

FOLAR
Oral History Project

Appointment of Researcher

The Friends of the Landscape Library and Archive at Reading (FOLAR) is dedicated to championing and encouraging the use of the landscape archive and library at Reading University both outside and within the Landscape Institute and to promoting the landscape profession to the widest contemporary audience.

FOLAR is commencing an Oral History project to record the rich heritage of the landscape professions' elders, and disseminate this material in a number of ways and to a variety of audiences.

To underpin the development of this project, FOLAR wishes to appoint a researcher to undertake a review of landscape related oral history work carried out to date in the UK. Oral history is 'the recording of people's memories, experiences and opinions'¹ and, for the purposes of this project, we are defining 'landscape' as relating to the work of landscape architect/landscape design professionals (who may or may not be members of the Landscape Institute) working in both urban/rural environments and in private and public space.

Specifically, the project will involve research into, and reporting on, the extent, scope, quality and quantity of any landscape related oral histories previously carried out in the UK, or overseas if relating to British landscape professionals. Research should concentrate on interviews with landscape professionals but any information, uncovered in the course of the project, on oral history work with clients, users, funders, or specific topics or sites, would also be welcome.

Information will be available from Reading University's Museum of English Rural Life (MERL) - the holder of the Landscape Institute's Library and Archive - and the Landscape Institute's corporate records and papers, but other organisations, institutions, universities, museums, archives, professional bodies, charities, media etc will also need to be investigated to ensure a comprehensive level of coverage.

The final report will need to include:

- Listing of landscape related oral history exercises, including summary of organisation responsible, scope, topic, content, speaker, interviewer, date of recording, length, medium used, condition, copyright, accessibility, availability of transcription, purpose (eg for book or TV) and other relevant information as appropriate
- A full bibliography and list of organisations/individuals consulted
- Listings of other contacts or organisations who may be useful to the future of the project - including any recommendations on organisations which may offer funding

The budget for this work is approximately £2,500.

Submissions should include the applicant's cv, a methodology and scope for the project, timetable for delivery, likely project outputs and scoping of final report. The fee proposal to include a time based fee and expenses.

The submissions will be assessed on quality of approach and methodology, and value for money.

Proposals to be submitted by midnight on **9th December 2018**. Any queries relating to this brief and or the project as a whole can be submitted up to and including **18th November 2018**. Appointment of the successful candidate is likely to be made in early January 2019.

Submissions and queries should be sent to:

Helen Neve

FOLAR Oral History Project

helen@landmanagementservices.co.uk

HMN02.11.18

¹ Oral History Society, <http://www.ohs.org.uk/>