

17 July 2024

Roosevelt Institute for American Studies  
Hofplein 16, P.O. Box 70  
4330 AB Middelburg  
The Netherlands

Dear colleagues,

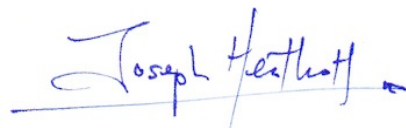
I am pleased to provide this report on the time that I spent as a Visiting Fellow at the Roosevelt Institute for American Studies. It was my privilege to join RIAS for two weeks from 16-30 May 2024. I found it to be a very friendly and productive environment, highly conducive to sharing ideas and advancing projects.

While in residence at RIAS I was able to complete an outline, introduction, and proposal for my current book project "Photography at the End of Progress: Documerica and the Environmental Imaginary in the 1970s." It was a luxury to be able to commit entire days writing and thinking; I found it to be one of the most productive two weeks that I have enjoyed in many years. I was also able to spend time on another key interest of mine: contemporary Dutch design. I undertook an extensive photographic shoot around Veersepoort, which I am currently organizing into an essay to publish in an architectural journal.

It was a particular pleasure to be in residence at the same time as Deborah Cohn, and to present our work in progress together at RIAS. The feedback that we received from those in attendance was most insightful, and the common theme of American cultural and intellectual life in the 1970s proved stimulating. I am particularly grateful to Damian Paragas, Gaetano Di Tommaso, and Leontien Joesse for welcoming me to Middelburg, and for their warm collegiality. The staff in the archive were knowledgeable and helpful, and they provided a comfortable and quiet working environment.

I very much hope that I can return to RIAS, and perhaps stay for a longer period. It is a wonderful environment in which to work, think, and share ideas.

Sincerely,



Joseph Heathcott  
Professor of Urban and Environmental Studies  
The New School