

Ann Beha Architects, Project Leader & Architect  
Robert Silman Associates, Structural Engineer  
Carol R Johnson Associates, Landscape Architect  
Object/IDEA, Interpretive Planner  
ConsultEcon, Inc, Business Planner

## **SCOPE OF WORK**

### **A Collaborative Process**

The keys to a sustainable future for Historic Fort Adams will be found in the site, the Staff and Trustees of the Fort Adams Trust, and the Newport community — as the RFP and Save America's Treasures grant application have acknowledged. Our planning and design process for the Master Plan will be grounded in a deep understanding of the history and character of the site and the vision of the Trust, leavened with creative thinking and technical knowledge that the design team brings from a wide range of visitor and museum facilities, both regionally and nationally. Design and planning workshops will be central to our Master Plan methodology. We value the commitment that Staff and members of The Trust have already invested in a vision for the site, recognizing their intimate knowledge of its character, the programs already in place, the Newport community and other fort sites throughout the country. We would work with The Trust to identify appropriate participants and venues for both public and private workshops, circulate agendas in advance, and ensure engagement by all. Workshops would investigate and resolve technical requirements and explore design options associated with issues such as:

- Preservation philosophy and alternates for structural stabilization
- Visitor experience, site programming and lessons learned from other Newport attractions and fort sites
- Sustainability and infrastructure options and long-range operating costs
- Interpretive strategies and site plan concepts
- Business model scenarios corresponding with the interpretive and site concepts
- Public visioning workshop to review and comment on schematic concepts
- Final Concept: implementation schedules, phasing options and budgets
- Public workshop to review and comment on schematic concepts

Our goal is a clear, well-managed process which offers reliable technical and cost information in balance with creative and engaging design exploration. We typically facilitate the exploration of design concepts through the use of diagrams and plans, study models, and perspective vignettes. These help to promote the three-dimensional understanding of ideas for a site as extensive as Fort Adams and foster the engagement and enthusiasm of all team members. We document the workshops in a series of "sketchbooks," in print and digital form, which enable the progress to be shared with a wider audience of decision-makers and supporters. The result is a Master Plan built on consensus which moves easily into fundraising.

### **Project Goals**

The Fort is a remarkable resource, but has barely begun to reach its potential as a heritage tourism site. This Master Plan should address the objectives outlined in the Fort's RFQ and Save America's Treasures Grant application. Among the issues to be resolved might be:

- What repairs and infrastructure are required to realize the Trust's vision of an 'Open Fort'?
- How can the history and technological achievements be portrayed most compellingly, appealing to people of all ages and backgrounds?
- What additional opportunities might there be for activities which would increase support and income while remaining consistent with the site's mission, preservation objectives and the visitor experience?
- How might the relative conditions of different parts of the complex — and phased construction — influence public access, tour routing, interpretation and the ability to support other events?
- How can infrastructure needs be balanced with potential income streams?
- What are the immediate costs of stabilizing the site, and what can be anticipated for long-term maintenance and operations?
- What alternatives could reduce long-term operating costs and provide additional visibility and appeal for funding?

## ***Information on Team Members***

### **Ann Beha Architects**

Founded in 1980, Ann Beha Architects is a national leader in historic preservation and adaptive reuse and has worked with museum, cultural and educational clients throughout the nation to preserve, restore and re-define historic settings at all scales.

*Selected Master Planning Projects Include:* Fort Ticonderoga and the Pavilion, NY; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Historic Deerfield, MA; Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, CA; Bowdoin College Master Plan, ME; Portland Art Museum, OR; Symphony Hall, Boston; Brown University Haffenreffer Museum, RI; Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, MA.

*Selected Historic Preservation Projects Include:* Old North Church, Boston; New York State Capitol, Albany, NY; Morse-Libby Mansion, Portland, ME; Nantucket Athenaeum, Nantucket, MA; The Cloisters, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.

### **Robert Silman Associates Structural Engineer**

Robert Silman Associates has provided structural engineering on numerous distinguished projects over the past 37 years including condition assessments, stabilization, and restoration with an extensive body of work on fortifications.

*Selected Projects Include:* Stabilization and repair of Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas National Park, FL; Fort McHenry, Baltimore, MD; Fort Pike, New Orleans, LA; Fort Jackson, LA; Carnegie Hall, New York City; Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, PA; Museum of Immigration, Ellis Island, NY; Tobacco Warehouse, Brooklyn, NY; Menokin Ruins, Warsaw, VA.

### **Carol R Johnson Associates**

Founded in 1959, CRJA is an award winning landscape architectural design and environmental planning firm serving national and international clients, with extensive experience in the special needs of park design and the National Park Service guidelines.

*Selected Projects Include:* Norman Rockwell Museum Master Plan, MA; Battle Road and Minuteman National Historical Park, Lexington and Concord, MA; Fort Warren, George's Island, MA; Fort Stanwix National Monument, NY; Fort McHenry, MD; Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, NY.

### **Object/IDEA**

Object/IDEA is an interpretive planning and design firm offering exhibition development and project planning working with museums, parks, visitor centers and cultural attractions worldwide to create educational and compelling visitor experiences.

*Selected Projects Include:* Spectacle Island Visitor Center, Boston Harbor Islands Park, MA; Old State House and Boston Massacre Site, MA; National Museum of Australia, Canberra; Nantucket Museum Center, Nantucket, MA; Plimoth Plantation Pathways Project, Plymouth, MA; Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Dubuque, IA.

### **ConsultEcon, Inc.**

The firm has conducted over 600 studies, including business plans, market and financial feasibility studies, master plans, operations analyses, and economic impact studies for existing and proposed heritage sites, museums and visitor attractions throughout the US.

*Selected Projects Include:* Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor; Marsh-billings National Historical Park, VT; Colonial National Historical Park, VA; Moccasin Bend, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, TN; Gettysburg National Military Park, PA; Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark Master Plan, Birmingham, AL; Historic Fort Lowell Park Master Plan and Restoration Plan, Tucson, AZ; San Benito Heritage Tourism Planning, San Benito, TX.