

## Investing in the Future: Barcelona Preservation Endowment

U.S. Consulate General in Barcelona

### A 19th-century Jewel Shines in Barcelona

The U.S. Consulate General in Barcelona has a long and illustrious history. Established in 1797 during the Administration of President John Adams, it is one of the oldest U.S. consular presences in the world. Consulate General Barcelona is responsible for a district composed of the Spanish regions of Catalonia, Aragón and, unusually for a consular post, a nation state, the Principality of Andorra.

*Torre Godó Eguia*, the 1914 building which has housed the U.S. Consulate General for over three decades, is an architectural jewel and well-loved local landmark designed by prestigious architect Enric Sagnier (1858-1931). Executing a commission from members of a prominent Barcelona family, Sagnier drew his inspiration from the *Noucentista* movement, an expression of civic ideals and urbanism through the combination of classicism and local artistic forms.



The functionality of the grand Catalan house draws from the familiar order of its classical arrangement of entrance columns, porch, and upper-floor windows. It is remarkably open and fresh to modern eyes. Ethereal wall frescoes by the artist Darius Vilas i Fernandez (1880-1950) look out on a pleasing layout of surrounding grounds including the tempietto bandstand.

### Restoring a Landmark, Strengthening Diplomacy



Work has been underway to restore the exterior of the magnificent 110-year-old structure including the frescoes by Vilas. Upcoming work includes the restoration of a striking, high-ceilinged interior room that once served as a chapel. Once the restoration work is completed, annual conservation work is essential to protect the restored structure and its heritage collection inside, which contains large murals by Catalan painter Josep Maria Sert recently relocated from the U.S. Embassy in Madrid.

Taken as whole, *Torre Godó Eguia* is an important expression of America's commitment to Barcelona, the Spanish regions of Catalonia and Aragón and the Principality of Andorra. The historic structure is a strong statement of cultural diplomacy and an homage to the skill and artistry of Barcelona's architects, artists and craftspeople. The property was added to the Secretary of State's Register of Culturally Significant Property in 2022, further recognizing this shared commitment to cultural heritage between our two nations.





## A Public-Private Partnership

To ensure the long-term preservation of the historic Consulate General building and its gardens, we are working with our nonprofit partner, the Fund to Conserve U.S. Diplomatic Treasures Abroad (Fund to Conserve) to create a two-million-dollar endowment dedicated to ongoing restoration and conservation. This endowment will generate annual support for essential repairs and safeguard the property for future generations.

## Make a Difference Today!

You are invited to be part of preserving this irreplaceable landmark for generations to come. Your donation – at any level – contributes to the specialized conservation and care of *Torre Godó Egúia*. Your gift will support the ongoing service of a place that bridges cultures, encourages dialogue and reflects the stories of people and events that have shaped our world and offer inspiration for the future.

The Fund to Conserve is pleased to accept your donation via your preferred manner, including mail, wire transfer, securities, IRA distribution, private foundation, employer-matched gifts or Donor-Advised Funds (DAF).

Please contact Andrea Cochrane Tracey at the Fund to Conserve with your questions or to discuss ways to donate. She may be reached at:

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The **Fund to Conserve U.S. Diplomatic Treasures Abroad (Fund to Conserve)**, established in 2012, is the official independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan, private sector partner to the U.S. Department of State's, Overseas Buildings Operations, Office of Cultural Heritage. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Visit the **Fund to Conserve website** at [FundtoConserve.org](http://FundtoConserve.org) to learn more about our private sector partner.

