the preservation process. The site is open during the repairs and tour leaders are happy to incorporate the changes on site from the recently repaired roofs to the beautiful manicured and re-pointed stone courtyard. The next phase scheduled for February 2013 will concentrate on interior work and the process can be followed online. The "Exposing The Beams" blog at [www.pearlsbuck.org](http://www.pearlsbuck.org) serves as a virtual exhibit focused on chronicling the restoration from Phase I to date. Thousands of individuals with an interest in restoration, architecture, and history have followed the project through this online feature.

Connecting present day life with the past, Pearl S. Buck International welcomes individuals, groups and school students to tour the Pearl S. Buck House Tuesday through Sunday. The national historic landmark site features an international gift shop and offers a year round calendar of events with writing workshops, cultural events, and community programming to celebrate the legacy Ms. Buck left through child sponsorship, adoption and community programs. The beautifully landscaped property boasts both a Cultural Center and outdoor tents to rent for group meetings and special occasions.