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2001/02

HERITAGE AT RISK

**ICOMOS WORLD REPORT 2001/2002
ON MONUMENTS AND SITES IN DANGER**



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INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ



MONUMENTS AND SITES
MONUMENTS ET DES SITES
MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS
ПОМНИКИ И СООБРАЩАТЕЛЬНЫЕ МЕСТА

HERITAGE AT RISK

Patrimoine en Péril / Patrimonio en Peligro

ICOMOS WORLD REPORT 2001/2002 ON MONUMENTS AND SITES IN DANGER

ICOMOS rapport mondial 2001/2002 sur des monuments et des sites en péril

ICOMOS Informe mundial 2001/2002 sobre monumentos y sitios en peligro

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Front Cover: The Great Buddha statue of Bamiyan before its destruction
Inside Front and Back Cover: Zeugma, Turkey, excavated mosaic
Back Cover: Taliban soldiers in front of the mountain alcove of the Great Buddha of Bamiyan after its destruction

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HERITAGE AT RISK 2001/2002

UNESCO welcomes this ICOMOS Heritage at Risk publication most warmly. It highlights the common goal and the excellent co-operation of the two organisations to promote the protection of cultural heritage around the world. This particular project is significant in view of its capacity to expose the dangers facing heritage in various countries of the world and promote practical measures to avert or at least allay them. It should be regarded as a complement to the UNESCO List of World Heritage in Danger in that this challenge is being faced by most countries to some degree and not only those in which it assumes gigantic proportions. Communities constantly have to face the loss of their heritage through factors as diverse as warfare, the harmful effects of weather, atmospheric pollution, earthquakes, development projects and financial constraints. Many heritage buildings and sites are deteriorating through simple neglect. If this continues, the loss could well be as catastrophic as that caused by earthquakes, for instance. Recent major disasters include the earthquake in Gujarat (India) and the destruction of the old city of Dubrovnik (Croatia) and of the Mostar bridge (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Particularly distressing was the deliberate destruction of the Bamiyan Buddhas, those jewels of Gandaran art in Afghanistan, in spite of worldwide protest and widespread opposition from the highest religious authorities of Islam. No effort should be spared to save the Afghan cultural heritage while taking every possible step to safeguard other treasures of the country's non-Islamic heritage.

I am confident that this ICOMOS initiative will help the cause of Heritage at Risk in no uncertain manner, utilising as it does approaches that include theory, practice and education on an international scale. On behalf of UNESCO, I encourage not only those actively involved with heritage protection, but also communities and individuals to support this programme and actively implement proactive approaches to prevent the loss of our heritage.

Mounir Bouchenaki
Assistant Director-General for Culture

PATRIMOINE EN PERIL 2001/2002

L'UNESCO accueille très chaleureusement la publication du deuxième *Rapport Mondial de l'ICOMOS sur les Monuments et Sites en Péril* qui illustre l'excellente coopération des deux organisations et l'objectif commun qu'elles partagent en faveur de la protection du patrimoine culturel dans le monde entier. Cet ouvrage revêt une importance particulière car il signale les dangers qui menacent le patrimoine de plusieurs pays et il participe à la promotion des mesures à mettre en œuvre pour éliminer ces dangers ou amoindrir leurs effets. Complémentaire de la Liste du Patrimoine mondial en Péril de l'UNESCO, le nouveau Rapport relève ce défi qui concerne la quasi-totalité des pays et non pas seulement ceux dans lesquels les risques atteignent des proportions considérables. Que ce soit à cause des guerres, des aléas climatiques, de la pollution atmosphérique, des séismes, des projets d'aménagement ou des difficultés économiques, les sociétés doivent sans cesse lutter pour sauvegarder leur patrimoine. Ne serait-ce que par simple manque d'entretien, de nombreux bâtiments et sites historiques se détériorent et si l'on n'y prend garde les pertes engendrées peuvent s'avérer aussi dramatiques que si elles avaient été causées par un tremblement de terre. Parmi les dernières grandes

catastrophes, on peut citer le tremblement de terre du Gujarat (Inde), la destruction de la vieille ville de Dubrovnik (Croatie) et celle du pont de Mostar (Bosnie-Herzégovine).

Particulièrement douloureuse fut la destruction volontaire des Bouddhas de Bamiyan, joyaux de l'art Gandara en Afghanistan, et ce malgré les protestations et l'opposition manifestées dans le monde entier par les plus hautes autorités religieuses de l'Islam. Nous nous faisons un devoir de sauver le patrimoine culturel afghan, sans négliger les trésors non islamiques de ce pays.

Je suis persuadé que l'initiative de l'ICOMOS aidera la cause du Patrimoine en Péril par son action internationale, à la fois théorique, pratique et éducative. L'UNESCO encourage non seulement les experts, activement engagés dans la protection du patrimoine, mais aussi les communautés et les particuliers à soutenir ce programme et mettre en œuvre des méthodes efficaces pour prévenir et empêcher la perte de notre patrimoine.

Mounir Bouchenaki
Sous-Directeur général pour la Culture

PATRIMONIO EN PELIGRO 2001/2002

La UNESCO acoge con gran entusiasmo la publicación del segundo *Informe Mundial del ICOMOS sobre los Monumentos y Sitios en Peligro*, que ilustra la excelente cooperación de ambas organizaciones y el objetivo común que comparten en favor de la protección del patrimonio cultural en el mundo entero. Esta obra reviste una importancia particular pues señala los peligros que amenazan al patrimonio de varios países, y participa en la promoción de las medidas que deben tomarse para eliminar dichos peligros o disminuir sus efectos. Complementario a la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial en Peligro de la UNESCO, el nuevo Informe acepta este reto que afecta la casi totalidad de los países, y no sólo aquellos en que los riesgos alcanzan proporciones considerables. La diversidad de las causas – guerras, cambios climáticos, contaminación atmosférica, sismos, proyectos de ordenación territorial o dificultades económicas – obligan a las sociedades a luchar incansablemente para salvaguardar su patrimonio. Aunque sólo sea por la falta de mantenimiento, numerosos edificios y sitios históricos se deterioran, y si no se toman las debidas precauciones, las pérdidas generadas pueden resultar tan dramáticas como si hubieran sido causadas por un sismo. Entre las últimas

grandes catástrofes, cabe citar el terremoto de Gujarat (India), la destrucción del casco viejo de Dubrovnik (Croacia) y la del puente de Mostar (Bosnia Herzegovina).

Particularmente dolorosa fue la destrucción voluntaria de los Budas de Bamiyan, joya del arte Gandara de Afganistán, pese a las protestas y a la oposición manifestadas en el mundo entero por las mayores autoridades religiosas del Islam. Es nuestro deber salvar el patrimonio cultural afgano, sin desdeñar los tesoros no islámicos de este país.

Estoy convencido de que la iniciativa del ICOMOS ayudará la causa del Patrimonio en Peligro gracias a su acción internacional, a la vez teórica, práctica y educativa. La UNESCO estimula no sólo a los expertos, activamente implicados en la protección del patrimonio, sino también a las comunidades y a los particulares para que sostengan este programa y pongan en obra métodos eficaces destinados a prevenir y a impedir la pérdida de nuestro patrimonio.

Mounir Bouchenaki
Sub-Director General para la Cultura



FOREWORD

Our report for the year 2001/2002, following the successful *ICOMOS World Report 2000 on Monuments and Sites in Danger*, once again includes contributions from individual colleagues and various national and international committees of ICOMOS, as well as information and updates collected by our Taskforce. We would also like to thank those experts who participated in three Heritage at Risk workshops this year. These workshops provided a wide range of additional information and included discussions that will valuably inform our ongoing work in this area: first, the meeting of colleagues from South African countries at the University of Pretoria, organised by Andrew Hall, President of the Advisory Committee (30–31 May 2001); second, the meeting of colleagues from Eastern Europe in Warsaw (28–30 September 2001), planned by Marek Konopka, General Secretary of the Polish National Committee, and finally the Heritage at Risk conference held in connection with the meeting of the Advisory Committee in Dubrovnik (16–17 October 2001). We commend the input from all these ICOMOS colleagues and committees and also note, in line with ICOMOS policy, that the information provided for this publication reflects the independent view of each committee.

The ICOMOS World Report 2001/2002 includes new reports from more than 60 countries, and is a continuation of last year's edition. The report, together with updates, can also be found on the Internet (www.international.icomos.org/risk). This year our experienced editorial team had very committed support from

another Australian colleague, Jane Harrington, who edited most of the texts and contributed in a substantial way to the final production process. John Ziesemer once again dedicated considerable energy and time to ensure the production of a successful publication, as did Gaia Jungeblodt, Director of the International Secretariat in Paris. We are particularly grateful to ICOMOS Germany for again providing the financial and organisational framework for the 2001/2002 report, made possible through the generous support of the German Federal Government Commissioner for Cultural Affairs and the Media, as well as the support of the Messerschmitt Foundation. We also need to thank Hannelore Puttinger from the ICOMOS secretariat in Munich, as well as the staff of the International Secretariat in Paris. Once again we extend our thanks to the K.G. Saur publishing company, particularly Manfred Link, for facilitating the printing of this publication, which had to be compiled under great pressure of time.

Finally the members of the Heritage at Risk taskforce would like to express their gratitude to all colleagues and friends for helping us to try to save our common cultural heritage.

Sheridan Burke
Dinu Bumbaru
Michael Petzet

PREAMBULE

Le Rapport Mondial de l'ICOMOS sur les Monuments et Sites en Péril de 2001/2002, qui fait suite au premier rapport publié avec succès en 2000, est une fois encore le fruit des efforts d'un grand nombre de nos collègues et des différents Comités Nationaux et Comités Scientifiques Internationaux de l'ICOMOS et il rassemble les informations collectées et mises à jour par le groupe de travail lui-même. Nous tenons à remercier les experts qui ont participé cette année aux Ateliers Patrimoine en Péril, lesquels ont apporté un large éventail d'informations supplémentaires et ont été le lieu de discussions qui ont enrichi nos connaissances dans ce domaine. Il y a eu tout d'abord la rencontre de nos collègues des pays du sud de l'Afrique à l'Université de Pretoria, organisée par Andrew Hall, Président du Comité Consultatif (30–31 mai 2001), puis la réunion des collègues de l'Europe de l'Est à Varsovie (28–30 septembre 2001), préparée par Marek Konopka, Secrétaire général du Comité National polonais de l'ICOMOS, et enfin la Conférence du Patrimoine en Péril, qui s'est tenue en liaison avec la réunion du Comité Consultatif à Dubrovnik (16–17 octobre 2001). Nous félicitons pour leur contribution tous les collègues et tous les Comités de l'ICOMOS. Nous rappelons que, conformément à la politique générale de l'ICOMOS, les informations publiées dans ce Rapport reflètent l'indépendance de vue de chaque Comité.

Le Rapport Mondial 2001/2002 de l'ICOMOS comprend de nouveaux rapports pour plus de 60 pays et constitue une suite de la première édition. On trouve d'ores et déjà la nouvelle monture sur le site Internet d'ICOMOS (www.international.icomos.org/risk). Cette année, l'équipe éditoriale a reçu l'aide avisée et fort

soutenue d'une collègue australienne, Jane Harrington, qui a révisé la plupart des textes et considérablement enrichi la publication. John Ziesemer a cette fois encore consacré une énergie et un temps considérables pour assurer la réussite de la publication, de même que Gaia Jungeblodt, Directeur du Secrétariat International de l'ICOMOS, à Paris. Nous sommes particulièrement reconnaissants envers ICOMOS Allemagne qui, cette année aussi, a fourni le cadre financier et organisationnel pour la publication du Rapport 2001/2002 grâce au soutien généreux du Commissaire du Gouvernement fédéral allemand aux Affaires culturelles et à la Communication et de la Fondation Messerschmitt. Nous remercions aussi Hannelore Puttinger du secrétariat d'ICOMOS à Munich, ainsi que le personnel du Secrétariat International de l'ICOMOS à Paris. Une fois encore, notre gratitude va à la maison d'édition K.G. Saur et en particulier à Manfred Link pour leur contribution à cette publication qu'il a fallu compiler dans un délai très court.

Enfin, les membres du groupe de travail Patrimoine en Péril souhaitent exprimer leur gratitude à tous les collègues et amis pour l'aide qu'ils apportent à la sauvegarde de notre patrimoine culturel commun.

Sheridan Burke
Dinu Bumbaru
Michael Petzet

PREÁMBULO

El *Informe Mundial del ICOMOS sobre los Monumentos y Sitios en Peligro* del año 2001/2002, que prolonga el primer informe publicado con éxito en 2000, es nuevamente el fruto de los esfuerzos de numerosos colegas y de los diferentes Comités Nacionales y Comités Científicos Internacionales del ICOMOS, y reúne las informaciones recogidas y actualizadas por el mismo grupo de trabajo. Agradecemos a los expertos que han participado este año en los Talleres Patrimonio en Peligro; dichos talleres han aportado una amplia gama de informaciones suplementarias y han dado lugar a discusiones que han enriquecido nuestros conocimientos en este campo. En primer lugar, cabe mencionar el encuentro de nuestros colegas de los países del sur de África en la Universidad de Pretoria, organizado por Andrew Hall, Presidente del Comité Consultivo (30–31 de mayo de 2001); luego, la reunión de los colegas de Europa del Este en Varsovia (28–30 de septiembre de 2001), preparada por Marek Konopka, Secretario General del Comité Nacional Polaco del ICOMOS; y finalmente, la Conferencia del Patrimonio en Peligro, que se celebró en conexión con la reunión del Comité Consultivo en Dubrovnik (16–17 de octubre de 2001). Felicitamos por su contribución a todos los colegas y a todos los Comités del ICOMOS. Recordamos que, de conformidad con la política general del ICOMOS, las informaciones publicadas en este Informe reflejan la independencia de opiniones de cada Comité.

El Informe Mundial 2001/2002 del ICOMOS incluye nuevos informes para más de 60 países y constituye la continuación de la primera edición. Ya se puede encontrar la nueva presentación en el sitio Internet del ICOMOS (www.international.icomos.org/risk).

Este año, el equipo editorial ha recibido la valiosa y constante ayuda de una colega australiana, Jane Harrington, que revisó la mayoría de los textos y enriqueció considerablemente la publicación. John Zieseemer volvió a dedicar mucho tiempo y energía para garantizar el éxito de la publicación, así como Gaia Jungeblodt, Director de la Secretaría Internacional del ICOMOS, en París. Expresamos nuestros agradecimientos especiales a ICOMOS Alemania que, también este año, ha proporcionado el marco financiero y organizacional para la publicación del Informe 2001/2002, gracias al generoso respaldo del Comisario del Gobierno federal alemán de Asuntos Culturales y Comunicación, y de la Fundación Messerschmitt. Agradecemos asimismo a Hannelore Putteringer de la Secretaría de ICOMOS en Munich, así como al personal de la Secretaría Internacional del ICOMOS en París. Una vez más, expresamos nuestra gratitud a la editorial K.G. Saur y en particular a Manfred Link por su contribución a esta publicación que ha debido ser compilada en un plazo muy corto.

Por último, los miembros del grupo de trabajo Patrimonio en Peligro desean manifestar sus agradecimientos a todos los colegas y amigos por la ayuda que aportan a la salvaguarda de nuestro patrimonio cultural común.

Sheridan Burke
Dinu Bumbaru
Michael Petzet



INTRODUCTION

The destruction of the famous Buddha statues of Bamiyan, condemned world-wide, could not be prevented despite appeals by UNESCO and ICOMOS. This incredible act of vandalism points like a beacon at the various risks and threats with which our cultural heritage is still confronted, even after the end of a century of terrible destructions. Consequently, the ICOMOS report for the year 2001 once again contains a whole range of acts of barbarity, such as the demolition of the stele of Metera in Eritrea and the devastation of the prehistoric sanctuary of Mnajdra in Malta.

The new ICOMOS *World Report 2001/2002 on Monuments and Sites in Danger*, with reports from more than 60 countries, complements last year's World Report, which was the first of its kind and received considerable recognition, not only among colleagues but also in the public media of many countries (see the selection of press comments on page 252ff.). As is last year's report, this 2001/2002 report is also available on the Internet (www.international.icomos.org/risk). Once again the report was produced by a Taskforce of members from Australia, Canada and Germany, as well as by an enlarged editorial board. It well illustrates that the situation is still highly critical for numerous monuments and sites in many regions of the world. Nevertheless, there are cases where the protection of monuments can be successful. In some situations the Heritage at Risk Report has already proven to be a useful instrument for defending threatened monuments. Having information about the potential dangers to our cultural heritage is immediately an advantage and a step in the right direction, as only those monuments and sites that are recognised and recorded as such can be protected with legal means. And in order to provide help in the case of risk there is first a need for world-wide information about the dangers that are threatening our monuments.

In this sense we hope that the Heritage at Risk report will inspire further commitments at national and international levels, generate new initiatives in preservation, and provide an additional and positive impulse for existing institutions, such as the ICOMOS-supported Blue Shield (see p. 246). The effect should also extend to international foundations that are involved in preservation, such as the Getty Foundation or the World Monument Fund. Their good example has the potential to influence other internationally operating sponsors, particularly in the current climate of increased awareness of the economic importance of heritage conservation and its special role in terms of 'sustainable development'.

With its Heritage at Risk Report, ICOMOS hopes to not only gain the moral support of the world public in the battle against all kinds of threats, but also to achieve practical results in co-operation with all forces that are interested in the preservation/conservation of the cultural heritage. As a non-governmental organisation, ICOMOS can identify monuments in danger from a strictly preservation-based perspective without political considerations, can bluntly address the absolutely desperate situation facing the historic heritage in many countries of the world, and can detect dangerous trends at an early stage.

The types of threats that show up in the reports that are presented here are very diverse. On the one hand, humankind's built historic heritage has always been threatened by natural disasters: by the consequences of earthquakes, typhoons, hurricanes, floods and fires, as well as by the effects of natural weathering and attack by insects or plants. On the other hand, wars and ethnic confrontations, as in the region of former Yugoslavia, are still leading to tremendous losses. But human-made disasters also include the

consequences of the world-wide pollution of our air, water and land – including the pollution-linked destruction of monuments of metal and stone, which in some cases have deteriorated faster in the last decades than they have in previous centuries. The current threats to our historic heritage are in many ways incomparable to those of earlier times, now that we live in a world that has been undergoing faster and faster change since the last decades of the 20th century. This rapid development, taking place under the pressures of world population growth and progressive industrialisation, leads to ever-greater consumption of land – destroying not only archaeological evidence under the earth but entire historic cultural landscapes – and to faster and faster cycles of demolition and new construction with their concomitant burden on the environment.

Faced with this social and economic change, historic buildings that are no longer in use become endangered by deterioration or by destruction through neglect. Even the historic building-stock that is put to good use often lacks the means for the simplest building maintenance; in the long run this, too, leads to loss. In many countries, however, not only are the financial resources unavailable to guide such developments in the direction of cultural continuity, but the political will is also missing. This is demonstrated, for instance, by the absence of a State preservation organisation with appropriate experts, by the total lack of preservation laws, or by legal statutes that exist but are not put to use. The continuous loss of the historic heritage is pre-programmed if there is not a certain amount of public-sector protection in the interest of the general public. As well, without sufficient protection, the criminal element operating in the background of the international art market continues to develop. Many archaeological sites are still plundered by illegal excavations, and the illicit traffic of works of art represents a continuous loss of cultural goods that, from a preservation perspective, should be preserved in their original context. Not only paintings, sculptures and artefacts from cultural sites are being decimated through this theft in many countries, but art monuments are actually being destroyed in order to gain fragments for the market: temple complexes are being looted, sculptures decapitated, and frescoes cut up.

With or without an economic motive, such shocking acts of vandalism now have an even worse effect thanks to the arsenal of destructive technologies that is available today, in an epoch in which even the most distant corner of the earth is 'accessible'. In some countries the tourism industry – ubiquitous in its connection with monuments, historic districts and cultural landscapes – apparently provides the only reason to protect monuments, at least as sightseeing objects. A community-based soft tourism naturally would have its positive effect on preservation. But mass tourism, to which entire cultural landscapes have fallen victim over the last decades, today still represents a danger. It remains a disappointment that, despite the many assurances at countless conferences on the theme of tourism and preservation, there is a lack of commitment by the tourism industry, which by now with its sales in the billions is the most important branch of industry world-wide. In many cases the tourism industry exploits the cultural heritage through over-use that is sometimes ruinous (consider some of the Egyptian grave sites), but does not render any serious financial contribution to the protection and preservation of the cultural heritage.

Finally, in the development of an increasingly globalised world dominated by the strongest economic forces, the tendency to make all aspects of life uniform represents an obvious risk factor for cul-

tural heritage. With the new global 'lifestyle', attitudes to historic evidence of the past naturally also change. However, there is hope that in some places this very globalisation is causing a renewed consciousness of the significance of the monuments that embody regional and national identity. This trend can also be identified for artistic and craft traditions, out of which the historic heritage has developed in the course of centuries. Nevertheless, the mass products of industrial society that are distributed world-wide remain a tremendous threat because they continue to displace the historic techniques of skilled craftsman, and thus prevent the possibility of repair with authentic materials and techniques that is so critical for preservation. Consider, for instance, the continuous replacement of traditional clay and wood construction with concrete structures to which so many traditional 'housing landscapes' have fallen victim.

In addition to the loss of handicraft traditions – a loss that must be fought against also in the interest of sustainable development – monuments are endangered during rehabilitation work by the use of inappropriate methods and technologies. This is particularly the case when properly trained professionals and other preservation specialists are not available at all or not in sufficient numbers, and when preservation know-how is missing. Thus many well-meant preservation measures also fail, simply on the basis of lack of competence. I would like to emphasise here that in preservation practice the maintenance and repair of the existing building stock, which often would require only modest financial means, is more important than many a luxury rehabilitation or extreme reconstruction, which may in fact cause damage to a monument. Overzealous restorations based on aesthetic or sometimes even religious arguments can also represent a danger under some circumstances.

With its Heritage at Risk initiative, ICOMOS is concerned with monuments and sites in the broadest sense: not only individual monuments but also different types of immovable cultural properties such as archaeological sites, historic areas and ensembles, cultural landscapes and various types of historic evidence from pre-history up to the modern movement of the 20th century, as well as monument-related collections and archives. Given our cultural diversity, the threats and dangerous trends outlined above naturally have different effects in the different regions of the world and in some circumstances endanger only special groups of monuments. For example, countless archaeological sites are disappearing around the world because of the erection of dams (see p. 228ff.). Innumerable historic urban districts suffer from a careless, often totally unplanned renewal process and uncontrolled urban sprawl in their environs. In the face of the industrialisation of agriculture, vernacular architecture is particularly endangered in many countries, disappearing altogether or sometimes 'surviving' only in a few open-air museums. Construction methods using clay, wood

and stone are being lost, making room for concrete constructions used all over the world. These materials are obtainable locally (a fact of great importance in terms of sustainable development in the future) and once defined entire cultural landscapes, but now represent a mostly unprotected historic heritage that is not recorded in any monument list. We are also losing the built evidence of our industrial history – structures erected with modern techniques and now themselves worthy of preservation pose difficult problems for the conservationist when the original use is no longer possible. And even architectural masterpieces of the modern movement of the 20th century are threatened with demolition or disfigurement.

ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, with some 6000 members organised in 109 National Committees and 21 International Scientific Committees is the advisory body for UNESCO on issues concerning the world cultural heritage, in particular the evaluation of monuments and sites that have been placed on the World Heritage List or are under consideration for listing. On the whole, the UNESCO *Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* remains one of the few successful efforts at world cultural politics directed at saving humankind's historic heritage, and ICOMOS is proud to be able to work with UNESCO as an advisory body. The monuments and sites, historic districts and cultural landscapes that are entered on UNESCO's World Heritage List should, in principle, be numbered among the non-endangered monuments, but our report shows that here, too, there are cases of substantial danger. Besides, a certain unevenness in the representation of the non-European countries in the UNESCO World Heritage List has to do with the fact that the Convention demands – justifiably – not only outstanding significance for the objects on the list, but also appropriate State protective regulations for the monument and its surroundings, a protection that unfortunately does not exist in some countries. Thus, for various reasons, in future Heritage at Risk reports even the greatest works of humankind may appear – 'works of unique and universal value' – as it states in the provisions of the UNESCO Convention.

ICOMOS is naturally aware that this second Heritage at Risk Report cannot be complete. However, a new Heritage at Risk report of ICOMOS will be published every year and the report will be added to continuously and disseminated through the Internet (www.international.icomos.org/risk). As President of ICOMOS I am sure that the message of the Heritage at Risk report will be understood as an urgent appeal to the world public to commit itself to saving our cultural heritage more than ever before.

Michael Petzet

INTRODUCTION

La destruction des fameuses statues de Bouddhas de Bamiyan, pourtant universellement condamnée, n'a pu être évitée, malgré les appels de l'UNESCO et de l'ICOMOS. Après un siècle qui a connu son lot de terribles destructions, cet incroyable acte de vandalisme porte à son comble la menace qui pèse toujours sur notre patrimoine culturel. Le Rapport de l'ICOMOS pour l'année 2001 livre un nouveau contingent d'actes de barbarie, tels la démolition de la stèle de Metera en Erythrée ou la dévastation du sanctuaire préhistorique de Mnajdra à Malte.

Le *Rapport mondial de l'ICOMOS sur les Monuments et Sites en Péril 2001/2002*, avec ses nouveaux rapports sur plus de 60 pays, complète l'édition de l'année dernière, qui fut la première de son genre et rencontra une reconnaissance immédiate non seulement de la part de nos collègues mais aussi des médias de nombreux pays (voir les extraits d'articles parus dans la presse page 252ff.). Comme celui de l'année dernière, ce rapport est une fois encore le fruit d'un groupe de travail composé de membres d'ICOMOS Australie, Canada et Allemagne ainsi que d'une importante équipe éditoriale. Il est disponible sur Internet (www.international.icomos.org/risk) et montre que la situation est encore très critique pour de nombreux monuments et sites dans de nombreuses régions du monde. Il y a cependant des cas où la protection des monuments peut réussir. Dans certaines situations, le Rapport *Heritage at Risk* s'est avéré être un outil utile pour la défense de monuments en péril, car disposer de l'information sur les dangers potentiels qui menacent notre patrimoine constitue déjà un premier pas décisif dans la bonne direction; seuls les monuments et les sites en péril reconnus et enregistrés comme tels peuvent bénéficier d'une protection juridique. Avant de pouvoir intervenir en cas de risque, nous devons disposer d'informations mondiales sur les menaces qui pèsent sur nos monuments.

Ainsi, nous espérons que le Rapport Patrimoine en Péril inspirera d'autres engagements, à l'échelle nationale et internationale, donnera naissance à de nouvelles initiatives de conservation et insufflera un nouvel élan aux institutions existantes, telles le Bouclier Bleu (voir p. 246) soutenu par l'ICOMOS. Son effet devrait également s'étendre aux fondations internationales concernées par la conservation, comme la Fondation Getty ou le World Monument Fund. Leur excellent exemple pourrait également influencer d'autres sponsors internationaux, alors même que chacun prend de plus en plus conscience de l'importance économique de la conservation du patrimoine, et du rôle majeur qu'elle a à tenir dans le cadre de ce 'développement durable'.

Avec son Rapport Mondial sur les Monuments et Sites en Péril, l'ICOMOS espère non seulement obtenir le soutien moral du public dans la bataille contre les menaces de toutes sortes, mais aussi obtenir des résultats pratiques en coopération avec toutes les forces intéressées à la préservation du patrimoine culturel. En tant qu'organisation non gouvernementale, l'ICOMOS peut identifier les monuments en danger du strict point de vue de la préservation, sans considérations politiques, se pencher franchement sur la situation absolument désespérée du patrimoine historique d'une kyrielle de pays, et détecter précocement les tendances dangereuses.

Les types de menace expliqués dans les rapports présentés ici sont très variés. D'une part, le patrimoine historique bâti de l'humanité a toujours été à la merci des catastrophes naturelles, tremblements de terre, typhons, ouragans, inondations et incendies, ainsi que des intempéries et des attaques des insectes ou de la végétation. D'autre part, nous ne pouvons oublier les guerres, qui

entraînent toujours des pertes colossales: on peut citer pour exemple les séquelles des conflits armés, des affrontements ethniques et des campagnes menées contre la culture dans la région de l'ancienne Yougoslavie. Parmi les désastres infligés de la main de l'homme figurent en outre les conséquences de la pollution mondiale de notre air, de nos eaux et de nos terres, comme la destruction liée à la pollution des monuments en métal et en pierre, qui, pour certains, se sont plus dégradés ces dernières décennies qu'ils ne l'avaient fait en des siècles. Les menaces qui pèsent aujourd'hui sur notre patrimoine mondial n'ont rien de commun avec celles du temps jadis, car nous vivons dans un univers connaissant, depuis les dernières décennies du 20^{ème} siècle, une évolution en constante accélération. Ce développement rapide, soumis aux pressions conjointes d'une démographie galopante et d'une industrialisation progressive, a pour résultat l'accroissement incessant de l'occupation de terrain – détruisant non seulement les témoignages archéologiques enfouis mais des paysages culturels historiques tout entiers – et des cycles de démolition et de reconstruction toujours plus rapides, qui font payer un lourd tribut à l'environnement.

Dans un tel contexte de changement socio-économique, les bâtiments historiques désaffectés sont en péril, puisqu'ils risquent la détérioration, voire la destruction pure et simple, par négligence. Même dans le cas de ceux qui demeurent en usage, on constate souvent l'absence de la plus élémentaire maintenance, ce qui, à long terme, conduit aussi à la disparition. Quoiqu'il en soit, non seulement nombre de pays ne disposent pas des moyens financiers nécessaires pour guider ces développements dans l'optique de la continuité culturelle mais ne manifestent de toute façon aucune volonté politique en ce sens. Comme en atteste, par exemple, l'absence d'une organisation gouvernementale de conservation dotée des experts adéquats, l'absence totale de lois sur la conservation, ou l'inefficacité de textes législatifs ignorés. La perte progressive du patrimoine culturel est inéluctable si l'État ne lui offre pas lui-même une certaine protection, dans l'intérêt public. D'ailleurs sans protection suffisante, le marché illégal international de l'art peut continuer de se développer. Beaucoup de sites archéologiques sont encore pillés par des fouilles illégales, et le trafic illicite des œuvres d'art représente une disparition permanente de biens culturels qui, du point de vue de la conservation, devraient demeurer sur leur site d'origine. Non seulement les peintures, les sculptures et les objets des lieux de culte sont décimés par le vol, mais les monuments artistiques sont détruits pour en mettre des fragments sur le marché: des temples sont dynamités, des sculptures décapitées, des fresques découpées.

Qu'ils aient ou non une justification économique, de tels actes de vandalisme ont aujourd'hui des conséquences encore plus néfastes, grâce à l'arsenal de technologies de destruction à leur disposition, à une époque où même les contrées les plus reculées sont 'accessibles'. Dans certains pays, l'industrie du tourisme, intrinsèquement liée aux monuments, aux quartiers historiques et aux paysages culturels, est apparemment la seule raison de la protection des monuments, au moins en tant que lieux 'à visiter'. Un tourisme communautaire doux aurait naturellement un effet positif sur la conservation. Mais le tourisme de masse, dont sont victimes des paysages culturels entiers depuis quelques décennies, représente lui aussi un péril. Il est décevant de constater que, en dépit des assurances données lors d'innombrables colloques sur le thème du tourisme et de la préservation, l'industrie touristique ne s'est toujours pas engagée sur cette voie alors qu'elle représente

désormais, avec ses milliards de chiffre d'affaires, le premier secteur économique à l'échelle planétaire. L'industrie du tourisme exploite le patrimoine culturel, par une utilisation abusive parfois ruineuse (citons pour exemple certains des tombeaux égyptiens), mais n'apporte en retour aucune contribution financière notable à la protection et à la conservation du patrimoine culturel.

Enfin, dans le contexte d'un 'village' de plus en plus global, dominé par la loi de la jungle économique, la tendance à l'uniformisation est elle aussi un facteur de risque évident pour le patrimoine culturel. Avec le nouveau 'mode de vie' mondial, les attitudes envers les témoignages historiques du passé se modifient. L'on ose espérer toutefois que cette tendance à la mondialisation, par contrecoup, sensibilise la population locale à l'importance de ses monuments, témoins de l'identité régionale et nationale. Cette tendance se retrouve dans les traditions artistiques et artisanales, qui ont donné naissance au patrimoine historique au fil des siècles. Néanmoins, les produits de masse de la société industrielle distribués dans le monde entier font toujours peser une énorme menace, car ils supplantent les techniques traditionnelles des artisans, et pervertissent ainsi les possibilités de réparation au moyen de matériaux et de techniques authentiques, si vitales pour la conservation. Considérons par exemple le remplacement continu des constructions d'argile et de bois traditionnelles par des structures de béton dont tant de 'paysages résidentiels' ont été les victimes.

En sus de la perte des traditions artisanales – une tendance qu'il convient de combattre dans l'intérêt du développement durable – les monuments sont mis en danger, durant les travaux de réhabilitation, par l'utilisation de méthodes et de technologies inappropriées, parce que l'on manque de professionnels qualifiés et de spécialistes de la conservation, ou parce qu'ils ne sont pas en nombre suffisant, et parce que le savoir-faire en matière de conservation est absent. C'est ainsi que beaucoup de mesures de conservation pourtant pleines de bonnes intentions s'avèrent des échecs, simplement par pénurie de compétence. Je souhaite également souligner ici que, dans la pratique de la conservation, la maintenance et la réparation des bâtiments existants, qui ne nécessitent souvent que des moyens financiers modestes, sont bien plus importantes que beaucoup de réhabilitations luxueuses ou de reconstructions extrêmes, qui peuvent au contraire porter gravement préjudice au monument. Les restaurations trop zélées, basées sur des arguments esthétiques, voire même parfois religieux, représentent elles aussi, dans certains cas, un risque.

Avec son initiative Patrimoine en Péril, l'ICOMOS se préoccupe des monuments et des sites au sens le plus large du terme: non seulement les monuments individuels mais aussi différents types de biens culturels immobiliers, comme les sites archéologiques, les zones et les ensembles historiques, les paysages culturels et divers témoignages historiques, de la Préhistoire jusqu'au mouvement moderne du 20^{ème} siècle, ainsi que les collections et les archives associées. Étant donné notre diversité culturelle, les menaces et les dangers déjà mentionnés ont naturellement un impact différent en fonction des régions du monde et, dans certains cas, ne posent problème que pour certains groupes de monuments. Par exemple, d'innombrables sites archéologiques disparaissent à cause de la construction de barrages (voir p. 228ff.). Dans les villes, on ne compte plus les quartiers historiques en proie à la reconstruction inconsidérée, d'où l'urbanisme est sou-

vent totalement absent, et à l'expansion urbaine incontrôlée dans leur voisinage. De par l'industrialisation de l'agriculture, l'architecture vernaculaire est particulièrement mise en péril dans certains pays, disparaissant purement et simplement ou ne survivant plus que dans quelques musées à ciel ouvert. Les méthodes de construction faisant appel à l'argile, au bois et à la pierre – des matériaux disponibles localement (fait de grande importance pour le développement durable), qui étaient jadis l'apanage de paysages culturels entiers mais qui représentent aujourd'hui un patrimoine historique très largement laissé à l'abandon et absent de toutes les listes de monuments – se perdent, cédant la place aux constructions de béton omniprésentes. En outre, les témoignages bâtis de notre histoire industrielle, des structures érigées à l'aide de techniques qui furent un jour modernes mais dignes elles aussi, aujourd'hui, d'être préservées, posent un problème délicat au conservateur lorsque l'usage d'origine n'est plus possible. Et même les chefs d'œuvre architecturaux du mouvement moderne du 20^{ème} siècle sont menacés de démolition ou de défiguration.

Comptant quelques 6000 membres regroupés en 107 Comités Nationaux et 21 Comités Scientifiques Internationaux, l'ICOMOS, Conseil International des Monuments et des Sites, est l'organe consultatif de l'UNESCO en matière de patrimoine culturel mondial, particulièrement en ce qui concerne l'évaluation des monuments et des sites inscrits sur la Liste du Patrimoine mondial ou dont l'inscription sur celle-ci est envisagée. Dans l'ensemble, la Convention de l'UNESCO pour la Protection du Patrimoine Culturel et Naturel Mondial, adoptée en 1972, demeure l'un des rares efforts réussis de politique culturelle mondiale visant à sauvegarder le patrimoine historique de l'humanité, et l'ICOMOS est fier de travailler, en tant qu'organe consultatif, aux côtés de l'UNESCO. Les monuments et sites, quartiers historiques et paysages culturels inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial de l'Unesco devraient de fait figurer parmi les monuments non menacés, mais notre rapport indique qu'on y observe pourtant certains cas de grand danger. On constate d'ailleurs une certaine inégalité dans la représentation des pays non européens sur la Liste du Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO, inégalité due au fait que la Convention exige – avec raison – non seulement l'importance exceptionnelle des objets sur la liste, mais également des réglementations gouvernementales de protection appropriée pour les monuments et leurs environs, une protection qui n'existe malheureusement pas dans certains pays. Ainsi, les futurs rapports sur le patrimoine en péril risquent de faire figurer même les plus grandes œuvres de l'humanité, des 'œuvres d'une valeur unique et universelle', selon les termes de la Convention de l'UNESCO.

L'ICOMOS est bien entendu conscient que le deuxième Rapport Mondial sur les Monuments et Sites en Péril, coordonné par une équipe de travail composée de collègues d'Australie, du Canada et d'Allemagne, ne peut être complet. Mais à l'avenir un nouveau Rapport de l'ICOMOS sera publié chaque année. Ainsi, le rapport H@R sera complété d'année en année et diffusé sur Internet (www.international.icomos.org/risk). En tant que Président de l'ICOMOS, je suis certain que le message du rapport H@R sera compris comme un appel urgent au monde pour qu'il s'emploie à sauver notre patrimoine culturel plus que jamais.

Michael Petzet

INTRODUCCIÓN

La destrucción de las famosas estatuas de Budas de Bamiyan, universalmente condenada, no pudo ser evitada pese a los llamamientos de la UNESCO y del ICOMOS. Tras un siglo de terribles destrucciones, este increíble acto de vandalismo lleva a su cúspide la amenaza que siempre ha recaído sobre nuestro patrimonio cultural. El Informe del ICOMOS para el año 2001/2002 entrega un nuevo inventario de actos de barbarie, tales como la demolición de la estela de Metera en Eritrea o la devastación del santuario prehistórico de Mnajdra, en Malta.

El *Informe Mundial del ICOMOS sobre los Monumentos y Sitios en Peligro 2001/2002*, con sus nuevos informes sobre más de 60 países, completa la edición del año pasado, que fue la primera de este tipo y que tuvo un reconocimiento inmediato, no sólo por parte de nuestros colegas sino también de los medios de numerosos países (ver los extractos de artículos que figuran en la página de prensa 252ff.). Como el informe del año pasado, el de este año es nuevamente el fruto de un grupo de trabajo compuesto de miembros del ICOMOS Australia, Canadá y Alemania, así como de un importante equipo editorial. Está disponible en Internet (<http://www.international.icomos.org/risk>) y muestra que la situación es aún muy crítica para innumerables monumentos y sitios en diversas regiones del mundo. Sin embargo, hay casos en que la protección de los monumentos puede realizarse con éxito. En ciertas situaciones, el Informe *Heritage at Risk* ha resultado ser una herramienta útil para la defensa de monumentos en peligro, puesto que el hecho de disponer de informaciones sobre los peligros potenciales que amenazan a nuestro patrimonio ya constituye un primer paso decisivo en la dirección adecuada; sólo los monumentos y sitios en peligro, reconocidos y registrados como tales, pueden gozar de una protección jurídica. Antes de poder intervenir en caso de riesgo, debemos disponer de informaciones mundiales sobre los peligros que amenazan a nuestros monumentos.

ICOMOS, Consejo Internacional de Monumentos y Sitios, con unos 6000 miembros agrupados en 107 Comités Nacionales y 21 Comités Científicos Internacionales, es el órgano consultivo de la UNESCO en materia de conservación y de protección del patrimonio cultural mundial y en particular en lo referente a la evaluación de monumentos y sitios que han sido incluidos en la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial, o cuya inclusión está en estudio.

Nuestra iniciativa Patrimonio en Peligro, desarrollada por un equipo de Australia, Canadá y Alemania y respaldada por la Asamblea General de ICOMOS en México en octubre de 1999, constituye sólo aquellos monumentos y sitios que han sido reconocidos y están inscritos como tales, pueden ser protegidos con medios legales. Por tanto, para poder prestarles ayuda en caso de riesgo, se necesita primero una información a nivel mundial sobre los peligros que amenazan a nuestros monumentos.

Además, esperamos que el Informe sobre Patrimonio en Peligro inspire mayores compromisos a nivel nacional e internacional, genere nuevas iniciativas en cuanto a preservación y dé un impulso positivo adicional a las instituciones existentes, tales como el Escudo Azul apoyado por ICOMOS (ver p. 246). El efecto debería también extenderse a fundaciones internacionales comprometidas en la preservación, tales como la Fundación Getty o el World Monuments Fund. Sus Buenos ejemplos podrían este buen ejemplo podría también influir en el ánimo de otros patrocinadores que operan a nivel internacional, ahora que crece la conciencia sobre la importancia económica de la conservación del patrimonio y su papel fundamental en el tan mencionado 'desarrollo sostenible'.

Con su Informe Mundial sobre Monumentos y Sitios en Peligro, ICOMOS espera no sólo ganar el apoyo moral del público de todo el mundo en la batalla contra todo tipo de amenazas, sino también alcanzar resultados prácticos en cooperación con todas las fuerzas interesadas en la preservación / conservación del patrimonio cultural. Como organización no gubernamental, ICOMOS puede identificar monumentos en peligro desde una perspectiva estrictamente basada en la preservación, al margen de consideraciones políticas; puede presentar con franqueza la situación absolutamente desesperada en la que se encuentra el patrimonio histórico en muchos países del mundo, y detectar precozmente tendencias peligrosas.

Los tipos de amenaza que aparecen en los informes que aquí se presentan son de orden muy diverso. Por una parte, el patrimonio histórico construido de la humanidad ha estado siempre amenazado por desastres naturales como terremotos, tifones, huracanes, inundaciones e incendios, así como por la acción corrosiva de los elementos naturales y el ataque de insectos o plantas. Por otra parte, las guerras siguen causando terribles pérdidas: por ejemplo, las consecuencias de las guerras combinadas con confrontaciones étnicas y con campañas contra la cultura en la antigua Yugoslavia. Pero entre los desastres causados por el hombre también se incluyen las consecuencias de la contaminación del aire, del agua y de la tierra en el mundo entero, así como la destrucción de monumentos de piedra y metal a causa de la contaminación, que en algunos casos ha causado más deterioro en las últimas décadas que en todos los siglos anteriores. Las amenazas a las que se expone actualmente nuestro patrimonio histórico son incomparables con las de épocas anteriores, ahora que vivimos en un mundo que está experimentando cambios cada vez más rápidos desde las últimas décadas del siglo XX. Este rápido desarrollo que tiene lugar por la presión del crecimiento de la población mundial y por la progresiva industrialización, lleva a un consumo cada vez mayor de terreno, destruyendo no sólo vestigios arqueológicos bajo tierra sino también paisajes culturales históricos completos, y lleva también a ciclos cada vez más rápidos de demolición y de nuevas construcciones, con su peso concomitante sobre el medio ambiente.

Con este cambio social y económico, los edificios históricos que ya no se utilizan pasan a estar en peligro, amenazados por el deterioro o por la destrucción debida a una total negligencia. Incluso en el caso de edificios históricos rehabilitados, a menudo faltan medios para asegurar un mantenimiento elemental. A largo plazo esto también lleva a pérdidas. En muchos países, sin embargo, no sólo no se cuenta con los medios financieros para guiar este tipo de desarrollo hacia una continuidad cultural, sino que también falta la intención política. Esto queda demostrado, por ejemplo, por la ausencia de una organización gubernamental que se encargue de la preservación y que cuente con expertos adecuados, por la falta total de leyes que regulen la preservación, o por la existencia de una legislación que no se aplica. La pérdida continua del patrimonio histórico se encuentra irremediamente pre-programada si no se da una cierta protección por parte del sector público en beneficio del interés general. Sin protección suficiente, la criminalidad que opera en el trasfondo del mercado internacional del arte puede seguir desarrollándose: muchos sitios arqueológicos siguen siendo saqueados por excavaciones ilegales, y el tráfico ilícito de obras de arte representa una pérdida continua de bienes culturales que, desde la perspectiva de su preservación, deberían ser conservados en su emplazamiento original. No sólo pinturas, esculturas y objetos de sitios de culto se han visto diezmados por

robos en muchos países, sino que actualmente se están destruyendo monumentos artísticos con el objeto de conseguir fragmentos destinados al mercado: templos dinamitados, esculturas decapitadas y frescos troceados.

Con o sin justificación económica, estos actos aberrantes de vandalismo tienen un efecto aún más grave a causa del arsenal de tecnologías destructivas disponibles hoy en día, en una época en que incluso el más recóndito rincón del mundo se ha vuelto 'accesible'. En algunos países, la industria del turismo, intrínsecamente ligada a monumentos, barrios históricos y paisajes culturales, constituye al parecer la única razón para proteger monumentos, al menos en cuanto puedan ser considerados como lugares de interés. Un turismo comunitario moderado, podría tener, desde luego, efectos positivos en la preservación. Pero el turismo masivo, del que han sido víctimas en las últimas décadas paisajes culturales enteros, representa ante todo un peligro. Es decepcionante comprobar que, a pesar de todas las garantías expresadas en las innumerables conferencias que han tenido lugar sobre el tema del turismo y la preservación, la industria turística siga sin comprometerse en este sentido, aun siendo actualmente, con sus ventas de miles de millones, el sector industrial más importante a escala mundial. El turismo explota el patrimonio cultural mediante un uso excesivo, a veces ruinoso (citemos algunas tumbas egipcias, por ejemplo), pero no aporta ninguna ayuda financiera para la protección y preservación del patrimonio cultural.

Finalmente, en el contexto de un mundo cada vez más 'globalizado', dominado por presiones económicas cada vez más poderosas, la tendencia a regularizar todos los aspectos de la vida representa un factor de riesgo indudable para el patrimonio histórico. Naturalmente, con el nuevo 'estilo de vida' mundial, la actitud ante testimonios históricos del pasado también cambia. Sin embargo, queda la esperanza de que en algunos lugares, esta misma tendencia a la 'mundialización' provoque, por el contrario, una nueva toma de conciencia acerca de la importancia de los monumentos como testigos de la identidad regional y nacional. Esta tendencia también se identifica en las tradiciones artísticas y artesanales a partir de las cuales se ha desarrollado nuestro patrimonio histórico a lo largo de los siglos. Aún así, los productos masivos de la sociedad industrial que son distribuidos por todo el mundo representan una tremenda amenaza, porque continúan reemplazando a las técnicas tradicionales de los artesanos, impidiendo así la posibilidad de efectuar reparaciones con materiales y técnicas auténticas, que son de vital importancia para la preservación. Consideremos, por ejemplo, el reemplazo permanente de construcciones de arcilla y madera por estructuras de hormigón, del que han sido víctimas tantos 'paisajes residenciales'.

Además de la pérdida de las tradiciones artesanales, pérdida que debe combatirse en aras del desarrollo sostenible, los monumentos corren riesgos durante el trabajo de rehabilitación debido a la utilización de métodos y técnicas inadecuadas cuando no se dispone de profesionales debidamente cualificados y de otros especialistas de la conservación, cuando éstos son insuficientes o cuando faltan conocimientos técnicos en materia de preservación. Así, muchas medidas de preservación adoptadas con las mejores intenciones, fracasan simplemente por falta de competencia. Quisiera subrayar aquí que en la práctica, la preservación, el mantenimiento y reparación de edificios, que a menudo sólo requiere medios financieros modestos, es más importante que muchas rehabilitaciones de lujo o reconstrucciones extremas, que pueden de hecho dañar un monumento. Las restauraciones realizadas con exceso de celo en base a argumentos estéticos e incluso religiosos, también pueden representar un riesgo en determinadas circunstancias.

Con su iniciativa Patrimonio en Peligro, ICOMOS se preocupa de los monumentos y sitios en el sentido más amplio: no sólo monumentos individuales sino también diferentes tipos de bienes culturales inmuebles, como los sitios arqueológicos, las áreas y conjuntos históricos, los paisajes culturales y los distintos tipos de testimonios históricos, que van desde la prehistoria hasta el movimiento moderno del siglo XX, así como las colecciones y archivos relacionados con los monumentos. Dada nuestra diversidad cultural, las amenazas y peligros expuestos anteriormente tienen desde luego un impacto diferente en las distintas regiones del mundo, y en algunas circunstancias solo suponen una amenaza para algunos grupos especiales de monumentos. Por ejemplo, están desapareciendo innumerables sitios arqueológicos en todo el mundo debido a la construcción de presas (ver p. 228ff.). En los núcleos urbanos son innumerables los barrios históricos que sufren procesos de renovación descontrolados y a menudo totalmente desconectados de planificación, así como la expansión urbana incontrolada hacia la periferia. Frente a la industrialización de la agricultura, la arquitectura vernácula se encuentra particularmente amenazada en muchos países, desapareciendo por completo o 'sobreviviendo' a veces en unos pocos museos al aire libre. Los métodos de construcción que utilizaban arcilla, madera y piedra - materiales que se obtienen localmente (un factor de gran importancia para el desarrollo sostenible), que antaño definieron todo un paisaje cultural, y que actualmente representan un patrimonio histórico altamente desprotegido, que no se encuentra registrado en ninguna lista de monumentos - se pierden, cediendo la plaza a las construcciones de hormigón utilizadas en todo el mundo. Pero incluso testimonios edificados de nuestra historia industrial, estructuras erigidas con lo que antaño fueron técnicas modernas y actualmente dignas de ser preservadas, plantean problemas difíciles para el conservador cuando su utilización original ya no es posible. E incluso las obras maestras arquitectónicas del movimiento moderno del siglo XX están amenazadas por la demolición o la desfiguración.

En general, la Convención de la UNESCO para la Protección del Patrimonio Cultural y Natural Mundial, establecida en 1972, sigue siendo uno de los pocos esfuerzos realizados con éxito en el ámbito de la política cultural mundial para salvaguardar el patrimonio histórico de la humanidad, e ICOMOS está orgulloso de trabajar con la UNESCO, en tanto que órgano consultivo. Los monumentos y sitios, barrios históricos y paisajes culturales incluidos actualmente en la Lista de Patrimonio Mundial de la UNESCO deberían en realidad figurar entre los monumentos fuera de peligro, pero nuestro informe indica que también aquí se observan casos de riesgo sustancial, además se puede constatar una cierta desigualdad en la representación de países no europeos en la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial de la UNESCO, desigualdad que tiene que ver con el hecho de que la Convención exige (justificadamente) a los bienes que son objeto de la lista, no sólo una importancia excepcional, sino también normas de protección estatales adecuadas para los monumentos y su entorno, protección que desgraciadamente no existe en algunos países. Por lo tanto, por diferentes razones, en los futuros Informes sobre Patrimonio en Peligro pueden figurar las más importantes obras de la humanidad, 'obras de valor único y universal', como se cita en la Convención de la UNESCO.

Desde luego, el ICOMOS está consciente de que el segundo Informe Mundial sobre los Monumentos y Sitios en Peligro, coordinado por un equipo de trabajo compuesto de colegas de Australia, Canadá y Alemania, no puede ser completo. Pero de ahora en adelante, cada año se publicará un nuevo informe del ICO-

MOS. Así, el informe Heritage at Risk se completará de año en año y se divulgará por Internet (www.international.icomos.org/risk). En mi calidad de Presidente del ICOMOS, estoy seguro de que el

mensaje del informe Heritage at Risk será interpretado como un llamamiento urgente al mundo para que, más que nunca, se esfuere por salvar nuestro patrimonio cultural.

Michael Petzet

TRENDS, THREATS AND RISKS

Synthesis

The second ICOMOS Heritage at Risk report once again utilises the expertise and experience of its extensive network of nearly 7000 members to produce a global report that identifies risks and threats to heritage conservation. From the 75 reports which were received this year from ICOMOS members, national committees, international scientific committees and affiliated groups, trends can be discerned which transcend national, geographic and cultural boundaries.

Conservation initiatives to counter these threats are also identified. Response projects, policies and practices, which might well be adaptable to a range of geographical and cultural settings are shared through the report and the ICOMOS website. ICOMOS believes that analysing these trends can assist in developing preventative actions in culturally appropriate ways.

This year, an innovative initiative is reported by Malta ICOMOS, which has undertaken a survey of its national heritage assets at risk – addressing issues such as maintenance deficiencies, insufficient conservation standards, risks from social and collective behaviour, and development pressure – so as to underpin planning for a rational and sustainable programme of management and conservation work.

Canada has also assessed its national heritage health – a federal survey found that 21% of its built heritage has been lost or destroyed in the last 30 years; in response, the government has announced a national 'Historic Places Initiative', including taxation incentives to support owners of cultural heritage property.

Effective Protection against Risks

Protection of heritage monuments, sites and places to provide cultural and economic resources for the benefit of future generations, relies first and foremost on community commitment to the moral and physical objectives of heritage stewardship. Broad public recognition and appreciation of monuments and sites is a prerequisite to the support of conservation action and the allocation of resources that is entailed. Otherwise, physical decay and cultural loss will become certain outcomes.

Public awareness raising and professional training, therefore, need to build on the experience of previous risks and events, improving practice and anticipating action for the future. To reduce heritage at risk, we need to be proactive – in preparedness, response and recovery.

Communities worldwide, and professional conservation groups such as ICOMOS, have developed methodologies and a range of practical tools, skills and financial resources to support conservation action – from heritage legislation affording legal protection, to specific preservative treatments and promotional programmes. But legislative protection does not of itself secure good conservation results. Political will is the essential power factor. And concerned communities are the driving force for political commitment.

From nations as diverse as Cuba and Australia come reports this year that current inventory projects are making strategic progress through involving communities in identifying their own heritage places, reaching far beyond the recognition of monuments and sites by experts alone. Professional teams of conservation practitioners working closely with communities are forging new methods and opportunities for collaboration.

Advances in conservation methodology and philosophical approach have raced to keep pace with the risks that social and settlement changes have imposed on monuments and sites, let alone the everyday effects of threats from nature itself – whether dramatically in spectacular floods, bushfires, earthquakes and cyclones, or relentlessly through the predictable and daily action of water, wind and sunlight.

Active maintenance programmes and effective risk management planning for monuments and sites are the key tools in meeting this ongoing challenge. The report from Italy examines the extensive repair and retrofitting work still in progress after the 1997 earthquake in Umbria, and the report of the International Scientific Committee on Training provides recommendations for holistic risk preparedness planning.

The report on armed conflict in Macedonia provides an example of the value of international appeals, leading in this instance to the provision of expert monitoring and advice in the case of the monastery at Matejce; it also illustrates how in such conflicts, regardless of location, acts of deliberate damage to cultural property are still being used as strategic weapons in themselves, and are not occurring as the incidental, collateral impact of military activity.

The possibility of ameliorating the affects of military action is shown by initiatives such as that of Finland¹, introducing heritage education and liaison into Defence force and relief worker training. Also welcomed is the active implementation of the Hague Convention, through the formation of a national committee in Iran.

The International Committee of the Blue Shield (see report page 246), formed in 1996 by ICOMOS, ICOM (International Council on Museums), IFLA (International Federation of Libraries Associations, and ICA (International Council of Archives), actively works to protect threatened heritage in culturally appropriate ways, as does the World Monuments Fund, created in 1965.

The pressures of mass tourism are perhaps more theoretically manageable threats to heritage places, where the impacts of visitor behaviour, pressure for site infrastructure and intrusive interpretative or reconstruction can be clearly assessed and managed within a framework for sustainability. Tourism impacts can be anticipated and managed, appropriate uses of sites can be planned and improved.

The financial input that tourism can deliver to host communities can be the incentive for conservation works, interpretation and educational initiatives as well as publicity. However, caution must be exercised to maintain the authentic experience and the integrity of heritage fabric – close community consultation, management planning and conservation policies are essential, as the report from the ISC on Cultural Tourism notes, and the report from Andorra exemplifies.

Tremendous strides have been made in sustainable practices by the tourism industry and by increasingly aware travellers, who shun the 'Disneyfication' of culture, seeking-out more culturally and environmentally responsive experiences, but there is still much to be achieved and learned. The ICOMOS Cultural Tourism Charter (1999) aims to establish dialogue between conservation practitioners and the tourism industry – setting-out principles to support appropriate planning and management for tourism affecting heritage places and values.

Documenting the Threats

The second ICOMOS Heritage at Risk report draws from the same information network as the 2000 report, and seeks to update progress and responses. It is often a more qualitative exercise than a statistical analysis.

Some forms of threat to heritage monuments can well be measured physically: for example, the wear-and-tear damage of tourist pressures on the stones of the Pyramids of Egypt or India's Taj Mahal, or the damage wrought by military action in Croatia. These can be accurately documented, assessed, costed and repaired with varying degrees of authenticity. But the effects on heritage places, monuments and sites of the loss of an Indigenous language, and the traditional values, skills and knowledge that language embodies are more difficult to assess. The loss of understanding of the spiritual, intangible and cultural values of places is as difficult to document as it is irreplaceable.

Thus, this report does not claim to be an exhaustive, statistically analytical survey; rather, it identifies a representative range of circumstances and issues creating threats to the world's heritage, along with case studies amplifying these effects, and emerging solutions to counteract or manage the apparent risks.

Global Trends

In the *Heritage at Risk 2000* report the major trends identified were:

- maintenance deficiency, lack of financial and human resources;
- economic and social changes, particularly changing State responsibilities and unsettled ownerships;
- insufficient conservation standards;
- tourism-related issues.

While these risks (and those of nature) continued to be prevalent in the 2001/2002 reports, there was recognition of increased risk due to:

- the effects of globalisation;
- military activity and political change;
- cultural displacement – forced migration;
- lack, loss or inappropriate devolution of protective heritage legislation.

These were the subject of many submissions, forcefully brought into even sharper focus by the events of September 11 and subsequent reaction.

The impact of global markets is radically changing cultural landscapes, as crops change and pastoral infrastructure becomes redundant. Financial globalisation shifts investment patterns away from local communities and social capital shifts with it.

The movement from communism to market economies has brought particular delays and confusions regarding ownership and responsibility for heritage places. Priorities in times of economic challenge are rarely focused on cultural heritage sites.

Military activity ranges from the threat of direct damage – such as that described in the Croatian, Iranian and Eritrean reports – to the looting and destruction of museums reported in Afghanistan. In the United Kingdom and Norway, the future of redundant military sites is reported this year, and the effects of air pollution on Iran's cultural heritage from burning oil wells in Kuwait are seriously affecting their conservation.

In every case, the need to influence owners, investors, organisations and corporations, the public and governments of all types about heritage at risk is the single most important factor in achieving successful conservation results for heritage places.

What Types of Sites are Most Threatened?

Rural/vernacular architecture

Modest, traditional buildings and places are especially vulnerable, because of their transient materials and unassuming character, and sometimes because of their remote location. Globalisation has brought massive change to rural economies and, consequently, to the social structure and practices that supported and maintained such places in active use – from Albania to South Africa, Lithuania to the Czech Republic.

The risks identified in this year's reports included:

- lack of recognition for simple vernacular heritage and thus lack of legal protection;
- fragility of traditional materials and loss of traditional building skills;
- ownership changes/confusion and loss of function, leading to lack of maintenance;
- redundancy, neglect, abandonment or imposed modernisation.

In particular, wooden vernacular structures struggle to face the impact of climate, pests and scavenging, from the Antarctic huts of 20th-century explorers to the pastoral homesteads of Australia, from villages in Cameroon and Cuba to the haystacks of Slovenia, to the wooden churches of Ukraine, Norway and North Dakota, USA. The report from South Africa notes the recent government commitment to researching and recording the vernacular architecture of Zululand and its traditional construction technologies. This year, Austria reports signs of new structural change as ecological and tourism interests reinforce care for traditional landscapes.

Twentieth-century heritage places

Increasing mention is made in this year's reports of the dangers faced by 20th-century places – industrial, commercial, domestic and recreational – which are poorly recognised for their heritage values, and often endangered by their own experimental building materials, obsolescence or modest scale. This is an area where ICOMOS is taking important initiatives, together with UNESCO and DOCOMOMO, organising international meetings and conferences to develop conservation strategies.

The major threats faced by 20th-century heritage places included:

- lack of awareness of their heritage values;
- lack of expertise for specific materials repairs;
- pressure from urban growth and redevelopment;
- pressure from application of uniform building codes.

In order to address the rising concerns over the fate of 19th and 20th-century heritage, ICOMOS adopted the Montreal Action Plan to provide a framework for developing specific scientific initiatives within ICOMOS and co-operation with other organisations, such as UNESCO, ICCROM, DOCOMOMO, TICCIH or, in Asia, MAAN (Modern Asian Architecture Network). Co-ordinated by US/ICOMOS, ICOMOS will produce a global survey of illustrative cases to better address issues relative to technical, awareness and conservation matters for 20th-century heritage and its sources.

Encouraging responses were reported from Cuba, Australia and Canada, where strategies to identify and support such places are underway, together with public education campaigns. Major losses of 20th-century apartment complexes were reported from Germany and from Venezuela, but the redevelopment of the Munich Olympic Stadium (a case study in the *Heritage at Risk 2000*

Report) has been averted and the stadium will remain as it was. Concern for the future of remnants of the Berlin Wall, international witnesses to the Cold War, has yet to meet effective response through an appropriate conservation and management programme.

Industrial heritage

With rapid changes in technology and socio-political structures, industrial complexes of heritage significance are under pressure for re-development or modification. Sites located in urban areas are particularly vulnerable, as land values, living conditions and environmental expectations and controls change. The large scale of some redundant sites is often attractive for incompatible redevelopment, and their pragmatic value as real estate is seen to outweigh their heritage values and interpretative potential for adaptive re-use.

Major issues faced by industrial heritage sites include:

- scale and complexity forcing economical rationalism to prevail in re-use decisions;
- lack of widespread vocal support constituency;
- location in prime redevelopment areas;
- environmental management (e.g. remediation) precluding heritage values.

The report this year from Poland from the national TICCIH committee focuses on these issues, and it includes a number of positive examples of adaptation in Upper Silesia.

Religious heritage

Changes to religious practice and observances again prove to be major threats to heritage, identified worldwide. The complexity of the functions of religious buildings – spiritual, public, social and administrative – can support some flexibility of use, but for many the lack of congregation, or changing worship practices have led to abandonment or massive internal changes. Often the ‘jewels’ among these buildings and complexes attract the major share of support, and the modest places of local worship – the small temples or parish churches – are neglected or adapted for other functions, not always with respect for or regard to the spirit of the place.

Several reports also highlight the targeting of religious buildings during military campaigns.

Risks affecting religious buildings include:

- changing church/State relationships
- cultural displacement
- fragility of fabric and lack of maintenance
- earthquakes affecting towers, campaniles and roofs most particularly.

This year, the reports of Belgium, Slovakia, Sweden and Bulgaria focus on the threats to churches and religious complexes.

Archaeological Sites

Two-thirds of the reports included in the *Heritage at Risk 2000* report recorded threats to archaeological heritage. Lack of adequate inventories to locate archaeological and rock-art sites are particularly mentioned again this year, as are increasing acts of vandalism to these sites, notably the Palaeolithic temple of Mnajdra on Malta and the Buddas at Bamiyan in Afghanistan. Illicit excavations and looting also continue to destroy archaeological evidence – from Cyprus to Guatemala, Israel to the Czech Republic.

Natural forces are also the enemy of these sites, on land and underwater – erosion by wind and water, salinity, subsidence and plant growth threaten artefacts and sites alike. Urban development poses the threat of sudden destruction, testimony being provided by the underground car parks in Bern and electricity infrastructure in Bellinzona, Switzerland, and the proposed bridge over the Bosphorus in Turkey.

Threats affecting archaeological sites include:

- illicit excavations, particularly in remote sites;
- resource extraction;
- infrastructure development, such as roads, bridges and dams;
- smuggling and the antiquities trade.

This year, we include the report of the World Commission on Dams (WCD), which independently reviews the effects of dam construction, noting that an estimated 40–80 million people have been displaced by their construction, and that advance surveys of the effects on cultural resources – especially archaeological sites – have rarely been adequate. The WCD report suggests a decision-making framework for minimising future risk from dam construction.

Cultural landscapes and gardens

Frequently mentioned in the 2001/2002 reports are threats to cultural landscapes, where conservation values conflict with encroachment of lands for agriculture (deep ploughing is a noted risk) or urban settlement with attendant infrastructure demands.

The risks to historic gardens and Botanic-garden plantings are highlighted this year, with a comprehensive review from Argentina. The conflicts between redevelopment, particularly of the garden settings or contexts of houses and monuments (including cemeteries) and the cultural values of these designed landscapes and historic plantings are increasing management problems, though some welcome initiatives are reported from sites in Sweden.

The peak or passing of maturity of 19th and 20th-century public parks and botanical gardens and their maintenance and horticultural needs, in an era of decreasing public investment, are also noted with concern.

The recognition of cultural values in ‘natural’ landscapes is also a matter needing practical guidance, as the fashion for ‘wilderness’ regeneration tends to disregard or remove evidence of cultural heritage. However, New Zealand reports the improved status of part of the Auckland volcanic landscape, a major centre of Maori settlement in the 14th and 15th centuries, which was a case study in the 2000 Heritage at Risk report. Australia ICOMOS has recently completed a report and policy guideline on this topic.

Indigenous values and places

An ongoing challenge in all regions of the world is the appropriate recognition and conservation of Indigenous values in landscapes, sites and communities. Much work is needed to negotiate appropriate conservation protocols in diverse cultures – from the cultural and social necessity of maintaining language, to the identification and protection of rock-art sites, to recognising the intangible values in spiritual landscapes, and to the importance of specific sites of conflict or contact.

Reports from Africa and Australia foreshadow some of the Indigenous values and issues which will be debated at next year’s ICOMOS General Assembly in Southern Africa, ‘Place – Memory – Meaning: Preserving Intangible Values in Monuments and Sites’.

Moveable heritage and Collections

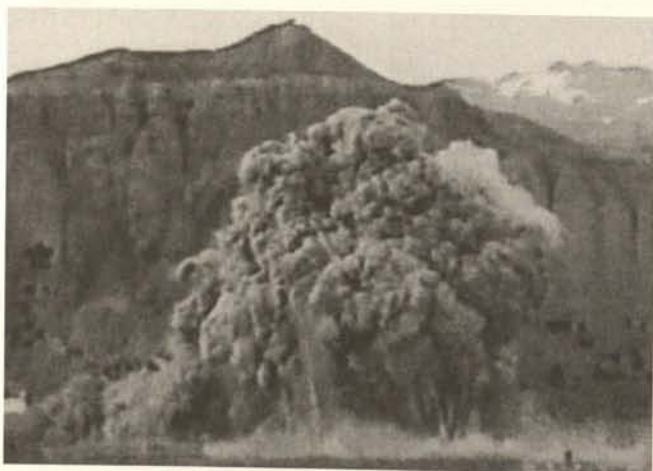
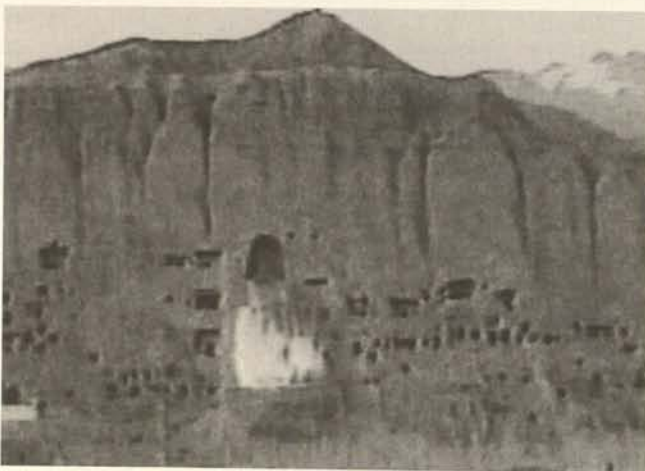
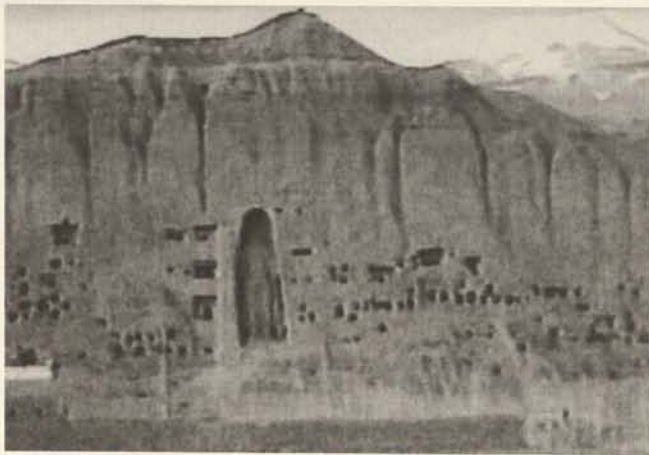
Increasingly under-funded, often poorly stored and inadequately catalogued, the contents, interiors and documentary archival evidence relating to heritage places, monuments and sites are this year highlighted in several reports as being at certain risk. The outreach and training programmes of organisations such as ICCROM are active in the museum collection field, as is IFLA for libraries and archives.

The identification for conservation of historic interiors is often neglected in heritage listings. The Netherlands is currently extend-

ing its monument listings process to incorporate full descriptions of interiors, and examining the redefinition of financial support opportunities so that they may include important interiors.

Sheridan Burke

¹ The national ICOMOS and ICOM committees in Finland have recently published a guidebook aimed at Finnish Crisis relief workers abroad: 'Integration of Protection of Cultural Property into Disaster Relief Work'.



Explosion of the Great Buddha on 8 March 2001

The Great Buddha of Bamiyan was a massive standing Buddha carved into a cliff face. It was one of the largest Buddha statues in the world. The Buddha was discovered in 1868 by a British explorer. It was damaged by a series of earthquakes in the 19th century. In 1977, it was damaged by a Soviet missile strike. In 2001, it was destroyed by a Taliban suicide bomber. The Buddha was a symbol of peace and tolerance. Its destruction was a tragedy for the world.

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AFGHANISTAN

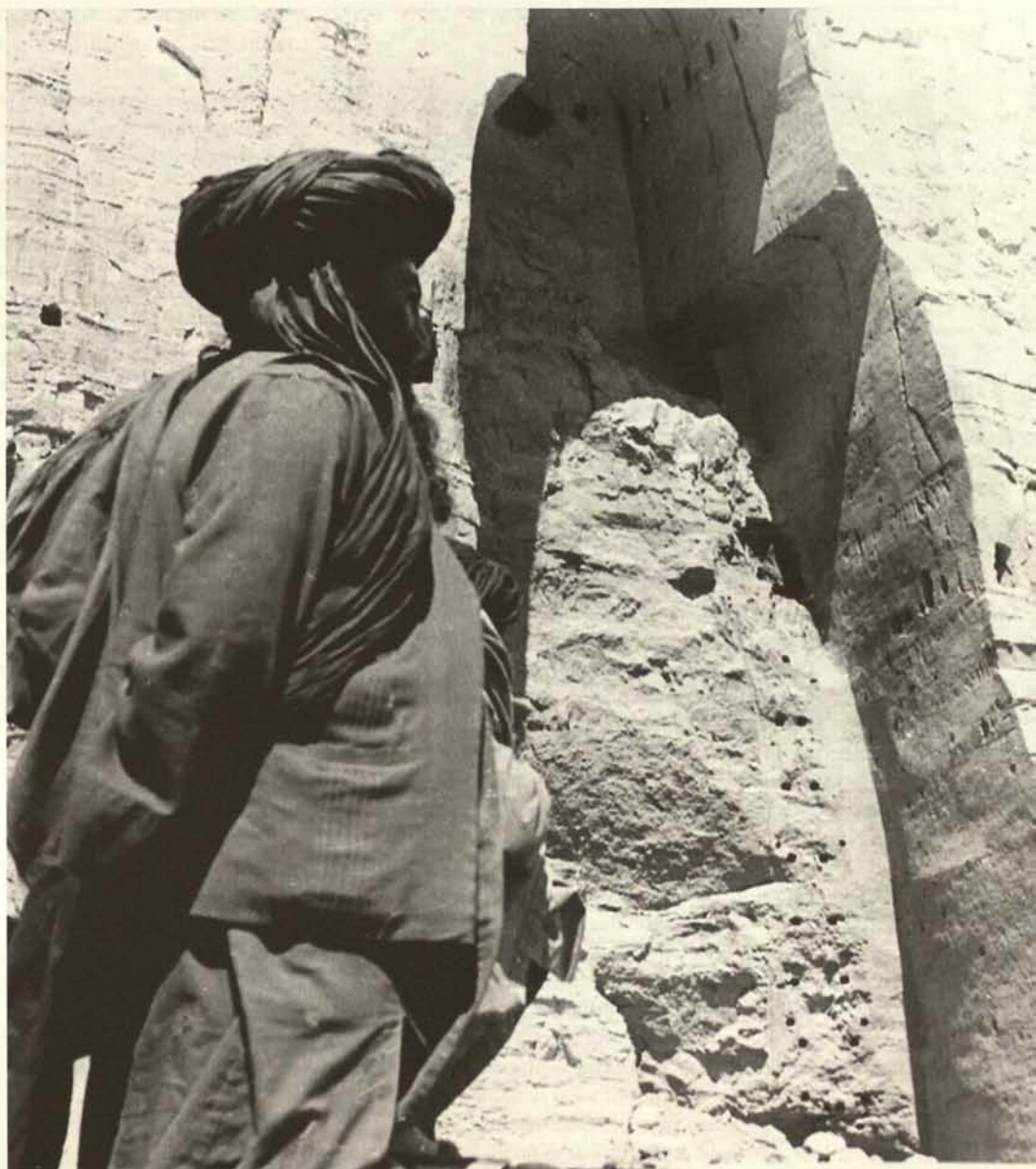
There is little need to comment in great depth about cultural heritage at risk in Afghanistan, as the terrible situation in the country has attracted extensive international coverage, discussion and outrage. Our commentary in last year's report preceded the unforgivable and unacceptable act that saw the destruction of the Bamiyan Buddha statues. The impact of these events is compounded by the escalation of the catastrophic treatment of heritage in the country, despite attempts at the highest international levels to intervene and prevent this cultural disaster. The horror of the situation has been intensified by world events since September 2001, following the criminal terrorist attacks on the United States of America and the subsequent bombing of Taliban strongholds in Afghanistan. Undeniably, the threats to both lives and heritage in the country have only increased in the last year.

For this year's report, we bring attention to the appeal launched by ICOMOS in response to the Taliban edicts that were made pub-

lic in the first part of the year. We then include a report on the Kabul Museum, which has been provided by ICOM. This brief case study serves to highlight the history and ongoing nature of this conflict, and the impact it ultimately has on all types of heritage.

March 2001 Appeal

ICOMOS played an important part in the international condemnation of the events in March 2001 that culminated in the destruction of the Buddha statues at Bamiyan. At the time, an appeal was launched jointly with ICOM, the text of which is included on the next page.



Taliban soldier in front of the Great Buddha of Bamiyan after the destruction in March 2001

SAVE THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF AFGHANISTAN APPEAL BY ICOMOS AND ICOM

<http://www.international.icomos.org/risk/>

ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) and ICOM (International Council of Museums) learned with great shock of the new decree issued by the Taliban leadership of Mullah Mohammad Omar ordering the systematic destruction of all statues in the country. This decision breaks the commitment made by the Taliban leadership in 1999 to protect all cultural heritage in Afghanistan and in particular the giant Buddha figures at Bamiyan.

Adding to the dishonour of breaking a commitment to preserve the ancient and diverse heritage of Afghanistan as part of that of the whole of mankind, such an act of destruction would be a total cultural catastrophe. It would remain written in the pages of history next to the most infamous acts of barbarity.

For many years, ICOM has alerted the world on illicit trade in cultural objects from Afghanistan. ICOMOS, in its 2000 World Report on monuments and sites in danger (see http://www.international.icomos.org/risk/afgha_2000.htm), pointed out in detail the dangers to cultural heritage in Afghanistan, in particular the pre-Islamic figures of the Buddha in Bamiyan. This decree of Mullah Mohammad Omar confirms the imminence of this danger.

As world-wide non-governmental organisations, ICOMOS and ICOM call on all people, governments, International Organisations and associations to take immediate action to prevent this cultural catastrophe from happening. A dialogue should be established with the Taliban leaders to ensure adequate protection of all Afghan heritage, whether pre-Islamic or Islamic. This is a matter of the highest importance and the greatest emergency.

The Kabul Museum

The history of the Kabul Museum is relatively short. In 1919 the personal collection of the royal family was housed in the small Bagh-e-Bala Palace on a hillside overlooking Kabul. A few years later, it was moved to the Royal Palace in the centre of Kabul, and in 1931 to its present building in Darulaman, 8 kilometres south of Kabul City.

With the first excavations of the Delegation archeologique française en Afghanistan (DAFA) in the early 1930s, the spectacular treasures of Afghanistan slowly began to come to light. Increasingly more archaeological missions undertook excavations, among them the British Institute of Afghan Studies, the Italian Institute, Kyoto University, the Smithsonian Institution, the Soviet Institute of Archaeology, Heidelberg University, and the Indian Institute of Archaeology. Collections spanned 50 millennia and included Hellenistic and Roman bronzes, Alexandrian glass, carved ivories from India, Chinese lacquer, Persian lustreware, Graeco-Bactrian coin hoards – representing a cultural continuity encompassing the length and breadth of the known world – and, a unique feature of the Kabul Museum, all were found on Afghan soil.

The Kabul Museum has known pilferage since it was first established. Yet nothing equals the devastation it has suffered the last 10 years. The disastrous years of 1992–95 saw the destruction of Kabul itself, which left the Museum building partially laid waste, its staff scattered and much of the collections demolished, looted and dispersed throughout the world.

From 1995 until autumn of 2000, continuing efforts were made to compile a rudimentary inventory of what remained in the Museum among the wreckage and rubble. Museum staff, reduced from 70 to 20 members, worked heroically – with no electricity, no run-

ing water, under shelling and rocket fire, with salaries ranging from \$6 a month for a top cadre post to \$2 for guards. By the end of 2000, 7000 objects from 50 different sites had been registered, packed and stored, with a further 30,000 artefacts from the prehistoric sites, and the vast DAFA ceramic collection still intact in a basement storeroom.

In 1999, a Taliban edict called for the protection of all historic and cultural relics of Afghanistan and made any illegal excavations or illicit trading of objects punishable by law. The sudden reversal of this mandate in March 2001, as the world watched the dynamiting of the Bamiyan Buddhas in impotent horror, has yet again put the future of Afghanistan's cultural heritage on the edge of obliteration.

Looted artefacts have over a long time appeared on the international art market and more are expected to appear. Afghanistan was never a signatory to the relevant UNESCO conventions, nor a member of Interpol, nor were its famous sites on the UNESCO World Heritage list, making it almost impossible to pursue the recovery of stolen art through any internationally sanctioned means. Valiant efforts are being made by the Afghanistan Museum in Basel to assemble and document donations of artefacts for safe-keeping and eventual return to Afghanistan. UNESCO and ICOM are focussing on advocacy campaigns.

As the recent history of the Kabul Museum has paralleled the tragic history of Kabul, so undoubtedly will the future of the Museum continue to parallel whatever fate lies ahead for Kabul.

ALBANIA

After World War II there was considerable activity in the area of cultural heritage in Albania. The work involved with research, documentation, conservation and restoration of cultural heritage is already well known and publicised.

In the whole range of Albanian cultural heritage, vernacular architecture is a particular genre, almost exclusively represented by domestic residences. There are two main groups of this type of building: rural houses and urban houses. They possess significant value, at both the Balkan regional level and on a European scale.

In effect, the historical situation in Albania has favoured the setting-up of regional economies since the beginning of the 20th century, characterised by self-sufficiency and slow development over several decades. As a result, the country retained a wide and varied range of regional and traditional architecture. The Albanian government, aware of the unquestionable value of traditional architecture, has worked from the 1960s to select the most representative examples of this architecture and has undertaken where possible to place them under the protection of the State, using criteria of typology and authenticity.

This systematic work of maintenance and restoration has been advanced from the 1990s by placing rural habitation sites under the protection of the State (that is to say, classified as 'cultural monuments'). Around 70% of these listings have been restored in accordance with contemporary standards. The carefully prepared documentation and research has resulted in the collation of a considerable amount of valuable information.

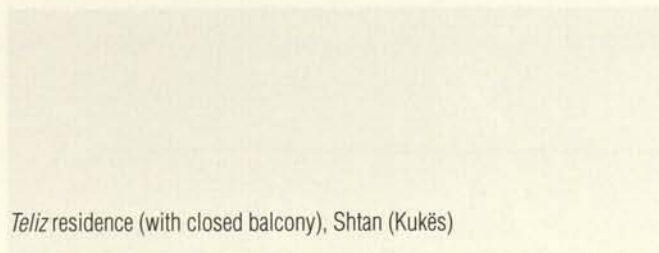
In the 1990s, following the establishment of democracy in Albania, efforts towards the conservation and economic development of vernacular architecture have continued – however, despite all this attention, it has diminished in a drastic way. Systematic conservation and restoration has been suspended in the course of the last 10 years. Taking into account the fragility of the material and the techniques of rural habitations, their age, and the way in which their owners have tended to transform and adapt them to cope with new living conditions, we are obliged to admit that these monuments risk becoming either totally altered or destroyed.

These buildings have unique value and constitute an authentic testimony of European cultural heritage. We believe that by outlining the risks in this report on Albanian vernacular architecture, we can contribute in a decisive way to the safeguarding of our heritage. We are equally confident that Albanian specialists possess the professional competencies and the necessary experience to confront prospective scientific or technical problems in the protection of these monuments.

ICOMOS Albania



Residence of *Kullë* type (tour), Macukull (Mat)



Teliz residence (with closed balcony), Shtan (Kukës)



ALBANIE



L'après Seconde Guerre mondiale a vu se développer en Albanie une grande activité dans le domaine du patrimoine culturel. Ce patrimoine est désormais bien connu grâce aux travaux de recherche, de conservation et de restauration qui ont été réalisés ainsi qu'au travail de documentation et de publication de ses valeurs.

L'architecture vernaculaire dans l'ensemble du patrimoine culturel albanais forme une catégorie à part, presque exclusivement composée d'habitations. On en distingue deux grands groupes : les habitations rurales et les habitations urbaines. Elles possèdent une valeur remarquable tant au niveau de la région des Balkans qu'au niveau européen. En effet, les circonstances historiques en Albanie ont favorisé la mise en place d'une économie régionalisée jusqu'au début du XXe siècle, caractérisée par l'autarcie et un développement très lent sur plusieurs siècles. Il demeure ainsi dans tout le pays une palette large et variée d'exemples d'architecture régionale et de typologies traditionnelles. Le gouvernement albanais, sensibilisé à la valeur indiscutable de l'architecture traditionnelle, a travaillé, à partir des années 60, à la sélection des exemples les plus représentatifs de cette architecture et a fait son possible pour les placer sous la protection de l'État en fonction de critères typologiques et d'authenticité.

Des travaux systématiques d'entretien et de restauration ont été entrepris jusque dans les années 90 dans les habitations rurales placées sous la protection de l'État (c'est-à-dire classées « monuments de culture »). Environ 70 % d'entre elles ont été restaurées selon des standards contemporains. La documentation recueillie et les recherches effectuées constituent une somme d'information précieuse.

Dans les années 90, suite à l'avènement de la démocratie en Albanie, l'attention et le travail portés à la conservation et la valorisation de l'architecture vernaculaire ont connu, en dépit de toute attente, ont diminué de façon drastique. Les interventions systématiques de conservation et de restauration ont été suspendues au cours de la dernière décennie. Compte-tenu la fragilité des matériaux et des techniques des habitations rurales, leur ancienneté et le fait que leurs propriétaires ont tendance à les transformer pour les adapter aux conditions de vie actuelles, nous sommes bien obligés d'admettre que ces monuments risquent d'être altérés ou même détruits totalement.

Persuadés que ces édifices aux valeurs uniques appartiennent au patrimoine culturel européen et qu'ils constituent des témoignages authentiques, nous avons la conviction que le fait de faire figurer cet article sur l'architecture vernaculaire albanaise dans le rapport *Heritage at Risk 2001/2002* contribuera de façon décisive à la sauvegarde de ce patrimoine. On peut également souligner que les spécialistes albanais possèdent toutes les compétences professionnelles et l'expérience nécessaire pour affronter les problèmes éventuels de nature scientifique ou technique dans les interventions sur ces monuments.

ICOMOS Albanie

◀ Church of the Resurrection of Christ in Mborje, Korça (late 14th century), restoration of damaged frescoes urgently needed

ANDORRA

A Regrettable Episode, a Loss Forever, and a Lesson not to be Forgotten

The contemporary history of urbanisation and construction in Andorra has been extremely aggressive with respect to the impact on architectural and environmental heritage. Our task today is to pass on a hard but useful lesson to help safeguard our architectural heritage and the culture of our country.

We are unfortunately speaking of a heritage that has almost entirely disappeared under the impact of a series of construction and demolition projects that have lacked sensibility and an intelligent perspective, and from which Andorra has suffered for the past 40 years.

The heritage in question consists of urban fabric, houses, ancillary buildings and gardens in the quarter of El Pui in the Capital, Andorre-la-Vieille (Old Andorra).

El Pui, which means 'little hillock', is built on a small rocky promontory that dominates the best part of the cultivable plain extending at its foot. It is referred to for the first time in a document dated to 1176. The core is made up of around 40 buildings, and for the most part it had conserved its houses and urban fabric, and its mediaeval character, for most of the 1960s and 1970s. The safeguarding of this heritage could have still been possible in the 1980s.

As well as architectural and historical qualities and values, El Pui possesses a range of additional values that have accumulated over the years: for example, at the eastern edge of the Quarter, a magnificent private residence was constructed in 1580; at the end of 1702 it became the seat of the Consul General and today it accommodates the Parliament of Andorra. In 1923, Isabelle Sandy wrote her novel 'Andorra and the men of Aram', which presented the wealth of regional and spiritual thoughts and ideas. The action of the novel is located in one of the most important houses of El Pui, Casa Solona, which unfortunately was only recently demolished! El Pui was also one of the entry points to the capital when travelling from Spain.

Today the Quarter is hardly recognisable. Brutal changes to the edifices have resulted in much disfigurement and the various houses that remain are stifled by the concrete giants that block the horizon. The demolition of the Quarter has destroyed many of the values and qualities, and a good number of possibilities have been lost.

Three Chapters to the Lesson

Painful as they are, these mistakes are of no value if we use them only as grounds to feel eternally sorry. Rather, and above all, they invite us to be rigorous in the analysis and knowledge of events and processes and they offer us the possibility of renewing our forces, our dynamism and our efficiency in order to ensure that these episodes do not recur.

Chapter 1: Between the remedial and the irreparable, the right time to react

The first large buildings constructed in the last decade at El Pui marked the beginning of the construction of a new type of building. On the one hand, they represent a type of architectural 'contamination' of the place, which severely degrades its quality; on the

other hand, there is an argument 'justifying' the pursuit of this aggressive approach. But who are the beneficiaries? The private owners only? What will be penalised? – Our heritage, all of society. Who will be responsible? – All the institutions that have taken advantage of the economic climate, supported by a civil society engrossed in seeking gains that are easy and immediate, insensible to the dilemmas and hence incapable of measuring the gravity of the threat.

Between the remediable and the irreparable, time is running out. The lack of action and of social demand, through passivity, has given credentials to projects regularly authorised by self-interested institutions. Any strategy of rectification lacks both organisation and discussion.

Chapter 2: El Pui – the loss of enormous capital

Since the 1960s, Andorra has staked much on tourism as a central pillar of its economy. Sadly, however, there has been considerable success in wasting the enormous historic, architectural and tourist capital of El Pui. It is paradoxical, and difficult to comprehend that this tourist trump, at the centre of the Andorran Capital, historic heritage and the country's culture, has been 'sold at the lowest price' for more or less misshapen blocks of concrete, satisfying only the economic interests of a dozen or so proprietors. To consider the result to be of minor heritage interest, to-the-side and non-monumental, is certainly taking the easy way out. The loss of perspective and of horizon, the absence of forethought, the flawed planning and vigilance, all guarantee that the rights of heritage are secondary. They also ensure that the potential benefits of a valuable heritage asset have been lost. This loss is irremediable.

Chapter 3: the trap of political gestures

In 1989 the Minister in charge of the management of the region released the results of a project undertaken by the School of Architecture of Vallés (Barcelona) on El Pui, titled: 'Amelioration of Urban Landscape. Ancient Quarter'. In the presentation of this expansive document, the Minister of the time declared: 'That the collection of images can be used to help us with the recuperation and rehabilitation of our built heritage, symbolising a traditional way of life.' Unfortunately, these words have been revealed to be hollow, lacking in strategy, resources and compromise – a velvet-gloved premonition of a severe and loud impact. The months that followed this declaration have witnessed the demolition of several of the houses inventoried in this study.

Declarations, plans or legislative tools are without effect in the absence of genuine compromise, or of the human resources and material necessary to make willpower and agreement concrete and effective – and to feed sensible social action. All this has led to mistakes, the consequences of which are with us today.

The Future versus 'the End'

We said at the beginning: this is a regrettable period, but it is also a solid reason for us to reinvest our efforts. As an apprenticeship, certainly hard, it can help us avoid a repeat of these errors in the future. The capacity to react on the part of society, compared with the capacity to transform the present philosophy and the approach to development, is a very important factor in the effectiveness of saving our heritage. It is necessary, therefore, to recognise, val-

orise and give careful and constant attention to our heritage, even if it is only thought to be insignificant. Understanding, development and research will help to reinforce this attitude. It is this for

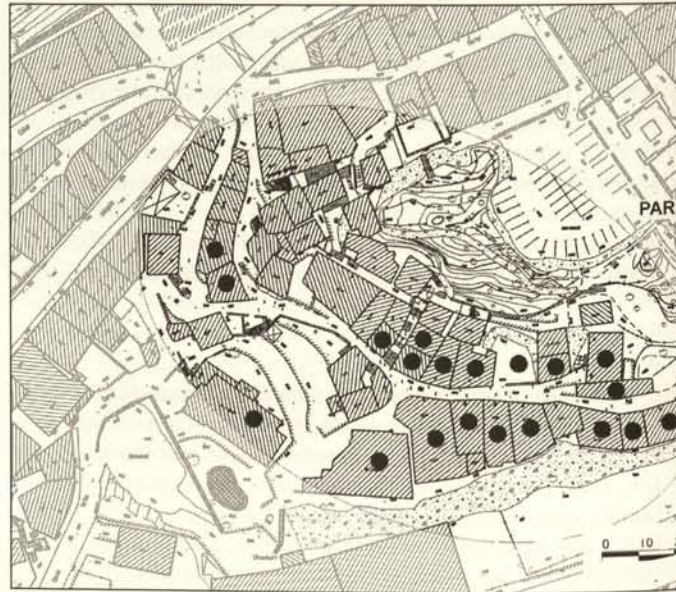
which we work. The experience, as heavy as it has been for us, and the lesson that we have learned, can certainly be useful to others.

ICOMOS Andorra



Vue générale de El Pui à Andorre-la-Vieille, dans les années 50. Tout à fait à droite de la photo on peut y voir la demeure du XVIème siècle, siège actuel du Parlement.

Vue générale de El Pui aujourd'hui. Non seulement, les anciennes maisons ont été démolies, mais les surfaces au sol sont également plus importantes. La hauteur des bâtiments ayant été multipliée par trois ou quatre, les rues sont devenues des percées sombres dans une masse bétonnée.



Plan du quartier de El Pui où les emplacements des maisons démolies, disparues et substituées aux bâtiments actuels sont figurés par un cercle noir.

ANDORRE

Un Episode Regretable, une Perte à Tout Jamais, une Dure Leçon à ne pas Oublier

L'épisode d'une histoire contemporaine de l'urbanisme et de la construction en Andorre, extrêmement agressive vis-à-vis du patrimoine architectural et de l'environnement, nous sert aujourd'hui à tirer une leçon dure mais très utile pour la sauvegarde du patrimoine architectural et des paysages culturels.

Nous allons, hélas, parler ici d'un patrimoine qui a presque entièrement disparu sous le coup d'une série de constructions et de démolitions qui ont manqué de sensibilité, de perspective et d'intelligence et dont l'Andorre a souffert ces 40 dernières années.

Le patrimoine en question constituait le tissu urbain, les maisons, bâtiments annexes et quelques jardins du quartier d'El Pui à Andorre-la-Vieille.

El Pui (qui signifie petite colline) est bâti sur un petit promontoire rocheux qui domine les meilleurs terrains cultivables de la plaine qui s'étend à ses pieds. Il est cité pour la première fois dans un document de 1176. Ce noyau était constitué par une quarantaine de bâtiments et il a conservé en grande partie ses maisons et son tissu urbain, à l'aspect médiéval, jusqu'aux années 60 / 70. Une sauvegarde de ce patrimoine aurait même pu être envisagée dans les années 80.

Outre ses qualités et valeurs architecturales et historiques, il possédait toutes sortes de valeurs ajoutées qui s'étaient accumulées au fil des années : à la limite orientale de ce quartier, par exemple, une belle demeure privée fut construite en 1580, elle devint, à partir de 1702, le siège du Conseil Général et abrite aujourd'hui le Parlement d'Andorre. En 1923, Isabelle Sandy écrivait son roman « Andorra et les Hommes d'Aram », clé de voûte de sa pensée régionaliste et spiritualiste. L'action de ce roman se déroulait dans l'une des maisons les plus importantes d'El Pui, Casa Solana, hélas démolie aussi récemment ! El Pui était également l'une des portes d'entrée de la capitale en venant de l'Espagne.

Aujourd'hui le quartier est méconnaissable. Le brutal changement d'échelle des édifices a tout défiguré et les quelques maisons qui demeurent sont étouffées par des géants de béton qui bouchent l'horizon. La démolition du quartier a entraîné la disparition de nombre de ses valeurs et qualités, et bon nombre de possibilités ont été perdues.

Trois Chapitres Pour Une Leçon

Si douloureuses soient-elles, ces erreurs ne sauraient nous servir à nous plaindre éternellement, mais elles nous invitent surtout à être rigoureux dans l'analyse et la connaissance des événements et des processus et elles nous offrent la possibilité de renouveler nos forces, notre dynamisme et notre efficacité afin d'éviter que de tels épisodes ne se reproduisent.

Chapitre I. Entre le remédiable et l'irréparable, un temps précieux pour réagir

Les premiers grands bâtiments construits ces dernières décennies à El Pui ont marqué le début de la construction d'édifices à une nouvelle échelle. D'une part, cela représentait un facteur de contamination architecturale des lieux, donc dégradant sévèrement leurs qualités et d'autre part, c'était un argument « justifiant » la pour-

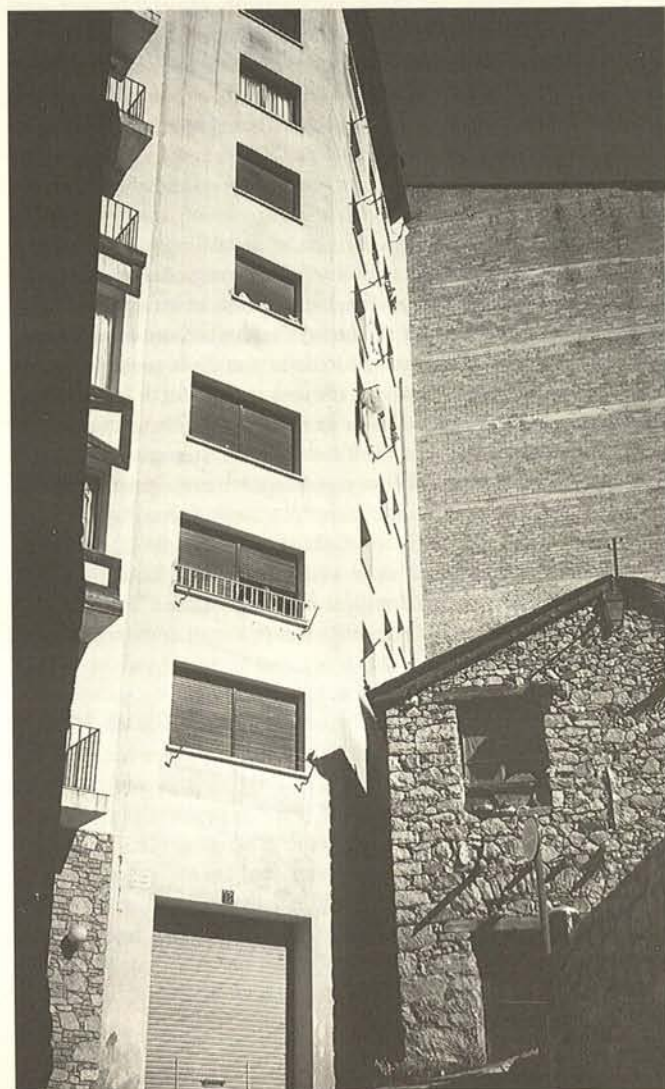
suite de cette démarche agressive. Quels en étaient les bénéficiaires? Les seuls propriétaires privés. Qui en était pénalisé? Le patrimoine, toute la société. Quels en étaient les responsables? Surtout les institutions qui ont joué le jeu des lois du marché, appuyées par une société civile immergée dans un courant où les gains sont immédiats et faciles, insensible à ces questions et donc incapable de mesurer la gravité de la menace.

Entre le remédiable et l'irréparable, un temps s'est écoulé pendant lequel le manque de réaction et d'exigence sociale a contribué à labéliser ce que les institutions ont autorisé régulièrement et aucune stratégie de rectification n'a donc été mise en place ni même discutée.

Chapitre II. El Pui ou la perte d'un capital énorme

L'Andorre, qui, depuis les années 60, a parié pleinement sur le tourisme en tant que pilier central et presque unique de son économie, a réussi cependant à gâcher cet énorme capital historique, architectural et touristique. Il paraît paradoxal et difficilement compréhensible que cet atout touristique, en plein centre de la

Le changement d'échelle est évident. Une grande pression ressort de l'image.



capitale, patrimoine historique et culturel de tout le pays, ait pu être liquidé pour quelques blocs de béton plus ou moins difformes, satisfaisant seulement les intérêts économiques de quelques douzaines de propriétaires. Le fait d'être considéré comme un patrimoine mineur, « sans papiers », non monumental, a certes facilité les choses. Le manque de perspective et d'horizon, l'absence de prévision et d'anticipation, le défaut d'une planification autant que d'une vigilance permettant de garantir les droits du patrimoine, nous privent désormais des bénéfices importants de tout ordre que ce capital aurait pu nous offrir généreusement. Aujourd'hui, hélas, la perte est irrémédiable.

Chapitre III. Le piège des gestes politiques vides de contenu

Pourtant, le Ministère chargé de l'aménagement du territoire éditait en 1989 le résultat d'un travail réalisé par l'école d'Architecture del Vallés (Barcelone) sur El Pui qu'il avait intitulé : Amélioration du paysage urbain. Quartiers anciens. Dans la présentation de ce luxueux dossier, le ministre de l'époque déclarait : « Que ce recueil d'images puisse servir à nous faire avancer dans la récupération ou la réhabilitation de notre patrimoine bâti, symbole d'un mode de vie traditionnel ». Hélas, ces mots se sont révélés creux, vides de stratégies, de ressources et de compromis. Prémonition feutrée pour un résultat sévère et lourd. Les mois qui suivirent cette déclaration furent témoins des démolitions de quelques maisons inventoriées dans cette étude.

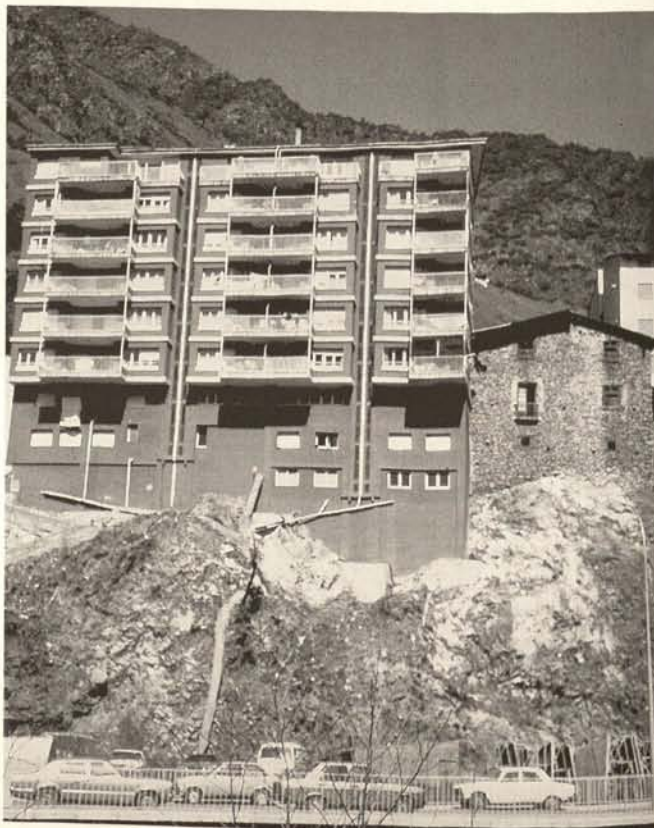
Les déclarations, les plans ou les outils législatifs sont sans effet si parallèlement à cela il n'existe pas de compromis réel ni les ressources humaines et matérielles nécessaires pour concrétiser et rendre efficaces les volontés et les accords et pour alimenter les actions de sensibilisation de la société. Tout cela a fait défaut et les conséquences ont été au rendez-vous.

Avenir Versus Epilogue

Nous le disions au début : c'est une période regrettable, mais c'est surtout une solide raison pour nous réinvestir et un apprentissage, certes bien dur, pour éviter de renouveler des erreurs dans l'avenir. La capacité et le temps de réaction de la part de la société face à la capacité de transformation des moyens actuels et à la puissance des lois du marché pour imposer le modèle de ville, est un facteur de tout premier ordre dans l'efficacité de la sauvegarde du patrimoine. Encore faut-il qu'elle y soit attentive en permanence et qu'elle y reconnaisse et valorise un patrimoine tenu parfois comme mineur. La sensibilisation, la formation et la recherche devraient aider à renforcer cette attitude. C'est ce à quoi nous travaillons. L'expérience, si lourde soit-elle, comme c'est le cas ici pour nous, et la leçon qui en a été tirée, pourront certainement être aussi utiles aux autres.

ICOMOS Andorre

Vue sur El Pui en 1989. Casa Solana était encore debout mais sous la menace d'un processus effroyable.



ARGENTINA

In 1972, at the General Assembly of ICOMOS held in Budapest, Argentina was welcomed as part of ICOMOS. The National Argentine Committee was formally founded on 21 May 1973. Its objectives, stated in its statutes, are to promote the conservation, the protection, the appropriate use and enhancement of monuments, ensembles and sites according to international statutes, charters, conventions and recommendations. Currently, the Argentine Committee is based in Cordoba, and has active members throughout the country, grouped in 16 geo-cultural regions, each one represented by a vice-president, and also has honorary members recognised for their national and international involvement and stature.

The Argentina Report in *Heritage at Risk 2000*

Following the publication of the ICOMOS *Heritage at Risk 2000* report, published under the supervision of the ICOMOS Heritage at Risk Taskforce, and considering the concerns the chapter on Argentina raised in some National Institutions and organisations, the Board of Directors of the Argentine National Committee of ICOMOS issues the following statement to provide some background to the development of this report and the particular references it makes to our country.

- a. In June 2000, Architect Fabio Grementieri, member of ICOMOS Argentina, produced a report indicating his personal opinion on the state of heritage in the country, focusing on his own analysis of some cases located in Buenos Aires, and some other examples in La Plata, San Isidro and Mar del Plata. This personal report was signed by the author and shared by e-mail with Argentine institutions and colleagues as well as with the President of ICOMOS, Dr. Michael Petzet.
- b. Architect Grementieri's text was included as the report on Argentina in the ICOMOS *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*. It was printed, omitting the name of the original author and attributing it to ICOMOS Argentina without consultation with the National Committee.
- c. After the report was published, the issue was discussed at the regular Annual General Meeting of ICOMOS Argentina, in Buenos Aires on 15 December 2000. Considering the confusion resulting from the error in identifying the author of the report, it was resolved to make the necessary representation to the international authorities of ICOMOS.
- d. On 21 December 2000, the president of ICOMOS Argentina wrote to Dr. Michael Petzet to clearly state that the report that had been published was in fact a personal report and, as such, did not necessarily express or reflect the opinion of ICOMOS Argentina.

Considering the inconvenience caused by the report, the Board of Directors of ICOMOS Argentina wishes to express their concern with the style chosen by the author, particularly in the presentation of cases where he disqualifies individuals, working groups, organisations or national institutions. The Board considers that the institutional expression of any critique or disagreement with cases or projects affecting our cultural heritage should be based on human and professional respect and focus on theoretical and technical issues.

The State of Cultural Heritage in Argentina

In 1984, the National Argentine Committee of ICOMOS participated in the establishment of democratic rule by publishing its analysis under the title '*Ante una nueva cultura del patrimonio*'. The goals of this document included:

- broadening the concept of heritage
- reviewing the management structure for protection and conservation
- updating national and provincial legislation
- involving the private sector and encouraging the participation of the whole population in the conservation, enhancement and diffusion of cultural heritage.

Clearly, an appreciation of the last 18 years shows us where progress has been made and where action is still needed. The concept of heritage now includes all forms of human production as well as the environment and the landscape. Indeed, landscape heritage is threatened by its own fragility and the value of the land on which it is found. In addition, cultural heritage is now specifically mentioned in the Argentine Constitution and many provinces have developed their own conservation standards. Training in the field of conservation has grown, with courses being offered by various universities. It is also pleasing to note that interventions in heritage matters follow international recommendations, and that many sites – natural and cultural – have been included in the World Heritage List.

While acknowledging the value of this progress, the Argentine National Committee of ICOMOS still believes that, in most cases, intervention remains inadequate and recommends that the official institutions and private organisations review and strengthen the analysis and examination of their intervention. A current analysis of the situation leads to the following conclusions:

- There is a need to update legal instruments, starting with a reform of the National Constitution, so that Article 41 becomes consistent with international documents and affirms the collective right to cultural and natural heritage. The legislative void is clear, considering there is not a national Heritage Law. So it is the case, in our country, that only museums, monuments and historic sites are under national jurisdiction.
- The national budget allocated to monuments is constantly reduced, which is worsened by the fact that often these resources are only partially used; without adequate criteria, there is a need to gain the support of governmental decision-makers.
- The management of heritage conservation is not yet based on adequate processes, whether at the national, provincial or local level. In the majority of cases, public institutions act or decisions are made without taking into account scientific criteria to guide intervention, such as recommended by international documents relevant to the field. Those responsible for making decisions should have the adequate training and education to do so.
- Most interventions are undertaken without the participation of the numerous, trained and competent professionals in the discipline and dedicated institutions. When ICOMOS opinion was requested, it was not taken into account, or when it expressed a critical view, it was excluded from the decision-making process.

- At the time of intervention, and despite the recognised historical or artistic values of the heritage, the predominance of economic interest leads to misunderstanding of heritage as an economic resource, which results in speculative real estate activities often being carried out at the expense of cultural properties.
- Most actions are stimulated by political benefit, which does not provide for a long-term commitment to cultural heritage and its preservation.
- The loss of cultural heritage and its degradation in all aspects are well known, including intervention that affects or diminishes cultural significance.
- In general, there is a resistance from professional associations and even professions directly involved in works on cultural heritage to recognise conservation as a particular practice requiring specific training and experience.
- Taking into account the gradual recognition of heritage in all fields of society, it is necessary to help people develop informed opinions, which places an important responsibility on official circles to increase education, understanding and diffusion of information.
- There is no policy for the maintenance and conservation of cultural heritage. In actions and realisations, it is important to pay particular attention to criteria for intervention and for maintenance and to ensure that the work is undertaken by adequately trained personnel.
- With respect to companies and contractors working in conservation projects, it is necessary to include technical staff who are adequately trained to act as respondents for the conservation experts, as well as workers and craftspersons who are appropriately trained to accomplish the work.
- The difficult relation between new architecture and heritage areas or individual monuments remains an important challenge to all designers, who are faced with the need to establish an adequate and respectful dialogue with the place of intervention.
- Efforts made for the preservation of cultural properties are generally made by multidisciplinary groups of people coming from different backgrounds. Individualistic or clustered actions do not lead to positive results, in particular when cultural heritage is used as an opportunistic resource in other debates.

In order to explore this issue in more in depth and to diagnose the state of heritage in each region of our country, the Argentine National Committee of ICOMOS has engaged in a process of consultation and exchange to collect opinions from its members. For all regions of the country, the Argentine National Committee of ICOMOS offers its collaboration to any organisation or institution that solicits its opinion and help for intervention related to the protection and conservation of cultural resources.

ICOMOS Argentina

AUSTRALIA

Changing Legislative Protection Processes

Most Australian States and Territories have had heritage-place conservation legislation since the 1970s, but it is not uniform in type, provisions or use. Since the 1990s, the integration of heritage issues in planning decisions has become more general and specific heritage legislation is less used. However, the decline in public funding for heritage has lessened the opportunities to achieve optimum results.

After 25 years of operation, the role of the Australian Heritage Commission (established 1975) as the national leader in heritage management and major funding source has been reviewed and now changed, following lengthy consultation. New legislation that will complete the process is currently before Parliament. The scope of Commission activity will be substantially reduced, with roles devolving to State and local governments, some of which are less equipped to handle the responsibility.

Many heritage groups and State governments consider that the outcomes of this review constitute a major risk to Australia's heritage. The closure of the Register of the National Estate (13,000 items – less than half of which are the result of comprehensive survey work) is opposed. It has been vital for national heritage data collection and the only protection for some heritage places, but it will no longer be added to, although a smaller list of national icons is proposed. Serious gaps in the identification and conservation of heritage places will occur if State, Territory and local systems are not developed to fill the gaps left by the demise of the Register of the National Estate.

Australia ICOMOS,¹ appearing before the Senate Inquiry into these changes, indicated its belief that the proposed EPBC Bills² will adversely affect heritage management and unacceptably downgrade the independence of the proposed new national heritage body. It is also concerned about the lack of an active National Estate Register and yet further reduction in public funding to support heritage initiatives.

As the use of heritage legislation reduces and changes, the role of community interest groups becomes increasingly significant.

Community Reporting on Places at Risk

In 1998 the National Trust of Australia³ initiated a national endangered places programme, sourced by community nominations, to highlight cultural and natural heritage places or functions that they feel are threatened. The nominations are carefully assessed and the attendant publicity generated by the programme focuses public attention on heritage places in danger and on the processes available to conserve them. The Trust began the programme because 'in spite of the advances in legislative protection and the supposedly greater involvement of heritage matters in planning considerations, many places remain under threat'.⁴

This year's report includes details of the 2001 nominated sites, media releases, photographs and a report card on the previous year's nominated sites. 'Of the 31 places listed in the 2000 Endangered Places Report, only six, in the view of the National Trust, have resulted in a satisfactory outcome. Three have been lost forever and the future of 22 is still in abeyance pending further deliberations by various owners, mostly government agencies'.⁵ The losses include Toowong Swimming Pool, Brisbane; No. 2 Goods Shed, Docklands, Melbourne; and part of the southern

coastline of Victoria's Phillip Island, threatened by a hotel development.

In the National Trust's 2001 Endangered Places report, 32 places were listed (6 were re-nominated for the second time), representing site types varying from historic precincts, including early Canberra suburbs, pastoral settlements, industrial complexes, hospitals, railways, cricket grounds and churches, to major redundant defence sites.⁶

Threats identified in the Endangered Places Programme include:

- neglect and abandonment,
- damage and destruction,
- lack of resources and maintenance,
- inappropriate development and management, both to and around a place,
- redevelopment.

This year, the Australian Council of National Trusts noted that:

*The public perception of what heritage means differs markedly from those organisations, public and private, who have responsibility for its stewardship. Regrettably governments and other organisations seem to be intent on maximising the economic return and the retention of historic places, public open spaces, or habitats for endangered flora and fauna are not recognised as being valuable public assets.*⁷

The lack of government co-ordination and funding for cultural heritage are identified as major risk factors in another Australian Council of National Trust's report 'Cinderella revisited',⁸ which postulates that the lack of an overall government strategy for heritage funding into the new century, and its relatively decreasing funding base, is a short sighted investment decision in national cultural growth.

Government Reporting on Heritage Health

Every five years the Australian Government prepares a State of the Environment (SOE) Report, which covers all aspects of the national environment including natural and cultural heritage.⁹

The heritage component of the 1996–2001 SOE report presents an overview of the current state of Australia's heritage places, objects and Indigenous languages, and identifies the major pressures that are affecting them. It pulls together a range of data from all over Australia, from the government community and NGO sectors. Where changes have occurred since the previous report (1991–1996), these are quantified as far as available information allows, and trends are identified and discussed.

These trends relate to either 'condition' (the actual health) of the heritage described, 'pressures' (generally threats) on heritage significance, or 'responses' (generally actions) by government and the community to the conservation of heritage significance or to addressing perceived or real pressures.

Trends and Examples of Heritage at Risk, 2001

Indigenous heritage

Indigenous heritage issues have been at the forefront of the Aus-

tralian political debate during the reporting period. This has had some favourable results for Indigenous heritage places, but there has also been a strong polarisation of views – especially in regional Australia – with some resentment of perceived favourable treatment for Indigenous Australians.

Continued publicity (often inaccurate) about land rights and Native Title has made many country landowners suspicious of, or even destructive towards, Indigenous sites. These issues have had some negative effect on Indigenous people contributing information about Indigenous heritage places and have proved divisive within communities.

Although much progress has been made in the positive integration of customary and scientific aspects of Indigenous heritage, in some areas there remains a wide perception gap, and some suspicion, even hostility, between Indigenous people and researchers and land managers. In particular, this tension is exacerbated by a lack of understanding of issues pertaining to Aboriginal spiritual connection to land.

Several high-profile controversial disputes concerning the importance of Aboriginal sacred sites and their conservation versus other proposed land use demonstrate that there is still considerable disagreement, both within the Aboriginal community and the wider community about these complex issues and their resolution. A key issue has been the ongoing dispute concerning conservation of the Indigenous values of Kakadu National Park, as noted in the (Australia chapter) *Heritage at Risk 2000* report. Although some progress has been made, the issue is still unresolved.

Legislative regimes are still proving inadequate for the conservation of Indigenous heritage in some jurisdictions, with lack of provision for some level of active involvement in and control of Indigenous heritage by the Indigenous community. The failure to date of the parliament to pass legislation based on the recommendations of the Evatt Report (a government commissioned report which recommended a more effective regime) means that there is still a lack of minimum national standards for Indigenous heritage legislation.

While there is increasing Indigenous involvement in Indigenous heritage management, many of the protocols for consultation, decision-making and involvement instituted by local Indigenous communities are not always recognised or respected. Although there has been marked increase in the number of Indigenous people involved in heritage management, there is still a comparative lack of well-qualified Indigenous heritage managers in senior positions in State and Commonwealth instrumentalities.

Indigenous languages, a critical component in the survival of Indigenous culture, have continued to decline, both in number and the percentage of people speaking them. There are an estimated 55,000 Indigenous language speakers and, of the 250 living languages spoken when white settlement began, only 20 languages are now regarded as 'strong' and 70 are less spoken – 160 being virtually extinguished. Lack of Indigenous language speakers in young age groups is a concern. Indigenous people continue to lose language and access to land in some areas, which significantly affects their ability to care for and teach about Indigenous heritage places and landscapes.

Declining heritage funding

The management of heritage places is increasingly affected by declining public-sector agency budgets for heritage place maintenance and conservation (with some notable exceptions, such as Victoria's Public Heritage Program), by cessation of the National Estates Grants Program, and by the loss of a fledgling tax incentive scheme for private heritage-property owners. A limited grants

programme that targets only places of national significance has replaced them. The trend is to support tourism infrastructure, rather than conservation maintenance per se as exemplified by the range of heritage-trails funding and localised Centenary of Federation grant funding.

There is very little government-funded or sponsored support for community involvement in historic heritage conservation and there is now a marked imbalance between funding for natural and cultural heritage in Australia. The government has instituted the Natural Heritage Trust, which provides very significant amounts of funding for conservation of the Natural heritage at all levels, but there are currently no similar national programs for the conservation of Indigenous or historic heritage places.

Poor condition of the National Estate

A sample survey of 12% of the historic heritage places listed in the Register of the National Estate conducted for the SOE Report 1996–2000 found:

- continuing occurrence of vacant and deteriorating government buildings, demonstrating governments' lack of funding for heritage asset retention or maintenance in the various jurisdictions;
- an increase in deferred maintenance for many churches will pose major conservation funding problems over the next decade;
- a continuing low but steady rate of damage done to significant buildings by inappropriate alterations such as 'modernising' of shop fronts and interiors.

Collections management shortfalls

The National Conservation and Preservation Policy and Strategy, *Australia's Heritage Collections*, released by the Australian Cultural Ministers Council in 1998, was a significant achievement, but insufficient resources have been allocated to implement the strategy. An SOE survey found that environmental conditions for storing objects in the major collecting organisations appear to be reasonable across all sectors. The proportion of collections catalogued across all heritage sectors appears to be improving.

A coherent, agreed, national definition or shared view of what might constitute Australia's cultural heritage collections has yet to be achieved. Most small museums have difficulty in assessing the comparative significance of particular items in their collections. The introduction of Australian Museums on Line (AMOL) to collect this information will assist, but as yet we do not know how many objects by category are held in these 2000 museums. Small and large museums generally have documentation systems that are idiosyncratic and cannot meet current demands of scholarly and public access.

Many collections are not generally perceived as relating to heritage places in which they were originally located. This leads to a loss of some meaning for both the place and the object and reduction of interpretation opportunities for both.

Sale of government-owned land

Government reorganisation in all jurisdictions has resulted in redundant heritage assets. Loss of function has led to changed and lost heritage values for many places. The Commonwealth Government has not yet responded to the findings of the government commissioned Schofield Report on this issue, which demonstrated a very significant failing on the part of the Commonwealth Government to look after its own heritage properties. The report also made a number of recommendations aimed at rectifying this serious situa-

tion. At State level, similar pressures are felt, with the Quarantine Station in Sydney (featured in the Australian Chapter of the 2000 Heritage at Risk report) currently facing major redevelopment.

Gaps in World Heritage Listing

The absence of any World Heritage Site that relates to the European heritage of Australia is a noticeable gap in the representation of Australia's heritage places of outstanding universal significance, despite a number of nomination reports being prepared. Two nominations have not yet been submitted, due to lengthy negotiations over constitutional division of political powers.

Unrecognised mid-Twentieth Century Heritage

Heritage places from the last 50 years need particular research and recognition as they face increasing redevelopment pressure due to their materials conservation problems and lack of accepted heritage status. Several major buildings have been lost, damaged or threatened in the reporting year.

Themes of Risk

Generally, the loss of Australia's heritage places continues due to:

- urban redevelopment – main street redevelopments and loss of functions due to larger shopping-centre constructions;
- urban consolidation impacting on the heritage character of older suburbs;
- increased urbanisation and the spread of suburbia is adversely affecting the settings and curtilages of historic properties;
- public building redundancy due to movement of client populations (especially in rural areas), asset rationalisation and mergers, technological and infrastructure change;
- a sometimes too narrow view of cultural heritage significance – for example, non-recognition of mid-20th century places;
- abandonment of rural structures – due to changing technology and new markets/products, many traditional buildings and cultural landscapes are being irreversibly altered through changing rural use patterns.

Good news

There is some good news for heritage emerging from the 1996–2000 SOE data.

Models for integrated assessment of cultural and natural values

Over the last few years, Australian heritage agencies have been conducting detailed surveys of the natural and cultural heritage values of the country's diminishing Forest Estate, as part of a process aimed at reaching agreement on the future use and conservation of forests. Regional Forest Agreement surveys in most States and some other large-scale regional studies – such as in the Murray Mallee, Paroo, and Cumberland Plain / Outer Sydney regions – have resulted in the further systematic, regional identification of cultural heritage sites, although most have not yet been recorded in heritage registers.

Approximately 3000 cultural heritage sites were identified through the Regional Forest Agreement surveys. These surveys were important as the first large-scale attempts at integrated assessments of both natural and cultural heritage values, which provided valuable lessons and insights – especially into issues of cultural landscapes.

Indigenous heritage management

There appears to be an increasing involvement in, and to a certain extent, control by, Indigenous people of Indigenous heritage issues. This is demonstrated by: established regional and local Indigenous heritage organisations actively being involved in heritage management; the presence of Indigenous site-officers in both government and community employment; and the general strength of concern expressed by Indigenous people for their cultural heritage.

Work on Indigenous land claims and Native Title rights is encouraging detailed research into Indigenous tradition and recent Indigenous history, with an increasing number of sophisticated and integrated studies that present a more holistic view of Indigenous culture. The study and celebration of recent Indigenous history by Indigenous people is demonstrated by the healthy publication rate of memoirs and regional Indigenous histories, and by the nomination to the Register of the National Estate of significant Indigenous historic sites such as Wave Hill (Northern Territory), the Aboriginal Tent Embassy (Australian Capital Territory), and the Cyprus-Helene Club (New South Wales), all sites that commemorate recent Indigenous political struggle for citizenship and land rights.

The active programme through the Natural Heritage Trust to augment the national natural reserve system in Australia means that there is an improvement in the number of Indigenous places protected from development in natural environments. The number of joint management arrangements between Nature Conservation Agencies and Indigenous communities to jointly manage National Parks (using the Uluru and Kakadu model) continued to increase, and twelve Indigenous Protected Areas have been established as part of Australia's National Reserve System since 1998.

The Return of Indigenous Cultural Heritage Program instituted in 1998 is facilitating the return of cultural property from Australian museums and other collecting institutions to Indigenous people. There are increasing efforts for the repatriation of Indigenous materials by Australian museums, especially for human remains and secret, sacred objects. Recently there were 19 negotiations with Australian museums for the repatriation of Indigenous materials, but funding is very low.

Major public events, cultural activities and media coverage have contributed to an increasing public awareness of Indigenous culture and heritage. In particular, the 2000 Sydney Olympics opening ceremony showcased Aboriginal culture, and internationally acclaimed Indigenous artists continue to celebrate and contribute to an understanding of heritage places through their work.

A national association of Indigenous Site Officers has been set up and is operational. A Voluntary Service for Indigenous Communities has been established to connect individuals wishing to offer voluntary support to Indigenous communities – environment and heritage is a nominated area of the programme. A mentoring programme and a business partnership scheme are also in place.¹⁰

Centenary Celebration Funding

The Centenary of Federation Fund, which celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the Federation of Australia as a nation, provided substantial boosts to heritage conservation and to the management of a number of significant places and objects, though this is one-off funding, available only during the reporting year.

Heritage methodology and co-ordination

There have been significant recent advances in conservation



Mt Drysdale, Cobar, NSW: a hearth site in a pastoral property where negotiation between traditional owners and leaseholders has achieved shared access and care of Indigenous heritage sites.



Castlecrag, Sydney: the cottage was designed by Walter Burley Griffin in the 1920s and is endangered today by urban re-development. It was conserved as a temporary house museum, then sold with protective covenants to ensure its maintenance.

methodology and practice. A revised version of the Burra Charter, which addresses intangible aspects such as understanding, meanings and use, together with interpretation and the traditional concern with the conservation of fabric, was launched in 2000; this year Australia ICOMOS has also released a video to support the revised Charter.

An Endangered Houses Fund to save threatened houses using a model of conservation and sale has been established by the Historic Houses Trust of NSW (HHT), following its successful trial on a Walter Burley Griffin house in Sydney. The HHT has also initiated a Mid-Century Modern Strategy to raise public knowledge and appreciation of modernist architecture and places, with a national conference and regular architects lectures, as well as popular public programmes to secure a future constituency of support for the conservation and recording of modernist places.

Australia ICOMOS will hold a major international conference on Twentieth-Century Heritage issues in Adelaide in November 2001.

A very well received guide for looking after local heritage places *Protecting Heritage Places Information and Resources Kit*, has been developed and released by the Australian Heritage Commission, along with a set of best practice guidelines for heritage tourism development, *Successful Tourism at Heritage Places - A guide for tourism operators, heritage managers and communities*.

In addition, a range of programmes at State and national level have aimed at the conservation of Australia's rich and varied migrant heritage, and at increasing the ethnic diversity of Australia's recognised heritage places.

Solutions?

What is needed to address Heritage at Risk issues in Australia?

- The proposed Commonwealth heritage legislation needs to be revisited and improved. This should include criteria for the identification and listing and minimum standards for the conservation of heritage places, separating identification and management.
- A national Indigenous heritage authority, or at least a more coordinated and effective action at a national level, aimed at the recognition and conservation of all aspects of the living Indigenous heritage is urgently needed.
- The Commonwealth and State governments need to take responsibility for the conservation, management, and interpretation of their own heritage assets as an essential prerequisite for eliciting community involvement and support.
- A funding programme for cultural heritage, similar to that already instituted for natural heritage under the Natural Heritage Trust, must be established – with the particular goal of increasing awareness and local involvement of our diverse community in heritage conservation.
- Integrated assessment and management of natural and cultural heritage, and a greater recognition and understanding of the

need for the conservation of cultural landscapes is required at all levels of government and the community is needed.

- Practitioners need to develop methods of working more closely with communities and acting as facilitators rather than experts, in assisting the community to identify and conserve its heritage.
- Specific regional and rural programmes are needed to promote the recognition of heritage and to actively assist with its conservation.
- The tourism industry, and heritage tourism promoters in particular, need to give more recognition to the conservation of the cultural values from which they gain their business and to plan for sustainability.
- A concerted 'whole of government' approach to Indigenous cultural conservation at national and State levels is needed.

Report Authorship

The 2001/2002 Heritage at Risk report has been prepared by Sharon Sullivan and Sheridan Burke for the Australia ICOMOS Executive Committee, with input from Elizabeth Close, Bob Vincent, Mandy Jean, Robert Moore and Alan Croker.

Australia ICOMOS used data from the cultural heritage section of the 1996–2000 State of the Environment Report for the preparation of this report. This of course does not represent the views of the Australian Government, or of the Government Committee responsible for the State of the Environment Report, nor is it drawn from the final report. Rather it represents the views of ICOMOS members who have had access to a wide range of significant data and members of the community concerned with cultural heritage conservation.

Australia ICOMOS

- ¹ Australia ICOMOS was established in 1976, and today has approximately 300 active members.
- ² The proposed amendments relate to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC).
- ³ Established in 1940, the Australian National Trust movement is an active lobbying and listing organisation with approximately 80,000 members.
- ⁴ The Australian Council of National Trusts, Endangered Places Report 2000.
- ⁵ Mrs Dianne Weidner, ACNT Chair, 15 August 2001.
- ⁶ The National Trust's Endangered Places report for 2001 can be accessed at: www.nationaltrust.org.au
- ⁷ The ACNT 'Taking Stock' media release, 22 August 2001.
- ⁸ 'Cinderella revisited: impoverishing Australia's heritage', ACNT June 2001.
- ⁹ Refer www.environment.gov.au/heritage/policies/index
- ¹⁰ Refer <http://www.jobsearch.gov.au/indigenous>

AUSTRIA

Rural Architectural Heritage at Risk

With respect to 'heritage at risk' there are extraordinary monuments singled-out, for which it seems to be easier to awaken international interest regarding their fate. Yet there are a great many and a great variety of monuments typical of their region and past life-style, which are also special but not often recognised and sometimes not given any thought. Max Dvorak's Prophecy in the 1918 'Katechismus der Denkmalpflege', stating that the simple often needs more protection than the important, is also relevant for this major field of cultural heritage today. In other words: the culturally non-spectacular and seemingly normal has been lost, although it is of great value for exactly the same reason as more 'impressive' monuments.

Every country has its cultural idiosyncrasies from which those that remain most often are either museum-like clichés or those employed by tourism.

In terms of cultural capital, it is Austria's variety in landscape which assumes a primary role: from Lake Neusiedl in the panonic plains of the east, across the ridges of the Alps to Lake Constance in the west, and from the hills of Bohemia in the north to the connections with the Mediterranean south. This variety of cultural landscapes is especially shaped by its architectural heritage, mostly by the structures connected with rural life. The latter, in their rich differentiation, are particularly endangered as an entire category in Austria: from the typical houses located around the region of Bregenz in Vorarlberg (Bregenzerwaldhaus) to the varieties of alpine farm houses; from the beautiful three- and four-sided farm houses located in the central regions to the arcades in Burgenland. Wood and clay structures are the most endangered, as well as those belonging to the greater area of the farm house, including structures of past-agricultural practice and methods.

Threats & pressures

What are the reasons? In general, the cause would be attributed to the dynamic mixing of city and country, with the obvious outcome of urban dominance. In reality, however, it is the dramatic change in the economic and social framework of agriculture since 1945 that has been accelerating the danger of loss: technological developments, higher production although resulting in profit loss, dramatic reduction of the work force, and several changes in the aims and framework of production. Agricultural structures have become either too big or too small, non-functional or not modern enough or simply superfluous.

A further pressure – in addition to social, technical and economic causes – resulting in endangerment lies in the areas of ideology and style. Probably more historic fabric of the rural heritage has been damaged through ideological mechanisms than through real economic and functional necessities. The current of modern times has led to a basic change in the role of beauty itself; the result is an increased threat, especially with respect to rural heritage, which has been seriously and negatively affected.

Obviously conservation approaches have been restricted until now. For far too long, interest was directed solely to the extraordinary. But such examples are atypical and not representative of rural heritage. These, so to speak, 'exotic' examples of rural architecture were rarely conserved, however, but often restored as open-air museums based on images of the original – in a way as an alibi for the real loss.

Solutions

Preservation/conservation alone cannot solve this problem, but should receive more attention in order to develop common aims and guidelines with the owners and representatives of the farmers, and with communities and politicians. An opportunity lies in the fact that agriculture has been undergoing a second structural change since 1945. While the first phase of change was characterised by industrialisation, recent years show increasing conviction that agriculture in the classical sense of 'agricultura' will continue. As a result, culture in its true form will be reinforced by preserving and caring for the many different types of cultural landscapes. This task is ecologically motivated and is successfully employed by tourism to some extent. However, built and shaped heritage in the rural area has been rarely considered. If future aims and tasks are to be focused more on the cultural aspects of preservation, conservation and sustainability, then concepts must be developed that include the preservation of rural architecture.

The pictorial examples included stand for *pars pro toto* and *regio pro mundo*. The phenomenon is not specific to Austria, it is worldwide – global.

The Survival Problems for Unused Palace Complexes

The areas surrounding historic castles and palaces have, as a result of their complex and not always easily-usable building substance, greater difficulties than other historic monuments in defining their function or finding a contemporary usage. The socio-political upheavals of the 20th century have altered traditional ownership patterns and thus destroyed the economic foundations on which the survival of such complexes had been based and depended. In many cases, events during or after World War II caused even more damage and engendered a struggle for survival that has, for many significant historic palace complexes, continued to the present day.

Ebenfurth Castle

Schloß Ebenfurth (Ebenfurth Castle) in Lower Austria represents a tangible illustration of this problem. The once splendid, but now alas dismal and dilapidated moated castle dates back to the mid-17th century. However, the origins of the massive three-storey building, the four sides of which enclose a centre court, go back to a rambling mediaeval border fortification, of which the corner towers still dominate the shape of the building. After 1754 the interior was magnificently decorated with paintings, particularly the chapel, of which Franz Anton Maulpertsch's ceiling frescoes depicting the *Apotheosis of St Leopold* are among the major works of Austrian Baroque art. In addition, a significant picture gallery, a collection of 17th-century Gobelin tapestries, sumptuous interior decorations including Chinoiserie wallpapers and early Neoclassical paintings, richly ornamented furniture, tiled stoves, plasterwork and some intarsio parquet flooring were among the original refurbishments.

The first losses occurred during World War II, when pictures and other valuables that had been evacuated for storage were destroyed in a fire.

Unoccupied after the war, the castle's north-east wing was used as a chicken farm, the neo-Baroque styled great room turned into a

IGELARUS — *[Faint, illegible text]*



Farmhouse in Schnifis

Remains of vernacular architecture in decay:



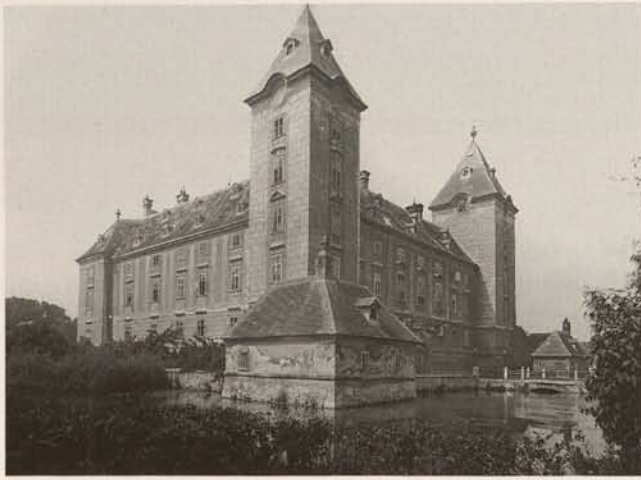
Farmhouse in Küpfern



Farmhouse in Weinberg

Bath cottage in Egg (1772)





Ebenfurth Castle

Ebenfurth Castle



granary. The buildings were empty for a long time; by the end of the war and during the Russian occupation, parts of the remaining furnishings were either stolen or destroyed. Ongoing plundering of remaining furniture and architectural elements transferred inlaid flooring, flagstones and other movable parts of the building into other hands.

Despite new ownership in 1973, hopes for the appropriate measures to prevent further losses were not realised after several false starts. In 1982/83 and 1990/91 the most urgent repairs to safeguard valuable painted ceilings with roofing work and static measures were undertaken as part of two costly restoration campaigns – the result of initiatives and funding on the part of the Province of Lower Austria and the *Bundesdenkmalamt*/Federal Office for the Preservation of Monuments.

Nonetheless, the process of deterioration could not be successfully halted and by the Winter of 2000 it was again necessary to erect emergency roofing over the chapel area and to do urgent repairs in other areas of the roof.

The year 2000 again brought a new owner and a new concept for revitalising the complex. A psychiatric treatment centre is planned, as well as opening certain areas for public use in collaboration with the municipality of Ebenfurth. However, the high cost of the necessary start-up investment is a continuing problem. All the roofs need to be recovered, the attics and drains need renovation. In the interior, the flooring, doors and much of the necessary infrastructure require replacement, while the artistically decorated rooms, particularly the endangered substance of the painted décor need stabilising and restoration. This important architectural monument and its remaining artistic decoration can only survive if it is possible to secure the necessary and substantial financing by means of an appropriately supported funding plan.

Ebenfurth Castle represents one particular case of 'Castles in Peril.' However, at the same time, it illustrates the situation of numerous, similar large-scale castle complexes in that very area of Central Europe where political and economic changes during the second half of the 20th century held back opportunities to master the consequent survival problems confronting many significant historical monuments. The dimensions of the recorded historic buildings, with their rich and artistically valuable decoration, present such an enormous burden to their useful value that it has not been possible, to date, to find viable schemes for a revitalisation that would give these large, significant monument complexes a new lease on life and a secure future.

BELARUS

The authorities in Belarus had a negative relationship with the issue of protecting historical and cultural heritage for the entire period of Communist rule. Only at the start of the 1920s, during the brief period of 'Belarusianisation' and due to the status of many important scientists, was there success in organising research and officially recording the most precious historical and cultural monuments. The result of this work was the establishment of the first State list of historical, artistic and natural monuments, which included 94 buildings and was approved in 1926. At the start of the 1930s, when the policy of 'Belarusianisation' started to be restricted and repression of the Belarusian intelligentsia began, work focusing on research, care and protection of cultural heritage came to a total halt. Before the beginning of World War II, many unique examples of sacred and garden architecture and archaeological sites were even destroyed on the direct orders of the party leadership of the BSSR.

After the end of World War II, the policy of the authorities to cultural heritage apparently shifted. Work on the surveying of architectonic monuments was very well financed. In the years 1946–1948, true scientific expeditions were organised which included many important specialists. The work was intended to ascertain the most valuable architectonic monuments, carry out research on these buildings and issue them with documents setting out their basic characteristics, and to study their technical condition. In 1947 new State lists were prepared and approved for historical and cultural monuments with significance for the BSSR, the entire Union and the entire Republic.

Monument Destruction

Such a great interest on the part of the party leadership of Belarus in the fate of the historical and cultural heritage was primarily associated with gaining compensation from the Germans for

destroyed and damaged monuments. A special file was put together for each of the destroyed or damaged buildings in which the level of costs needed for its renewal and restoration was given. The amounts were not insignificant. For example, the party leadership demanded from Germany the payment of 3 million gold roubles at the exchange rate valid in 1913 for the restoration of the Dominican Monastery in Minsk. However, after the completion of reparation documentation, at the direct order of the Central Committee of the Belarusian Communist Party most of these historical buildings were eliminated from the records and then destroyed, including the 17th-century Minsk Dominican Monastery. The same fate was shared by the grand baroque complex of the historical centre of Vitebsk and by many other buildings.

There was another wave of destruction of monuments at the end of the 1950s and beginning of the 1960s. At that time, many unique monuments were removed from the records without any scientific justification. It was at this time that the Vitebsk Church from the 12th century and the late-Gothic Catholic cathedral in Grodno were blown up.

Improvement and Legislation

In the 1960s, public pressure forced the authorities to make certain concessions. In 1966, permission was granted for the foundation of the Belarusian Voluntary Association for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments. Despite strict party control, the association managed to unify the splintered scientific and cultural forces and those of the creative intelligentsia and started to have an active influence on the process of care and protection of monuments. In 1967 Special Scientific-Restoration Workshops were founded, and in 1969 the first Belarusian law 'Concerning the Protection of Cultural Historical Monuments' was passed.



Catholic church in Smolyany (18th century), Orzhansky district



Remains of the Palace in Smolyany

Catholic church in Guli Myadelskij (16th century), Minsk district



At the end of the 1980s the situation improved in many respects. On the basis of a survey of the entire territory of the Belarusian Republic by experts from the Academy of Sciences, a basic List of Monuments was published, which was given the status of an official state document. At the same time, lists of archaeological, historical, urban and architectonic monuments were approved that contain more than 16,000 sites.

In 1988, the Society for the Protection of Monuments and the Belarusian Cultural Fund prepared a list of especially valuable monuments in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture that were recommended for inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The list included many old Belarusian churches (the 12th-century Preobrazhensky Church of Salvation and the Cathedral of Saint Sofia from the 11th–18th century in Polotsk, Vitebsk district; the 12th-century Blagoveshchensk Church in Vitebsk; the 12th-century Church of Boris and Gleb in Grodno); many defensive mediaeval buildings (the 13th-century stone tower in the Brest district; the defensive church of the 15th–16th century in the village of Synkovichi and the defensive church from the start of the 16th century in the village of Murovanka in the Grodno district; and the Church of John the Baptist in the village of Komai in the Vitebsk district); the palace and garden complex of the 16th–20th century in Mir, Grodno district, Grodnenska oblast; the palace and garden complex of the Jesuit church from the 16th–18th century in the town of Chesvzh in the Mink district; the historical centre of Grodno from the 12th–20th century. Unfortunately only two buildings in Belarus have been included on the List of World Heritage so far – Beloveshska pushcha and the chateau complex in Mir – because the State authorities have not yet presented the World Heritage Committee with a complete list of sites of cultural and natural heritage recommended for inclusion on the World Heritage List.

Post-Independence

After the declaration of independence in the Belarus Republic in 1991, the adoption of new laws for the protection, care and use of historical and cultural heritage that would correspond to the generally accepted international standards became an urgent issue.

The Belarusian parliament adopted a new law 'Concerning the Protection of Historical and Cultural Heritage' in 1992. Unfortunately experience has shown this law to be ineffective, it has many flaws and it does not enable the creation of an organised legislative system for the care and protection of historical and cultural buildings.

The establishment of the authoritarian regime after the election in 1994 had an impact on all spheres of life in Belarus. Relations between the Committee for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Heritage headed by D. Bubnovsky, which was founded in compliance with existing legislation, and the social structures and scientific institutions dealing with research and protection of historical and cultural buildings were severed completely. The Committee attempted to have a ban imposed at the State level on the activities of the Belarusian Voluntary Association for the Protection of Cultural Monuments. In the situation that has arisen, any monument may find itself threatened with destruction.

Natural factors present the smallest threat to historical buildings, but not even these can be excluded completely, as is the case of the 12th century Kalozhsky Church in Grodno, which was recommended for inclusion on the World Heritage List. Most buildings are threatened as a result of human activities. The most significant factor here is the carrying out of unqualified restoration work, which is primarily the result of the loss of traditional



Palace in Ruzhany, Pruzhansky district

restoration schools from the 1970s and 1980s, the non-existence of a system of preparation and improvement of qualifications of restorers and their isolation from sources of information. Moreover, State bodies grant licences giving authorisation to carry out restoration work to organisations and persons who do not have the necessary qualifications. As a result, many monuments have lost their authenticity following this type of restoration work. Here it is necessary to mention in the first place the 12th-century Blagoveshchensk Church in Vitebsk, which was also recommended for inclusion on the World Heritage List. The one architectonic building included on the World Heritage List – the Radziwil Chateau in Mir – also lost many of its original features as the result of restoration work and the wholly original tower from the 17th century was damaged. A similar danger also threatened the most valuable palace and garden complex in Belarus – the Nesvizhsky Radziwil Chateau from the 16th–18th century.

The historical centres and ancient towns, which are not protected as historical phenomena by Belarusian law, are also threatened by total collapse. Today, under the guise of restoration work, new buildings are being erected on a massive scale, and whole city areas of historical buildings are being demolished. Ancient towns such as Minsk, Grodno, Brest and others are worst off. Cultural landscapes and archaeological sites requiring care of a special cat-

egory are not recognised at all under Belarusian legislation. Over only the past 10 years Belarus has lost hundreds of archaeological objects.

Many historical cemeteries and mass graves from the time of the Communist Terror also face destruction. Work has begun on a new motorway through the notorious area of Kuropaty, where lie the remains of thousands of victims of the Stalinist repression during the 1930s and 1940s. This site has the status of a historical-cultural monument of the first category. In Minsk, the historical graveyard of Calvary, where the remains of many famous personalities from the world of science and culture are interred, is gradually being destroyed. Unfortunately it is not possible to hope for an improvement in the situation in the area of protection of historical and cultural heritage. Immediately after the presidential elections, the Council of Ministers of the Belarus Republic adopted a directive at the instigation of D. Bubnovsky rescinding the State protection of more than 15,000 archaeological, historical, urban and architectonic monuments.

Vladimir Denisov
 Presidium Vice-Chairman
 Belarusian Voluntary Society of Historical and Cultural
 Monuments Protection

Mass graves in the area of Kuropaty affected by roadworks



BELGIUM

Case Study – Churches

Belgian authorities appear to be willing to address difficult situations that arise in a number of areas, including economic challenges, with solutions that include the enforcement of Regulations. However, there appears to be little interest in tackling the growing disaffection with religious matters, or the conservation problems that are created by this distancing from religious practice. It is as if this particular set of issues is deemed 'unmentionable'.

The spiritual 'crisis' that Western Europe has faced for about 40 years has resulted in a growing drop in Christian religious observance. This has provoked an alienation of religious sites, mainly those associated with the Catholic Church. In Belgium, according to statistics, Sunday religious observances were followed by 36% of the population in 1967; by 1990 this figure was only 18%. In Brussels, regular Sunday practice decreased from 12% to 8.8% between 1980 and 1990.

In 1998 the Town of Charleroi commissioned an analysis from the architect Paul Petit. This study showed that the town of 200,000 inhabitants (more precisely, 20 residents to the hectare) encompasses 71 churches and chapels. Of these, 51 are under municipal management and cater for a total of 7000 regular churchgoers. In order to carry out essential maintenance work on these churches, a budget of around 300 million francs (Belgian) should be allocated in the next 10 years. This is double the annual budget currently provided for the town's local-council buildings.

A Threatened Heritage

Religious buildings, sometimes more than 1000 years old, often form the core of a district, of a village, or a town – and they are landmarks for both believers and non-believers. In many cases, such landmarks are an important feature of the region's historical and archaeological heritage and play an essential role in local tourist growth. Many of these religious structures have survived revolutions and numerous wars, but today are at risk of a slow death due to negligence and abandonment.

In Belgium, the clergy has responsibility for religious affairs, while the church council manages the more worldly or mundane aspects and assets. The number and complexity of legal and financial issues – for which the clergy and the church often share jurisdiction – increase the difficulty of managing church property.

Since 1801, the Concordat has enforced the 'obligation of complementarity' onto the 'communes', and hence to all citizens. That is to say, the general community has responsibility for the cost of maintenance, restoration and construction of a church if the church council's resources are insufficient.

In addition, classified edifices can receive regional subsidies, which are generally allocated to buildings that are open to the public. This represents from 60–95% of the buildings in the Walloon region (depending on the significance of the structure), 40% in the region of Brussels and 90% in the Flemish region.

The jewels of our heritage, such as Tournai Cathedral – included on the UNESCO World Heritage List – or Brussels Cathedral, which hosts important national events such as royal weddings or the annual *Te Deum*, need dramatic sums to ensure their maintenance and restoration. There is no debate about their quality and symbolic value, or the financial aid that must be provided. Yet, how many unoccupied and abandoned churches stand in close proximity to these exceptional buildings?

In these times of staff cuts, and restrictions in education spend-

ing, religious authorities are aware of the need to deal with this situation and of the difficulty of today using 200 year old legislation to encourage society to maintain public religious buildings.

The opinion voiced by the Vatican has not served to advance the debate. The newspaper *Le Monde*, quoting a papal document dated December 1987, reported that 'churches cannot be considered as public places' and that, apart from religious practice, 'they can only welcome concerts of sacred and religious music'. Happily, the religious authorities in Belgium have a more open attitude. Various examples can be found of public use of church buildings.

Nevertheless, the progressive abandonment of church buildings and the search for a new use is a general problem in Western Europe.

An Essential Selection

While we are establishing thematic inventories for other heritage categories (for example, local-council buildings or water towers) do we not need to be equally concerned with the category that contains religious buildings, classified or not? Indeed, they have been among the first building type to be registered on the list of classified properties. Moreover, there are many churches: this building type is widely represented. A review of existing lists may well provide a more comprehensive view and allow the development of a plan for future management. Management needs to range from maintenance and conservation of the initial function, to adaptive re-use.

Adaptation

As for all other building types, the survival of churches depends on an intelligent adaptation that respects the existing structure and area.

Transformation into multi-residential complexes, or even hotels, cannot be considered a satisfactory solution because they alter the spatial structure in a non-reversible way. Only the façades are preserved – we could describe these operations as 'façadism' – not so much destruction, but negation of the interior area and 're-creation' of interior features to a totally new plan.

There are a few examples in Belgium of adaptation of churches for social use: the exhibition room of Boendael's chapel in Brussels, the concert hall or the auditorium of the Briggittines' chapel also in Brussels, or the meeting rooms at the Vertbois in Liege – but even 'classical' uses have their limits.

In accordance with its program to find new uses for heritage buildings, the Walloon Heritage Institute aims to adapt two churches located in Tournai: the church of La Madeleine into a printing museum, and the church of Saint-Marguerite into a concert hall. At the same time, proposals to adapt Sacré-Cœur Church in Bruges to be used as an 'events' and function venue have met with considerable controversy.

Mainly public, these new uses provide the community with an opportunity to enjoy those places that they have helped maintain. And we certainly support such proposals. The most difficult issue, and an essential role of the project architect, is to ensure that the heritage value and spirit of the place is respected and conserved.

In order to diversify the options for public or semi-public use, it may be possible to use church buildings for family occasions



St Martin's church in Frizet, 1920



St Martin's church in Frizet, 1992

(such as birthday or wedding celebrations) or similar functions that have no commercial gain or purpose. Cultural organisations and similar bodies are often looking for meeting places. Old churches could provide an area favourable for both intellectual and spiritual inspiration, in an environment suitable for group activities.

Furnishings & Movable Objects

Many movable heritage items – including statues, paintings, altar-pieces and candlesticks – have a specific relationship with a church, as do more fixed furnishings: the altar, confessional, font, or an organ. These should ideally be kept *in situ*, to respect the integrity and special meaning of the place, and also to maintain the heritage significance associated with a particular structure. Most of the problems associated with protecting the heritage value of the building are equally applicable to movable heritage objects and more permanent furnishing and fixtures. However, sometimes solutions for immovable heritage can also offer conservation opportunities for movable items and objects.

If a building is occupied it is maintained and kept under surveillance. Therefore, is it not viable to maintain *in situ* at least a part of the significant objects and furnishings that are integral to that place, even if the church building is no longer used for religious purposes? With appropriate agreement between the occupant and the owner of the building, it may be possible to retain some or all of the objects and fixtures that are integrally related to the history and character of the building. In some circumstances, it may even be feasible to make the building and its contents accessible to the public. This has the benefit of maintaining the original context, and thereby retaining the heritage significance of both the building and its furnishings. In addition, this would have the advantage of avoiding the dilemma of finding alternative display or storage venues, and of relieving a potential load on museum facilities.

Council of Europe Recommendations

In 1989 the Council of Europe published a report on disused religious buildings. The study of the European situation, encompassing both Eastern and Western Europe, and the more detailed examination of the status in Italy, clearly defined the main issues and produced sound recommendations – even if there has been a lack of subsequent follow-up and directed action.

The May 1989 Assembly, acknowledging the risk faced by disused religious buildings and in consciousness of their growing number, proposed more particularly in Resolution No. 916:

- (iv) to avoid the conservation of religious buildings which are in ruins, except for the case where the building presents an exceptional architectural, historical or commemorative interest;
- (v) to foster re-use and re-adaptation projects that are not incompatible with the initial use of the building and that do not alter in a non-reversible way the original structure;
- (vii) to develop a more imaginative use of existing religious buildings.

Safeguarding the Meaning of a Place

Even if philosophies may vary, it is commonly accepted that religious heritage is inseparable from the history and the art history of our society. Consequently, can we let religious heritage slowly deteriorate for lack of adopting a timely and responsible attitude, and for lack of willingness to confront a sensitive topic? It is only by understanding and adopting the synthesis between the spiritual, economic and heritage dimensions of religious buildings that we will be able to find adaptive social and economic solutions that remain meaningful and go beyond commercial interests.

BELGIQUE

Étude de Cas - Églises

Alors que dans d'autres domaines et notamment en matière économique, les autorités Belges ont pris des mesures pour remédier à une situation difficile, mettant en place des réglementations spécifiques, rien n'est vraiment organisé pour faire face à la désaffection croissante des édifices du culte et aux problèmes qui y sont liés. Comme si le sujet ne pouvait être abordé.

La «crise» spirituelle qui touche l'Europe occidentale depuis une quarantaine d'années entraîne la diminution croissante de la pratique religieuse chrétienne avec, pour conséquence directe, la désaffection des lieux de culte, et principalement ceux du culte catholique. D'après des statistiques, la pratique du culte dominical en Belgique concernait 36 % de la population en 1967 pour seulement 18 % en 1990. À Bruxelles, cette pratique est passée de 12 % à 8,8 % entre 1980 et 1990.

Une analyse a été confiée en 1998 par la Ville de Charleroi à l'architecte Paul Petit. Cette étude montre que la ville de quelque 200.000 habitants ou 20 habitants à l'hectare, compte 71 églises et chapelles dont 51 à charge de la Ville pour 7.000 pratiquants réguliers. Pour effectuer les premiers travaux d'entretien indispensables, il faudrait consacrer un budget de 300 millions environ dans les dix prochaines années, soit le double du budget annuel de la ville pour ses bâtiments communaux.

Un Patrimoine Menacé, des îlots Stratégiques Délabrés

Les édifices du culte, vieux parfois de plus de dix siècles, constituent bien souvent le noyau d'un quartier, d'un village, d'une ville, le point de repère des croyants comme des non croyants. Dans bien des cas, il fait également partie du patrimoine historique et architectural et joue un rôle essentiel dans le développement touristique local. Il a survécu aux révolutions et aux nombreuses guerres, mais risque aujourd'hui de mourir lentement par négligence et abandon.

En Belgique, c'est au clergé que revient le soin d'organiser le culte, et aux fabriques d'église celui de gérer le temporel. Le nombre et la complexité des aspects juridiques et financiers assumés en partie par chacune de ces institutions rendent d'autant plus difficile la gestion de ces biens.

Depuis 1801, le Concordat impose aux communes, et donc à tous les citoyens, l'obligation de complémentarité, c'est-à-dire l'obligation de supporter les frais d'entretien, de restauration et de construction des églises lorsque les moyens des fabriques d'églises sont insuffisants.

Les édifices classés peuvent bénéficier en outre des subventions régionales généralement attribuées aux bâtiments accessibles au public, soit de 60 à 95% en Région wallonne selon le caractère exceptionnel de l'édifice, 40 % en Région bruxelloise et 90% en Région Flamande.

Les joyaux de notre patrimoine comme la cathédrale de Tournai, reconnue patrimoine mondial par l'UNESCO, ou la cathédrale de Bruxelles, qui accueille toutes les grandes manifestations nationales comme les mariages royaux, les *Te Deum* annuels, nécessitent des sommes très importantes pour leur entretien et leur restauration. Personne ne discute leur qualité architecturale et leur valeur symbolique, ni l'effort financier qu'il faut consentir. Mais à côté de ces bâtiments exceptionnels, combien d'églises ne sont-elles pas inoccupées, abandonnées ?

En ces temps de réductions d'emploi, de restriction du financement de l'enseignement..., les autorités religieuses sont conscientes de la nécessité de traiter cette situation et de mettre à jour la législation âgée de presque deux siècles qui organise l'entretien des bâtiments publics affectés au culte.

L'attitude du Vatican n'est pas faite pour favoriser l'ouverture. Citant un document daté de décembre 87, le journal „Le Monde“ rapportait que „les églises ne peuvent être considérées comme des lieux publics“ et qu'en dehors de la pratique religieuse, „elles ne peuvent accueillir que des concerts de musique sacrée et religieuse“. Heureusement, les autorités religieuses de Belgique ont une attitude plus ouverte. Sous des formes diverses, il y a des exemples d'accueil de certaines manifestations publiques.

Pourtant, l'abandon progressif des églises et la recherche d'une nouvelle affectation adaptée est une problématique générale en Europe occidentale.

Une Sélection Indispensable

Alors que l'on établit des inventaires thématiques pour d'autres catégories de patrimoine (maisons communales, châteaux d'eau, ...), ne devrait-on pas jeter un regard critique sur cette catégorie particulière que sont les édifices du culte, qu'ils soient ou non classés. Ils ont été, en effet, parmi les premiers à être inscrits dans la liste des biens classés et y sont très, même peut-être trop, largement représentés. La remise en cause de toutes les listes existantes permettrait peut-être de déboucher sur une vision plus globale des opérations à mener, allant de l'entretien et la conservation de la fonction d'origine à la reconversion.

La Reconversion

Comme pour tous les autres bâtiments, la survie des églises est liée à une reconversion intelligente qui respecte la structure, l'espace existants.

Des transformations en logements multiples, voire en hôtel, ne peuvent constituer une solution satisfaisante puisqu'elles modifient de manière quasi irréversible la structure spatiale. Seules les façades sont conservées : on pourrait qualifier ces opérations de „façadisme“, non par destruction mais par négation de l'espace intérieur au profit d'un aménagement qui lui est totalement étranger.

Des exemples de reconversion en espaces socioculturels existent également en Belgique : salle d'exposition de la chapelle de Boendael à Bruxelles, salle de concert ou de théâtre à la chapelle des Briggittines également à Bruxelles, ou salles de réunions au Vertbois à Liège... Mais ces fonctions „classiques“ ne peuvent se multiplier à l'infini.

Conformément à sa mission de recherche de nouvelles fonctions pour des édifices de valeur patrimoniale, l'Institut du Patrimoine wallon prévoit de reconvertir deux églises situées à Tournai, l'église de la Madeleine en Musée de l'imprimerie, l'église Sainte-Marguerite en salle de concert.

Par contre, la reconversion de l'église du Sacré-Cœur à Bruges en salle de spectacles est très controversée.

Principalement publiques, ces nouvelles fonctions mettent ainsi à la disposition des citoyens ce qu'ils ont contribué à entretenir. On ne peut que s'en réjouir.

Le plus difficile reste, et c'est là que la rôle du maître d'œuvre

est essentiel, de respecter la qualité de l'espace et l'esprit du lieu.

Pour diversifier encore les possibilités d'affectation publique ou semi-publique, ne pourrait-on envisager d'utiliser ces édifices pour des réunions familiales (anniversaires, mariages, ...) ou des réunions d'associations sans but lucratif ? Les mouvements culturels et autres acteurs de la vie associative sont souvent à la recherche de locaux de réunion. Ils pourraient trouver dans les anciens lieux de culte un espace à la fois propice à une réflexion intellectuelle et spirituelle, et conçu pour des activités de groupes.

Un Mobilier Immeuble par Destination

Souvent conçu en fonction du lieu pour lequel il était destiné, le patrimoine mobilier (statue, tableau, retable, chandelier,...) ou immobilier par destination (autel, confessionnal, fonts baptismaux, orgues,...) devrait idéalement être conservé in situ, à la fois par souci de cohérence et de respect du patrimoine et aussi parce qu'il contribue très largement à l'esprit du lieu.

La plupart des problèmes liés au patrimoine immobilier touche également le patrimoine mobilier. Rechercher des solutions pour le patrimoine immobilier peut parfois offrir des possibilités de conservation du patrimoine mobilier.

Occupé, un bâtiment est par le fait même entretenu et surveillé. Ne pourrait-on dès lors envisager de maintenir dans les lieux une partie au moins du patrimoine mobilier qui y est attaché, même si l'édifice n'est plus affecté au culte ? Moyennant des conditions à définir entre les parties (l'occupant et le propriétaire des lieux), cette cohabitation entre certaines activités et un patrimoine mobilier permettrait de le maintenir dans un lieu pour lequel, très souvent, il a été créé, de le laisser accessible au public, d'éviter d'encombrer les musées par des objets trop grands et de le sauvegarder.

Des Propositions Responsables du Conseil de L'Europe

En 1989 déjà, le Conseil de l'Europe publiait un rapport sur „les édifices religieux désaffectés“. L'étude de la situation en Europe, tant à l'Est qu'à l'Ouest, et l'examen plus approfondi du cas de l'Italie a permis de poser clairement le problème et d'étudier des propositions judicieuses bien qu'encore peu mises en pratique.

L'Assemblée du 9 mai 1989, constatant le risque encouru par les édifices religieux désaffectés, et consciente de leur nombre croissant, proposait notamment dans sa Résolution 916: „d'éviter, sauf dans le cas présentant un intérêt architectural, historique ou commémoratif exceptionnel, la conservation des édifices religieux à l'état de ruine“(iv), „d'encourager des projets de réutilisation et de réadaptation qui ne soient pas incompatibles avec la fonction primitive de l'édifice et qui ne transforment pas de façon irréversible sa structure d'origine“(v) ou encore „d'encourager une utilisation plus imaginative des édifices religieux existants“(vii).

Sauvegarder le Sens du Lieu

Quelles que soient ses opinions philosophiques, chacun reconnaît que le patrimoine religieux est indissociable de l'histoire et de l'histoire de l'art de notre société.

Peut-on dès lors le laisser dépérir lentement, faute d'avoir eu à temps une attitude responsable et le courage d'affronter un sujet délicat ?

Ce n'est qu'en opérant la synthèse entre les dimensions spirituelle, économique et patrimoniale des édifices du culte, que l'on pourra aboutir à des solutions adaptées au contexte social et économique actuel, qui ne soient pas uniquement mercantiles ou dépourvues de sens.

ICOMOS Belgique

BULGARIA

Thracian Tomb in the 'Shishmanets' Sepulchral Tumulus

The Thracian tomb discovered in the Shishmanets sepulchral tumulus during the archaeological excavations in August 1996 is located about 0.5 kilometres to the south-west of the centre of the town of Shipka, Kazanlak District, in the central part of Bulgaria. Dating to the 4th century BC, it consists of a monumental tomb under a sepulchral hill landfill, and is built of blocks of porphiroid granite of unstable structure, which are tied with lead clamps. The tomb is made up of a dromos, antechamber and tomb chamber. It has been placed under interim protection as a cultural monument of the category 'of national importance', and the procedure for declaring it under full protection is about to be finalised.

Severe damage to the monument has been observed. The problems are mainly of a structural nature – the stone blocks of the dome of the antechamber are fractured, and fractures are also observable in the eastern part of the dome. About 30% of the lime-mortar coat has been preserved, but it is in a condition of failure due to the penetration of atmospheric humidity and the deposition of salts. It requires important consolidation measures – such as urgent constructive support, insulation of the tomb against the penetrating humidity and preservation of the coating – and a full programme of restoration work and exposure of the tomb.

Thracian tomb in the 'Shishmanets' sepulchral tumulus



Thracian Tomb Discovered in 'The Small Naked Tumulus'

This imposing tomb is a part of the necropolis, situated 0.5 kilometres to the south-west of the centre of the town of Shipka, Kazanlak District, in the central part of Bulgaria. It dates to the 4th century BC and was discovered in July 1996, during the archaeological excavations of one of the sepulchral hill landfills of the necropolis. The tomb is built of blocks of porphiroid granite of unstable structure. It consists of a square-planned tomb chamber, covered by a parabolic vault, antechamber and a large dromos. It is plastered by fine white mortar. The tomb was placed under interim protection as a cultural monument of the category 'of national importance' and, as with the previous example, the procedure for finally declaring it under protection is imminent.

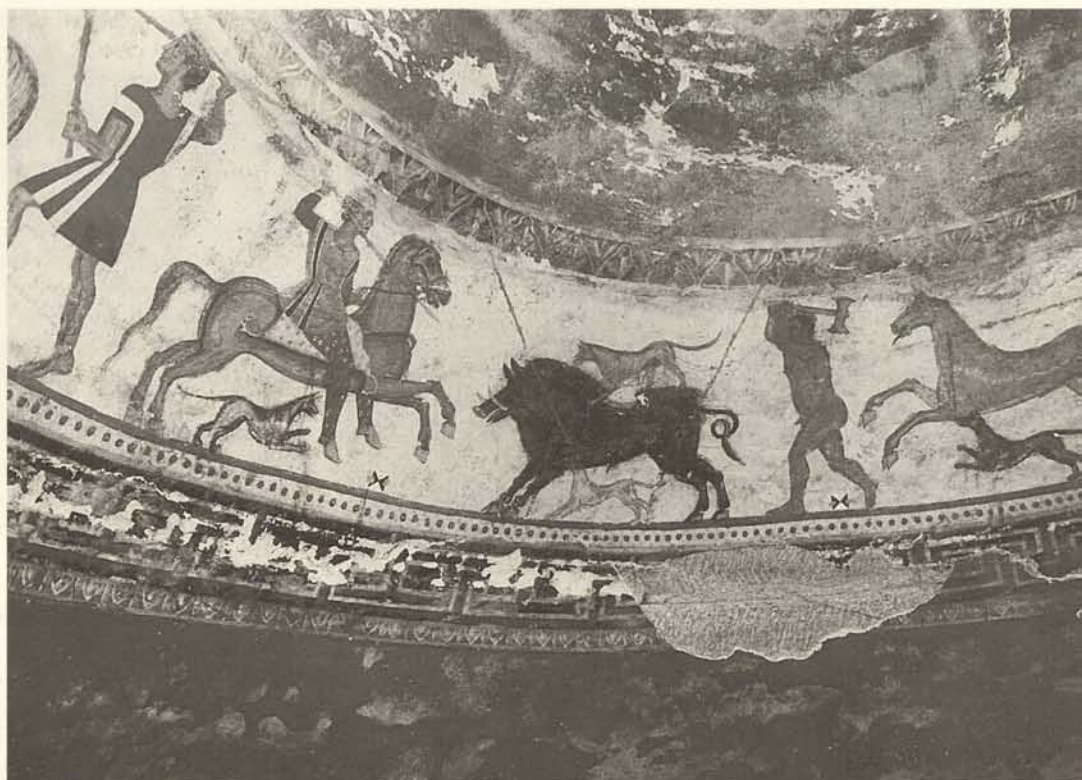
Severe damage is easily observable – visible cracks run from the vault to the floor on the eastern and western walls of the chamber; in the upper part of the vault and in the antechamber parts of the plasters are detached, and segments have already fallen off; the pavement is damaged, and the walls of the dromos are ruined. Urgent consolidation measures are required, including critical structural support, total restoration work and exposure of the tomb, together with strengthening and conservation of the plasters, and reconstruction of the dromos.

Thracian Cemetery near the Village of Alexandrovo

As a result of archaeological research carried out in 2001, a Thracian cemetery of exceptional cultural and historical value was discovered, which was immediately placed under legal protection. The cemetery is oriented along an east-west axis, with its entrance to the east. It consists of a 9-metre long dromos, a portal – a rectangular chamber 1.85 metres wide and 1.2 metres long – and a round chamber with a 3.3 metre diameter and 3.3 metres in height.

The portal and the round chamber are constructed of precisely processed quadras with dry joints, with carefully polished and fitted stone-fronts. Despite some deformities, the structure is in a stable condition. On the floor, pieces of stone doors to the two premises can be seen. The dromos is built of roughly processed stones bearing traces of paint and is covered with large stone tiles, which are preserved. The small portal is shaped as a rectangular chamber covered with a false arch, which is coated and painted entirely. The round cemetery chamber is covered with a false dome and is also entirely painted.

The initial survey suggests that the murals are of exceptionally high quality in terms of their stylistic, iconographic and artistic character. Murals are preserved in the three premises, though in various degrees. In the dromos (in its preserved end) scarce remains of the coating and painting are preserved. The walls of the portal are covered with decoration of multiple colours (about 50% preserved), whereas the two lunettes under the vault have human and animal-figure compositions with the western one preserved in full: a fight between an equestrian and a foot soldier. The round chamber bears the richest decoration, which is structured in layers of various height from bottom to top: a figural frieze in a very poor condition (about 15% preserved) and an almost illegible monochromatic layer; a comparatively well preserved high footing in Pompeian red; a three-division eave; a second, almost fully pre-



Thracian cemetery near the village of Alexandrovo

served figural frieze depicting four hunting scenes and a layer of kimas. The dome itself is coloured in grey; the tile in the zenith also bears traces of colouring.

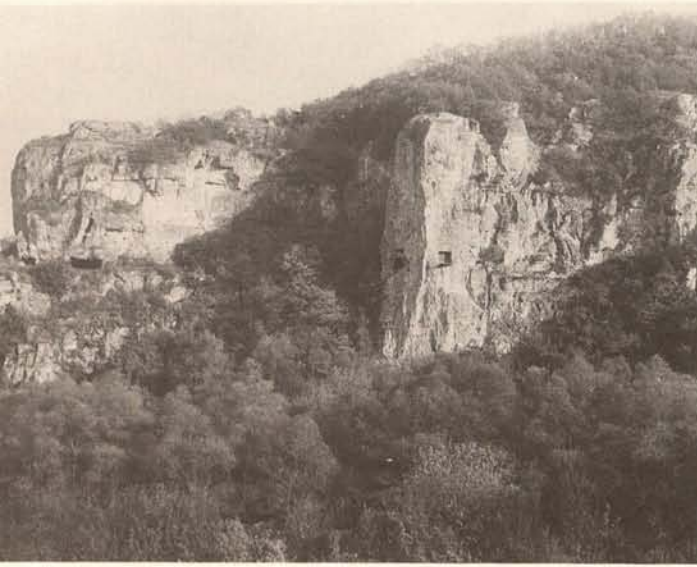
As a first step, urgent measures are required to stop the destructive processes observable in the painting layer at its base, and to implement a reliable and permanent protection for the cemetery from harmful atmospheric influences and ill-minded visitors (for the time being only provisory protection/security is provided). This needs to be followed by a programme of systematic activities for research, preservation and exposure of the cemetery.

The Ancient Mediaeval Fortress of Perpericon

The Fortress of Perpericon is located 20 kilometres north-east of the town of Kudjali (Southern Bulgaria). This archaeological ensemble, which is currently being studied, is typical for its rich stratigraphy, with the earliest discovered strata dating to the Iron Age. The fortification, which was built in antiquity, had been continuously developed and reconstructed through the Middle Ages: documents from the 13th and 14th centuries mention it under the name of Hyperpericon.



The ancient medieval fortress of Perpericon



The rock chapels at Ivanovo village
'The Church' and 'The Ruined Church' sites



The Fortress is located on a broad and not very high rocky hill, with the citadel erected on the summit. The site of the castle is immediately below, and the substructure is located on the lower flat terrace. In the valley, beneath the Fortress, the remains of a mediaeval monastery were discovered, which, according to existing data, had been an important religious-worship and military centre.

A full geodesic and photogrammetric documentation of the archaeological ensemble is currently in preparation. The protection of the monument requires the implementation of the following urgent measures:

- completion of exploration, and documentation and publication of results;
- emergency preservation works and the installation of protective covers;
- preparation of a preservation and restoration plan to restore and stabilise the gate approach and the surrounding area to facilitate exposure and public visitation.

This urgent work must then be followed by the implementation of a programme to protect the monument.

The Rock Chapels at Ivanovo Village, 'The Church' and 'The Ruined Church' Sites

The set of Rock Chapels is located on the rock slopes on both sides of the Roussenski Lom river bank, near Ivanovo village, in the vicinity of Rousse in north-east Bulgaria. The set includes monasteries, churches, chapels and monks' cells, situated in reworked natural cavities in carst rock massifs. Especially valuable are the wall paintings that have been preserved to a different extent in five of the churches. The ensemble dates back to the Middle Ages – 8th and 9th centuries – arising from a religious movement that was associated with a hermit and was widely spread at that time.

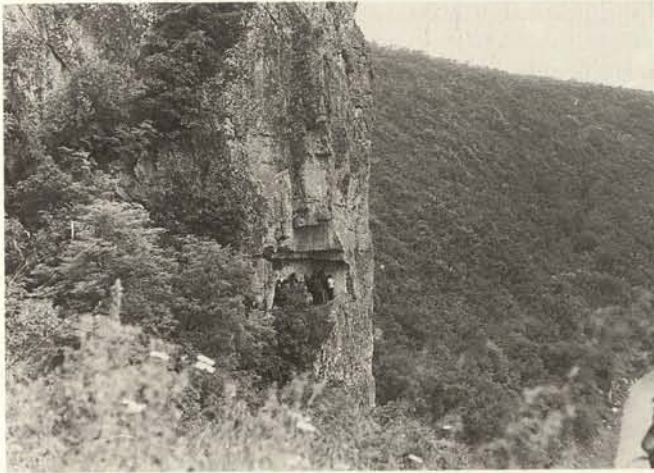
Throughout the ages the ensemble has suffered continuous damage under the destructive effect of the environment. The Rock Chapels near Ivanovo were declared a cultural monument of national importance and in 1979 were included on the World Heritage List (No. 45). Severe problems are evident at present. The wall paintings are partially damaged by the destructive effect of the environment and human wrongdoing, and through partial destruction of the rock massif.

'The church' site (14th century) needs urgent measures to consolidate the rock massif in which the church is situated, as well as emergency measures to prevent the most aggressively harmful impacts. 'the ruined church' site (13th century) requires measures for consolidation of the rock massif in which it is situated and the total preservation and restoration of the wall paintings.

Madara Horseman (Madarski Konnik)

The Madara Horseman is a rock relief with adjacent chronological inscriptions, cut into the vertical steep slope of the plateau in the vicinity of Kaspichan town, north-east Bulgaria. It was created at the beginning of the 8th century. Until now it has been subject to constant damage from the action of the surrounding environment. The Madara Horseman was declared as a cultural monument of national importance and in 1979 was included on the World Heritage List (No 43).

Severe damage is evident, partly as a result of the continuous



The Madara Horseman (Madarski Konnik)



St. Dimitar Church in Boboshevo

process of natural destruction. The site requires measures for consolidation of the rock massif on which the relief has been cut, as well as consolidation of the relief itself and the adjacent inscriptions. An important problem to be resolved involves finding the best possible technical solution to provide maximum protection of the relief from the direct influence of destructive agents.

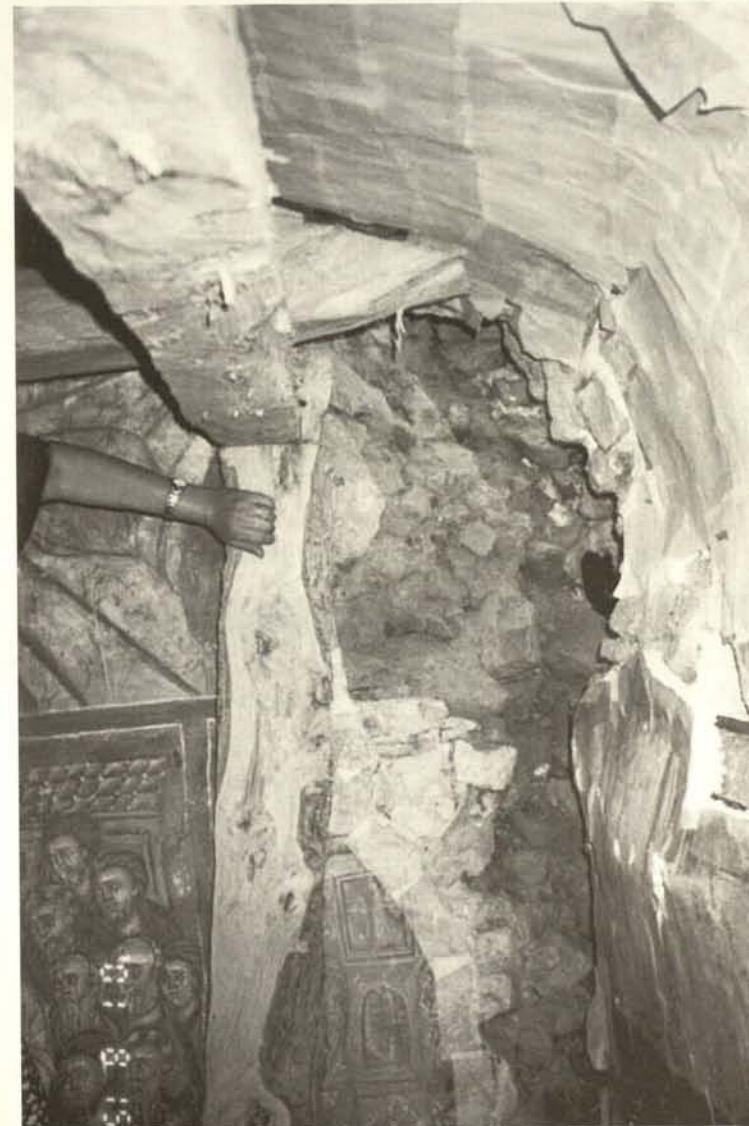
St. Dimitar Church in Boboshevo

Saint Dimitar Church in Boboshevo

The Saint Dimitar Church in Boboshevo monastery is an extremely precious representative of mediaeval architecture. It possesses the highest value – a monument of national importance – according to the Bulgarian criteria of listing. The building bears an enormous potential for cultural and social influence. The church is situated in a zone containing a high concentration of cultural monuments, forming a specific historical and artistic landscape.

The church was constructed during the last quarter of the 15th century. It has one nave, one round apse, and is covered by a semi-spherical vault. The wall paintings cover both the walls and the ceiling entirely, as well as the western façade. They are dated to 1488 and have extremely high value, which goes beyond national cultural boundaries and provokes the interest of many Balkan researchers, tourists and pilgrims.

The physical state of the monument today is desperate, which is the reason the spiritual and cultural values have been inaccessible to pilgrims and tourists for a long period of time. Although some attempts at consolidation were completed about 50 years ago, a late and inauthentic narthex and façades were added. The building is listed by the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture as a monument in a threatened state. Just a few months ago urgent work to support the vault was undertaken.



The Preobrazhenski Monastery

The Preobrazhenski Monastery is located close to the town of Veliko Tarnovo, in the central part of North Bulgaria. The erection of the church dates to 1834. The Monastery presents an extremely valuable architectural and artistic ensemble of exceptional cultural and historical value, in recognition of which it has been declared a cultural monument of national importance.

The site has suffered severe damage – throughout the years the



The Probrszenski monastery

Bridge over the Yantra River



church has been partially destroyed, as a result of slides of the terrain over the Monastery in the 1970s and of rock-caving in the terrain below the monastery in 1992. It requires urgent consolidation measures, commencing with a need to strengthen and stabilise the terrain. Partial reconstruction of the destroyed features should also be carried out as soon as possible. The next step should be the total reconstruction of the church – architectural-construction as well as restoration of both the immovable decoration of the monument (the wall paintings) and the movable decoration (such as iconostasis and icons).

Bridge over the Yantra River

This bridge is situated over the Yantra River, on the road from Pleven via Byala to Rousse, 1 kilometre from Byala town, Rousse region, in north-east Bulgaria. The bridge is an engineering device of exclusive architectural-constructional properties and was declared a cultural monument of national importance.

The bridge was built in 1867 at the order of the Rousse vali Midhad Pasha by Master Nikola Fichev (Usta Kolyu Ficheto) – a self-educated constructor who built a number of buildings, churches and bridges. At the time it was constructed it reached a length of 275 metres, and incorporated fourteen domes with middle spans of 12 metres, thirteen pillars with water-cuts and alleviating niches and two abutments. It is constructed of hewn stone of locally found limestone and lime mortar.

Severe damage has occurred throughout the years – in 1897 there was a flood and eight domes in the middle part of the bridge (about 130 metres) were destroyed. In 1922/23 the bridge was reconstructed with steel concrete pillars and domes, but its original design was changed: the new part is of low aesthetic value. When a new bridge was constructed nearby, the track of the main road was diverted and the old bridge was closed to cars and is now used only by pedestrians. The preserved original parts – the eastern section with a length of 78 metres and the western section as long as 64 metres – are severely damaged; the stone coating and the plastic decoration of the original parts of the bridge are severely eroded.

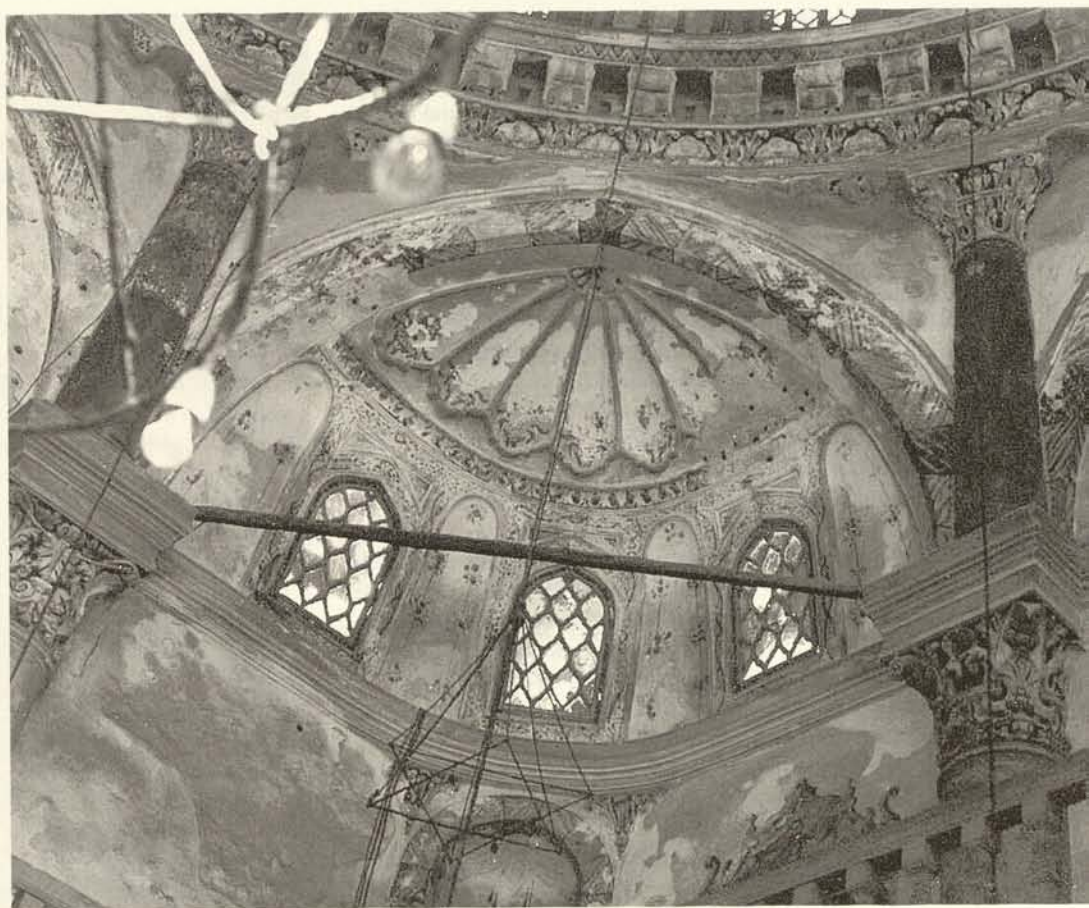
It requires urgent measures for consolidation of the construction. The project design includes constructional strengthening and hydro-insulation protection of the original parts. In addition, the part of the bridge that was reconstructed in 1922/23 (a length of around 130 metres) has to be dismantled and reconstructed following the original design of the monument. The following stage should incorporate complete restoration work on the frontage and the sculpture elements forming the stone plastic of the original parts.

The Ibrahim Pasha Mosque in Razgrad

The Ibrahim Pasha Mosque in the town of Razgrad, north-eastern Bulgaria, was built in 1614. It is one of the most remarkable examples of Islamic architecture in Bulgarian territory, exhibiting high historical, architectural and artistic merits, which contributed to its being proclaimed a monument of national importance. The total built-up area of the mosque is 514 square metres. The surviving mural decoration dates to the 19th century.

During the 1970s a series of research projects were carried out to explain the archaeological substance, the features of the architecture and construction and the decoration system of the mosque. Initial preservation works have been carried out, but were discontinued due to the lack of finance. As a result of a national contest

CAMEROON



The Ibrahim Pasha Mosque in Razgrad

for the socialisation of the mosque and for the design of its adjacent site, a concept was formulated for the future of the monument as a multifunctional building, including its original religious function, and an overall protection programme was included in proposals for use of the site.

As the first and most urgent steps, the following measures need to be carried out:

- reinforcement of the minaret;
- general consolidation of the structure and prevention of the destructive processes (fissures) in the façade, resulting from seismic activity;
- reconstruction of the portico (destroyed in 1970 due to its critical technical condition);
- reconstruction of the decorative grids in the interior.

This should be followed by a comprehensive programme for the restoration, exposure and socialisation of the monument.

The Fetih Mehmed Mosque

The Fetih Mehmed Mosque in Kyustendil, south-western Bulgaria, was built in 1531. It is still functioning and is the property of the General Mufti Office of the Republic of Bulgaria. In recognition of its exceptional historical, architectural and artistic merits, the mosque was proclaimed a cultural monument of national importance.

The monument is in an extremely poor condition: there are considerable fissures in the two lateral arches of the portico and in the dome above the prayer hall resulting from seismic activity, vibrations from passing vehicles, atmospheric influences and deterioration of the bearing structure; some elements of the outer con-

struction of the minaret (parapets, decking) are in a critical condition and present a risk to both pedestrian and motor traffic; the roof cover of the mosque is worn-out and considerable parts of it are missing.

Stabilising of the structural condition of the mosque is currently being undertaken using provisory means, and plans have been prepared for its overall preservation and restoration.

As a first step, the fulfilment of the following emergency measures is required:

- re-cover the building in an appropriate manner in order to stop the access of atmospheric waters to its structural elements;
- reinforce and safely secure the minaret, preserving as much as possible of its intact elements with a view to future restoration;
- update and amend the existing plans for the reinforcement, preservation and restoration of the mosque.

As a next step, it is necessary to implement multidisciplinary activities for the overall restoration and exposure of this remarkable monument, which will guarantee its sustainable protection and effective socialisation.

The Synagogue in Vidin

The Synagogue in Vidin was built in the 19th century (its construction was completed in 1894) and it is prominent for its rich architecture in the neo-Romanesque style.

The building is in an exceptionally deplorable condition: without roof or windows and with progressive erosion processes affecting the brickwork. The monument needs urgent measures to prevent the ongoing destructive processes: structural reinforcement, consolidation of the erected structure, roofing and window

replacement (pending the reconstruction of the missing leaded panels). Following this, it will be necessary to draw and implement plans for the overall preservation, restoration and socialisation of the building (possibly as a multifunctional cultural centre) in order for this remarkable monument to be actively integrated in the most prestigious part of the Danube city.

Klianti's House

Klianti's house is one of the oldest houses (1816) of the rich merchants in the 'Ancient Plovdiv' Reserve, and one of the most valuable from an architectural and artistic point of view. It has been declared a cultural monument of national importance. The house is a two-storey residential building with an entire built area of 584 square metres. In 1928, due to the regulation town-plan of Arch. Shnitter, part of the building was 'cut'. The interior is famous for its rich architectural work with geometrical motives on the ceilings and with multicoloured surfaces, unique landscapes on the walls dating back to 1817, and a richly painted niche 'French style'. The walls are decorated with monumental compositions with vegetation ornaments. Part of the original wall paintings and ceilings are preserved *in situ*, others are taken away and preserved.

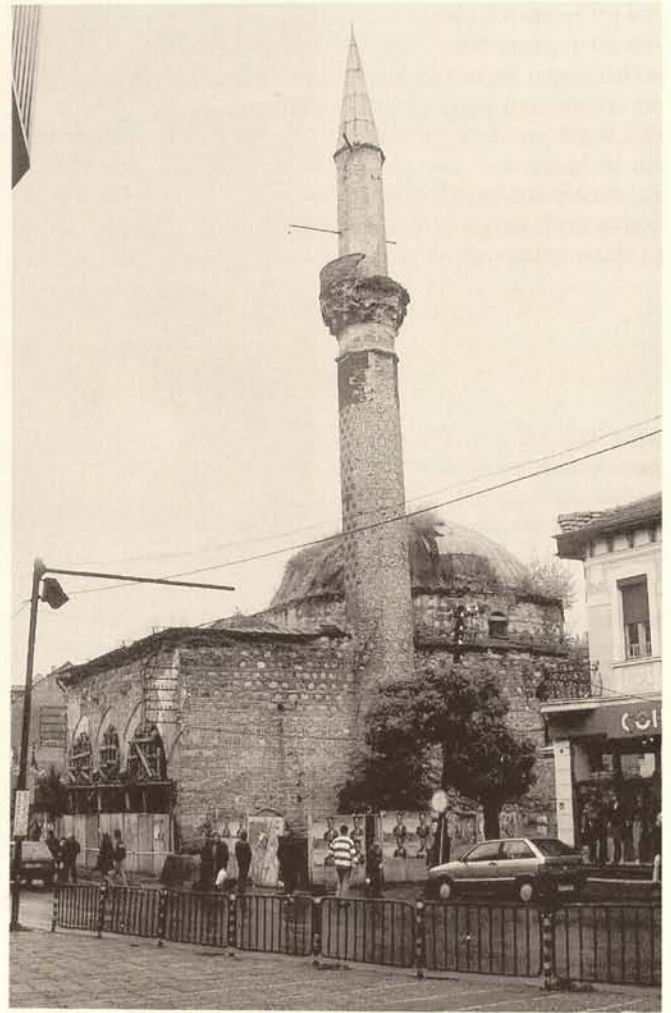
The lath-and-plaster constructions are in an extremely bad physical state – the whole lath-and-plaster skeleton is deteriorated, as are all floor trimmer joists, the roof construction, the woodwork and other features.

The House Of Alexandra Bayatova

The house of Alexandra Bayatova in the 'Ancient Plovdiv' Reserve, built in the 19th century, is a typical representative of one of the main typological groups in Bulgarian vernacular architecture – 'the House of Plovdiv'. It has been declared a cultural monument of national importance.

The house is a two-storey building with a stone basement under part of it. The supporting system consists of solid external stonewalls and wooden columns – in the basement and in the

The Synagogue in Vidin



The Fetih Mehmed Mosque

ground floor – and of supporting walls of a wooden skeleton with a brick filling in the upper floor.

At present the building is in an extremely bad condition. As a result of the sinking of the walls, especially those with a wooden skeleton, some vertical and slanting cracks in the walls and serious deformations and declinations of the floor and roof constructions are being observed. The timber associated with all construction elements, including the roof construction, is in bad condition – the wood is affected by erosion due to woodworms, and parts of the wooden skeleton of the external walls are damaged.

ICOMOS Bulgaria

CAMEROON

In Cameroon, heritage is threatened by neglect and ignorance of its value, by the unconscious destruction of vernacular heritage and by the lack of structure in research and protection. Heritage services are not yet operational (lacking both development and financial means).

With a surface area of 475,442 square kilometres and 12 million inhabitants, Cameroon is situated in Central Africa at the bottom of the Gulf of Guinea. It includes all of Africa in a single country, which is why one can traditionally call it Africa in miniature. As well, with respect to human institutions, it is this spring from which gushes all types of manifestations of African sensitivities, offering all the varieties of urban, artistic, architectural and heritage wealth.

The architecture of Cameroon is well known by experts, as the geographic position of this country – at the crossroads of important African civilisations – abuts the Southern Bantu, Sahelian and North Sudanese populations. These constructions testify to an

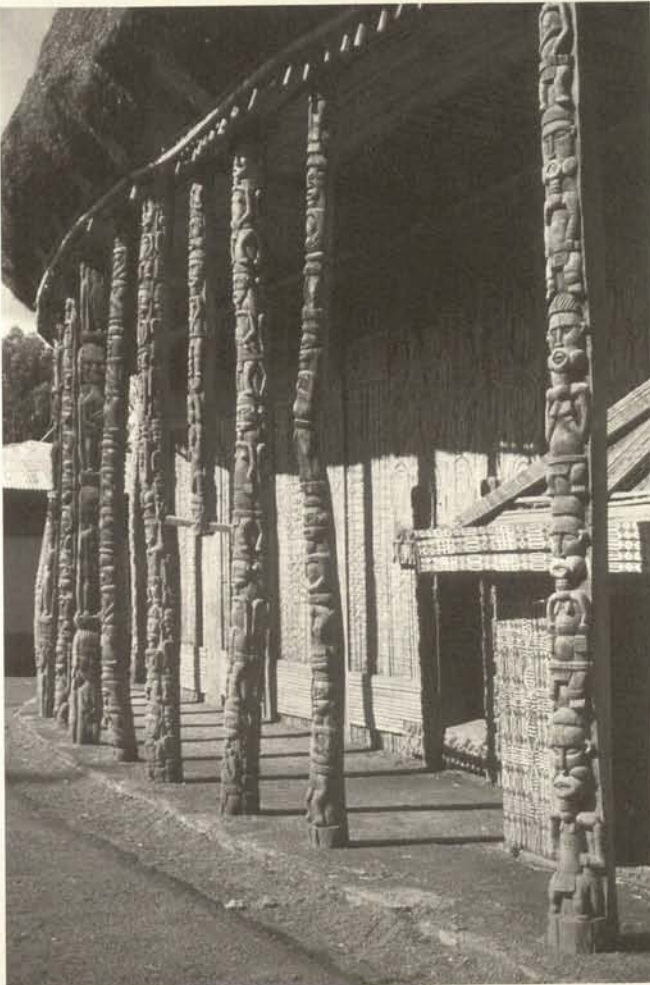
obvious artistic endeavor, both in the choice of their establishment in natural sites and in the mastery of form and attention to detail.

Cameroon, combining the cultures of Africa, possesses a vernacular architecture (of forest, of plain, or mountains) that is exceptionally rich. Royal or villager, it attests to the knowledge and skills of civilisations, having conserved the originality and the artistic genius of the artisan builders. Cameroon also offers one of the most varied ranges of colonial architecture in Africa.

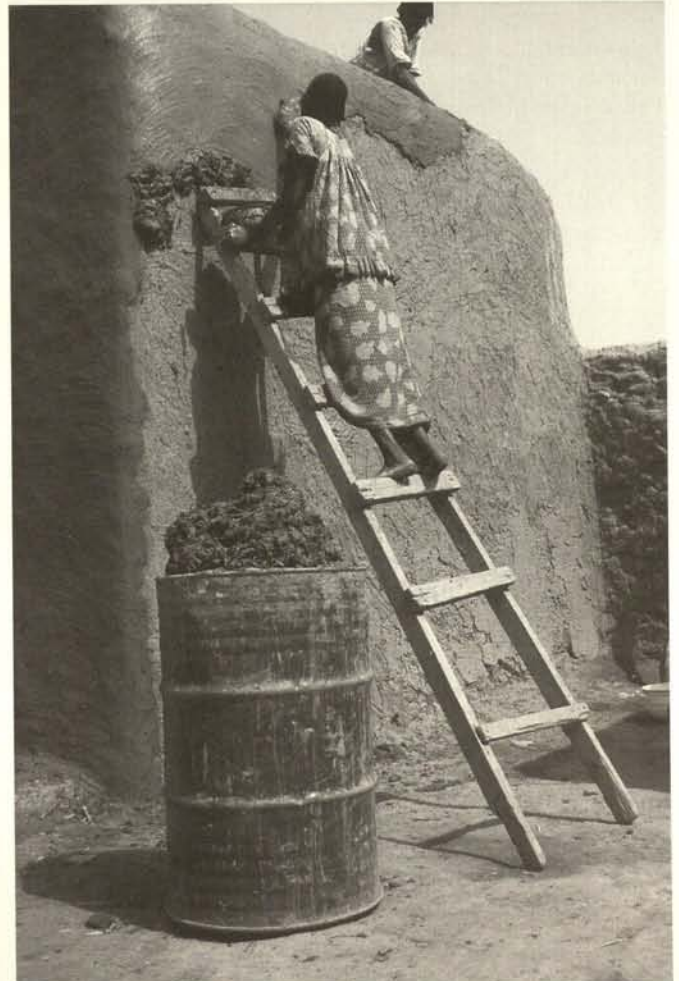
A Threatened Culture

In a country that is changing, both tradition and modernity co-exist. Residences are still constructed using techniques transferred from generation to generation. These so-called traditional techniques themselves appropriate elements of modernity and the reference to tradition takes more elusive forms.

Grande Case du Peuple, Chefferie de Bapoussan, détail des piliers supportant la toiture, Ouest-Cameroun



Village Kotoko (région de Goulfey), restauration de maison en terre



Vernacular Heritage in Decline

With the exception of a few structures, the buildings in towns and villages are dilapidated, often damaged. From rotten bamboo to corrugated iron, degraded under the action of time, the landscape we observe gives a poor image of the chieftainships, when in the past they used to be the richest and most beautiful districts of the towns and villages. Nowadays, we observe in Cameroon a real architectural uniformity, and this receives the benediction of Cameroonian public officials and also of certain building professionals.

The Desire for Modernity and the Decline of Traditional Values

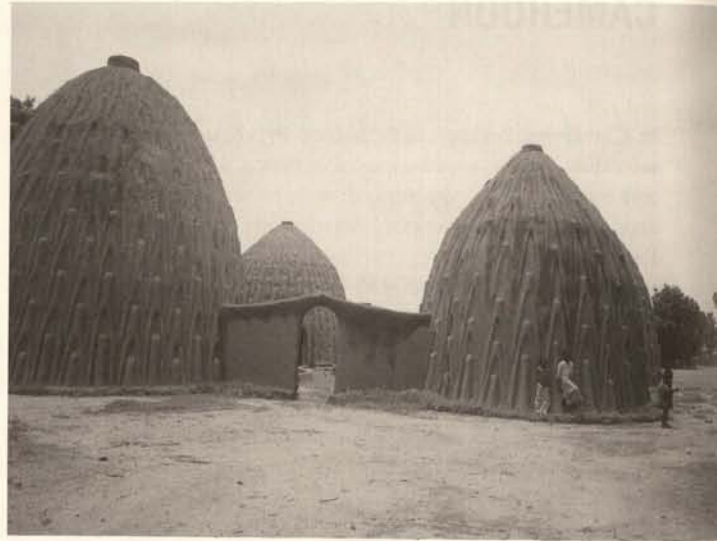
This is impacting the 'old' management of chieftainships and of colonial palaces, and is unhampered in the absence of a national policy aimed at highlighting vernacular and colonial heritage. The search for modernity has today resulted in an architecture that abandons local materials (straw, bamboo, wood), which are judged poorly in comparison with the performance of corrugated iron and walls of concrete.

It is reported that in Cameroon there is an absence of a policy of conservation and a value for vernacular architecture. One could say that we are in a society whose children assist, without any real reaction, in the disappearance of their culture's essence.

Appeal

It is urgent that ICOMOS and UNESCO invest resources and attention to promote on international solidarity with regard to inventory, conservation policy, heritage protection and promotion in Africa.

ICOMOS Cameroon



Case Obus de Mousgoum, Nord-Cameroun



Chefferie de Rey-Bouba, Nord-Cameroun

Grenier Amil, Nord-Cameroun



CAMEROUN

Au Cameroun, le patrimoine est menacé par abandon et ignorance de la valeur du patrimoine, par la destruction inconsciente du patrimoine vernaculaire et par le manque de structure de connaissance et de protection. Les services du patrimoine ne sont pas encore opérationnels (manque de formation et manque de moyens financiers).

Pour une superficie de 475.442 km² et une population de 12 millions d'habitants, le Cameroun est situé dans l'Afrique Centrale au fond du Golfe de Guinée. Il constitue tout l'Afrique en un seul pays, c'est pourquoi on l'appelle traditionnellement l'Afrique en miniature. Ainsi, s'agissant des établissements humains, il est cette source d'où jaillissent toutes les formes de manifestations des sensibilités africaines en offrant toutes les variétés des richesses urbanistiques, artistiques, architecturales et patrimoniales.

L'architecture au Cameroun est bien connue des spécialistes, car la position géographique de ce pays, au carrefour d'importantes civilisations de l'Afrique noire fait que s'y côtoient les populations Bantoues du Sud, Sahéliennes et Soudanaises au Nord. Ces constructions témoignent d'une recherche artistique évidente, tant par le choix de leur implantation dans le site naturel que dans la maîtrise de la forme et le souci du détail.

Le Cameroun, synthèse des cultures de l'Afrique, possède une architecture vernaculaire (de forêt, de savane, de montagne, etc...) d'une richesse exceptionnelle. Royale ou paysanne, elle atteste le savoir-faire de civilisations à l'originalité conservée et le génie artistique des artisans bâtisseurs. Le Cameroun offre aussi un des registres architecturaux coloniaux les plus variés de l'Afrique.

Une Culture Menacée

Pays en mutation, tradition et modernité coexistent. On continue à construire selon des techniques transmises de génération en génération. Ces techniques dites traditionnelles s'approprient elles-mêmes certains éléments de la modernité et la référence à la tradition prend des formes plus allusives.

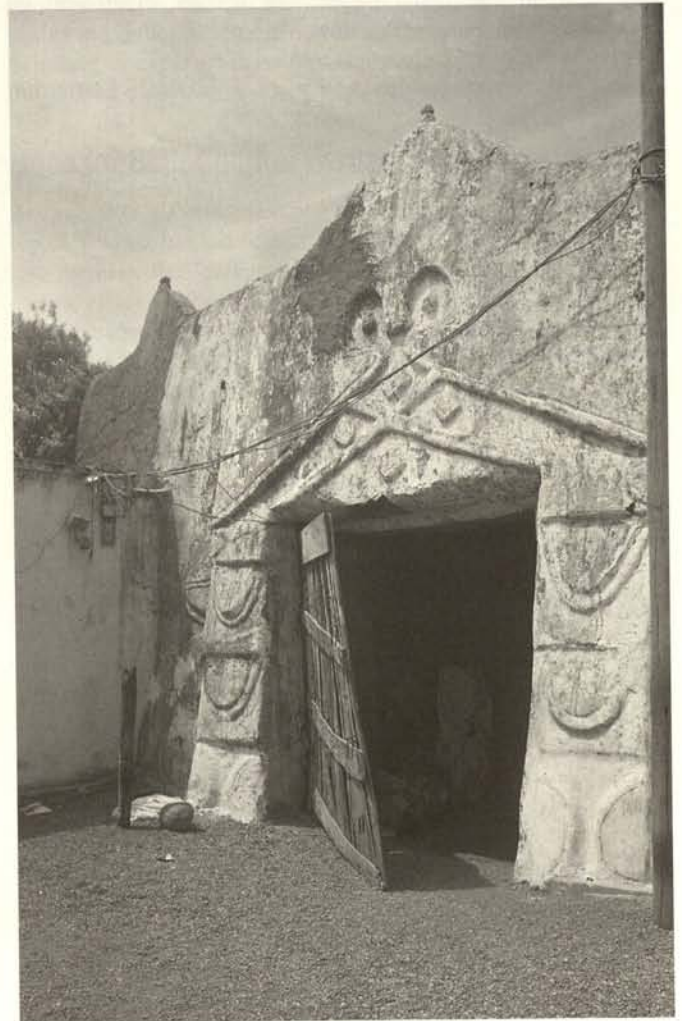
Patrimoine Vernaculaire en Décadence

A l'exception de quelques bâtiments, l'état du bâti dans les villes et villages est vétusté, souvent dégradé. Du bambou pourri à la tôle ondulée, dégradée sous l'action des intempéries, le paysage que nous observons donne une image pauvre aux chefferies alors que jadis, c'était le quartier le plus riche, le plus beau de la ville et du village. De nos jours on assiste au Cameroun à une véritable uniformisation architecturale, et ceci avec la bénédiction des responsables de la société camerounaise, ainsi que de certains professionnels de l'acte de bâtir.

Les Facteurs de Transformation

le désir de la modernité

- la gestion archaïque des chefferies, des palais coloniaux
- l'absence d'une politique nationale visant à valoriser le patrimoine vernaculaire et colonial
- La recherche de la modernité : aujourd'hui cette recherche se



Chefferie de Rey-Bouba, détail du mur

traduit en architecture par un abandon des matériaux locaux (paille, bambou, bois) jugés pauvres en comparaison avec les performances de la tôle ondulée, des murs en béton.

Le déclin des valeurs traditionnelles

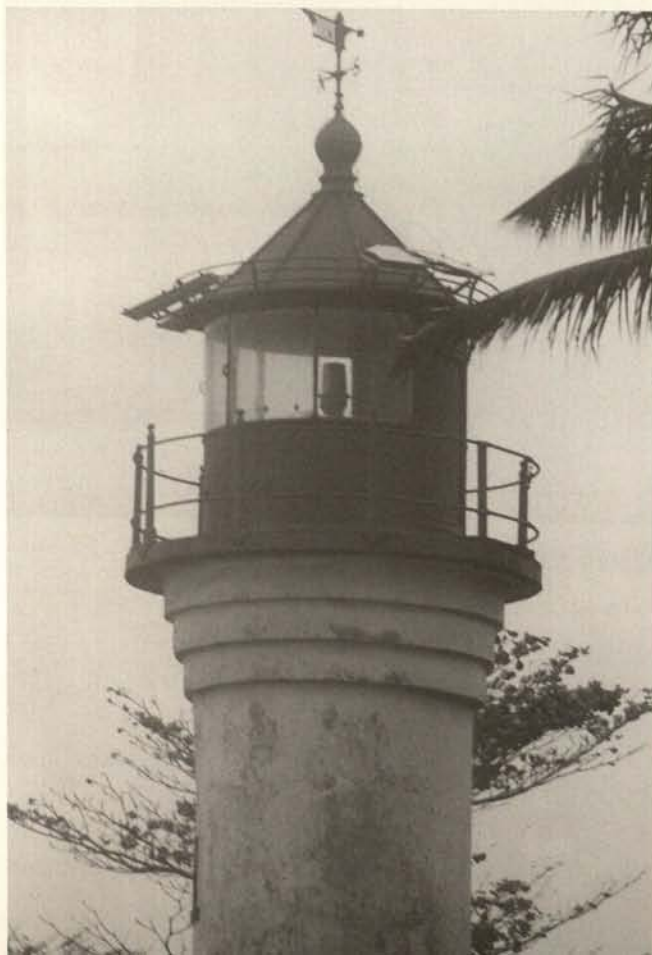
On constate qu'il y a au Cameroun une absence de politique de conservation et de valorisation de l'architecture vernaculaire. On dirait que l'on est dans une société où ses fils assistent, sans véritable réaction à la disparition de l'essence de leur culture.

Plaidoyer

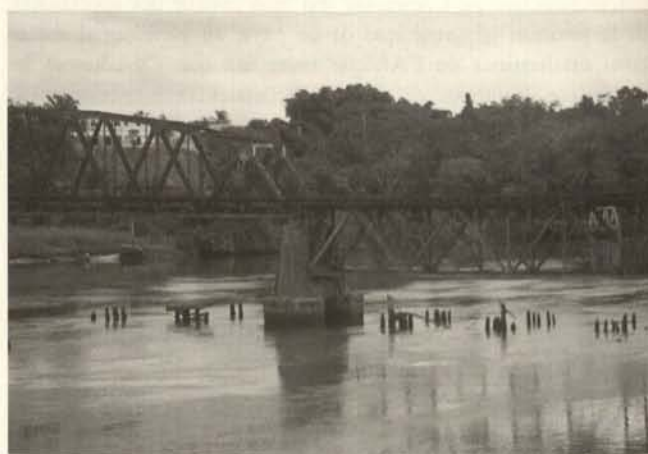
Il est extrêmement urgent que l'ICOMOS et l'UNESCO s'investissent pour qu'une solidarité internationale le concrète en matière d'inventaire et de politique de conservation, de protection et de promotion du patrimoine puisse voir le jour rapidement en Afrique.

ICOMOS Cameroun

Phare de Kribi



Église allemande à Kribi



Littoral pont d'Edea

CANADA

Follow up from the 2000 Report

The case of Mount Royal, Montréal

Founded in 1642, Montreal owes its name to Mont Royal, a hill called 'the mountain', around which the city has grown and which now constitutes an exceptional ensemble of historical, landscape, natural, architectural and archaeological significance. Mount Royal Park, created by Frederick Law Olmsted and celebrating its 125th birthday in 2001, is one of the main components, along with vast 19th-century cemeteries, university campuses, pilgrimages and monasteries, hospitals, waterworks and residential neighbourhoods. This ensemble's value rests on its multiple dimensions, its cultural and heritage diversity and, as such, it is at the same time rich and complex. Its protection is uneven and generally agreed to be insufficient, as the essential nature of such a site challenges the concept underlying current legislation. At the same time, it challenges public authorities to act in a consistent and committed manner to protect and enhance this unique emblem.

In 2000, the ICOMOS *First World Report on Heritage at Risk* published a notice on the current state of threat and inconsistent protection of this cultural landscape. This was highlighted by the careless sale to private developers by the Federal Government of a piece of land it owned that was part of the historic seigniorial estate of the Sulpician Fathers – without effective heritage impact assessments, thus contradicting some of its own well-renown policies. In addition, there have been a number of cases that illustrate provincial and municipal negligence in terms of the authorisation of insensitive projects.

The *Heritage at Risk* publication, and its presentation to Quebec and Municipal authorities, resulted in the Ministers of Culture and of Municipal and Metropolitan Affairs putting efforts into developing an appropriate status and protection regime for this unique urban landscape. In the Canadian Confederation, provinces like Quebec have the constitutional powers to protect cultural heritage. The government even made this a priority. Yet, the work is slow and could be hampered, or even shelved, by changes in ministers and high ranking officials, and foreseen elections. Nevertheless, the fact remains that there is now a work agenda that is well known and public scrutiny is actively seeing to it that it be achieved.

Religious Heritage in Québec

The 2000 Report on *Heritage at Risk* presented the case of the initiative developed in Quebec to set up a programme and a foundation to deal with the vast religious heritage of the province. The model was developed to ensure co-operation and a concerted effort between the Quebec Government and the various communities, working through a special Foundation with representatives of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish traditions and openness to other faiths. In 2001, the growing challenge of re-use of church buildings has become more and more apparent, especially in the case of Montreal where it concerns a great number of significant buildings, which also act as major landmarks in neighbourhoods and ethnic communities.

Cases like the closing down of St-Jean de la Croix and St. Augustine of Canterbury parishes in Montreal, and the sale of the buildings, stained-glass windows, bells and other objects raised a growing concern in the wider public. Although the Roman Catholic Diocese of Montreal had proven to be a national leader for decades in caring for heritage buildings, helping parishes to take better care of their churches, it appears the pressure is now

building for the merger of parishes and the sale of their properties as the number of practising Catholics decreases. This has called for a more preventive heritage approach, rather than the business-type approach that appears to be underlying many decisions.

This situation is not unique to Montreal or to Catholic heritage. In Quebec City, an agreement has been passed between the Diocese, the City and the Ministry of Culture to ensure some churches are kept, while a majority are sold or even demolished. The case of religious heritage is also amplified by the worrying situation of all religious congregations that have created a huge heritage of buildings, estates and archives, which is closely knit into the Quebec French-speaking society and culture, but now represents a burden on congregations with less and aging membership. These buildings and estates, such as the Villa Maria ensemble, are also often placed in privileged settings – with an important land value – participating in larger urban or rural landscapes.

Hope for Built Cultural Heritage

According to a Department of Canadian Heritage / Parks Canada report, Canada has lost or destroyed 21% of its built heritage in the last 30 years. Recognising this, and as part of the federal government's effort to foster Canadian culture, the Canadian Heritage Minister, the Honorable Sheila Copps, announced the '*Historic Places Initiative*' last May. This is a major investment by the Government of Canada, providing the means to protect built cultural heritage. It includes a proposal for financial tax incentives to assist owners of cultural heritage properties. The \$24 million initiative involves three parts:

1. *Creating a national registry for historic places.*
The national registry (which will be available on the internet) will be designed to maintain a database and to develop awareness of historically significant cultural heritage/structures in Canada.
2. *Establishing conservation standards and guidelines.*
To promote responsible conservation practices that help to protect Canada's irreplaceable cultural resources.
3. *Developing new legislation to protect Classified Federal Heritage Buildings and federally owned National Historic Sites of Canada.*

In addition, financial incentives are under consideration for owners of heritage buildings listed on the national register, providing they follow the Standards for Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

The Government changes involve a commitment to engage partners from other levels of government (provincial, territorial and municipal), non-governmental organisations such as ICOMOS Canada, and the private and voluntary sectors. This will create the tools to help Canadians play an active role in preserving historic places.

ICOMOS Canada was and still is involved with the development of conservation standards and guidelines. The following excerpt from the draft provides a contextual environment.

The 'Standards for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada' are intended to be applied to all historic/cultural resource types included in the Canadian Register of Historic Places. These places can range from battlefields to shipwrecks

and other archaeological sites; from urban parks to Aboriginal sacred sites and other cultural landscape; from individual houses and other buildings to entire urban districts; and from bridges to mining headframes and other engineering works. The Standards are neither technical nor case-specific, but rather intended to promote responsible conservation practices that help to protect Canada's irreplaceable cultural resources. The general standards will cover four aspects: 1) the character/historic place heritage value; 2) the use; 3) the interventions on built cultural heritage; 4) new addition relating to rehabilitation.

Conservation in the context of these Standards is based on safeguarding the character defining elements of a place. These include: spatial configurations, forms, materials, uses, and cultural association or meanings of a historic place, which together comprise the heritage value of a historic place. Conservation may, according to circumstance, include doing nothing to a historic place, maintaining it 'as-is'; preserving it by stabilising, protecting, maintaining, and/or retaining its character-defining elements; rehabilitating it for a continuing or compatible contemporary use; or restoring it to its state at a particular period in time. In any given project, conservation will frequently include a combination of these activities. The Standards will also include sections to meet ecological and accessibility objectives/requirements for challenged people.

The *Guidelines* for preserving, rehabilitating, and restoring archaeological sites, landscapes, buildings, and engineering works have been developed to provide direction on the interpretation and application of the Standards for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada. They are intended for owners, managers, and developers of historic places, conservation practitioners, and contractors. They are also intended for project reviewers prior to and after treatment, if compliance with the Standards and Guidelines has been mandated. The format is based on 'Recommended' and 'Not recommended' activities that are consistent with the Standards and presented in a sequence of lesser to greater intervention on character defining elements / heritage values of a cultural resource.

Heritage at Risk

The historic places initiative from the Government of Canada is a significant first step to create a climate of heritage conservation across Canada and to create mechanisms to reduce Canadian built heritage at risk.

The situation with the waterfront development pressure at Quebec City (World Heritage City), Quebec, is but one notable problem. The following examples of heritage at risk show that many Canadian sites, archaeological and cultural resources, or historic structures are still under imminent threat from environmental impacts, negligence, physical condition, financial support or political decisions.

Eaton's Store, Winnipeg, Manitoba

This early-1900 commercial building is currently threatened by a proposal for demolition, to make way for the construction of a new arena located in the middle of the downtown area. Should this go ahead, there will be the loss of a downtown landmark infused with civic memories. As of June 2001, the Government of the Province of Manitoba had not yet made a final determination on whether to grant a provincial heritage status to the Eaton's building, a decision that would have positive consequences by provid-

ing protection similar to a municipal designation under the Heritage Buildings Bylaw. In other words, the Eaton's building would be granted some measure of protection from demolition and be eligible for a wide range of heritage tax credits as well as federal/provincial infrastructure funding.

Effects of shoreline erosion on Archaeological Sites in Canada

Background

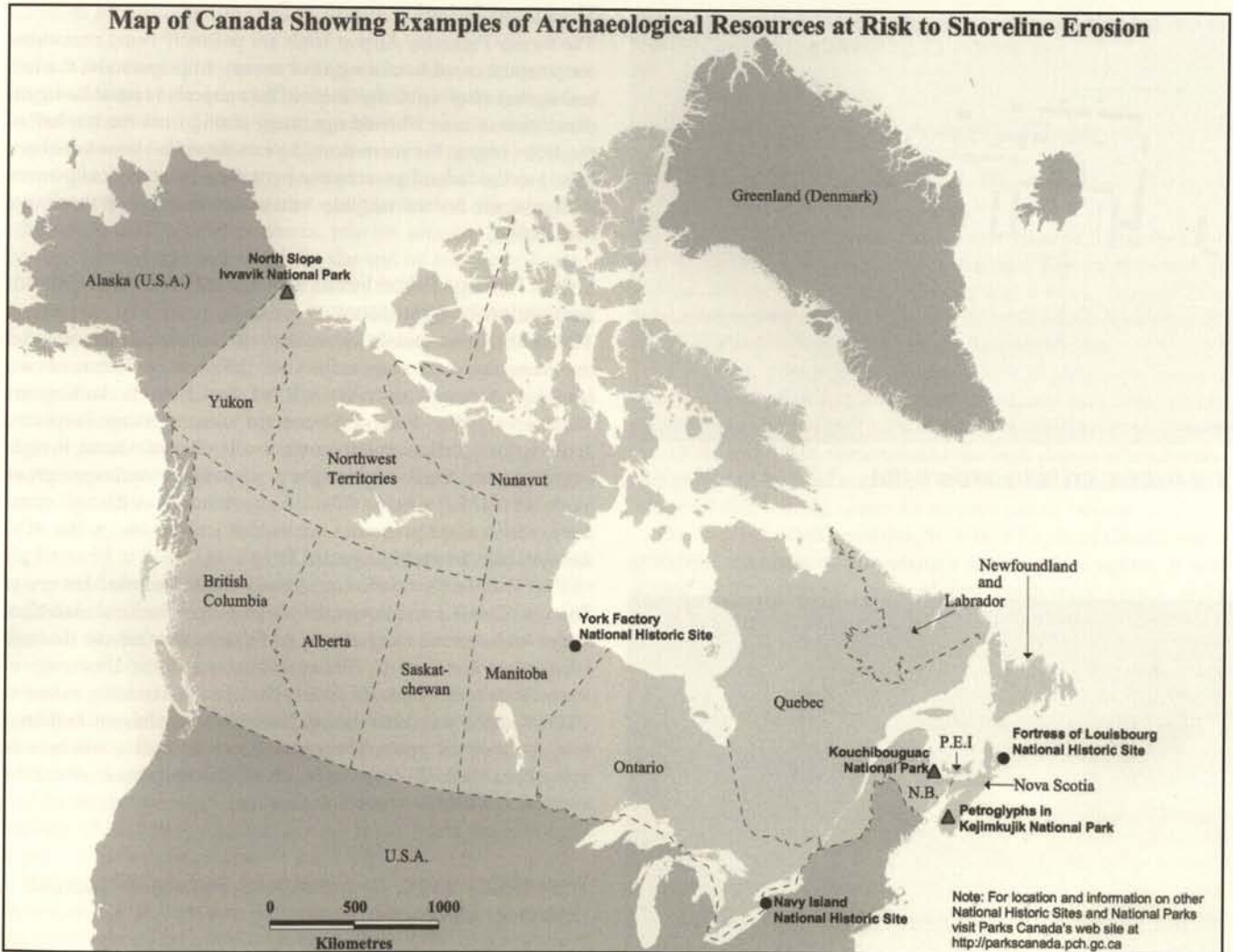
Canada is a large country with a very long marine coastline (Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic oceans) and a myriad of shorelines along the edges of lakes and rivers. For more than 10,000 years, people have traveled on Canada's waters, fished and gathered its marine resources for food, traded and lived beside it, drank it, washed in it, defended their territory and buried their dead near it. Canada's combined cultural and geological history and climate have resulted in many situations where archaeological resources are under intermittent or constant threat from the damaging effects of shoreline erosion. Any combination of the following forces may be at work: wave action and driftwood, storm surge, flooding, changing water levels due to both natural and human causes, ice damming, melting permafrost, and changing currents and watercourses. These effects can occur on the seacoast, in estuaries and deltas, along rivers and streams and lakeshores, as well as in previously unaffected areas when large areas are flooded to create hydro-electric projects. These effects can occur either suddenly or cumulatively over a long period of time. The result is a loss of the record of human history in these areas.

Issues/threats

Archaeological sites and features are often at risk from shoreline erosion, long before structures become threatened. Because they are often buried, or only subtly visible on the surface, their existence is not always documented or even noticed until they are partially destroyed. In fact many archaeological sites are discovered only when they begin to erode from a shoreline, coastline or riverbank. In theoretical terms, archaeological sites that have been inventoried or documented can be assessed for risks or threats and monitored and/or salvaged. However, the inventory of archaeological sites in Canada is not at an advanced stage. In Canada, archaeological sites found on provincial crown-land or private land are protected to varying degrees by provincial statutes. Archaeological sites found on federal land are protected by policy and are the responsibility of the particular federal government department on whose land they are found. All jurisdictions have inventories of one sort or another of known archaeological sites. However, given the size of Canada, the nature of its terrain and the nature of archaeological sites, it is not surprising that the proportion of known to unknown archaeological sites is very small and that large areas have not been surveyed. In fact most survey work is opportunistically generated by environmental assessment.

At both the federal and provincial levels, government departments responsible for heritage attempt to monitor identified sites known to be at risk, and where possible try to mitigate these risks as financial resources permit. The risks include those detailed in the *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*. This update focuses specifically on archaeological sites threatened by coastal or shoreline erosion.

Active monitoring of such situations is most likely to occur where government departments responsible for heritage are also land managers, as is the case for Parks Canada. The list below gives a few examples of sites in National Parks and National His-



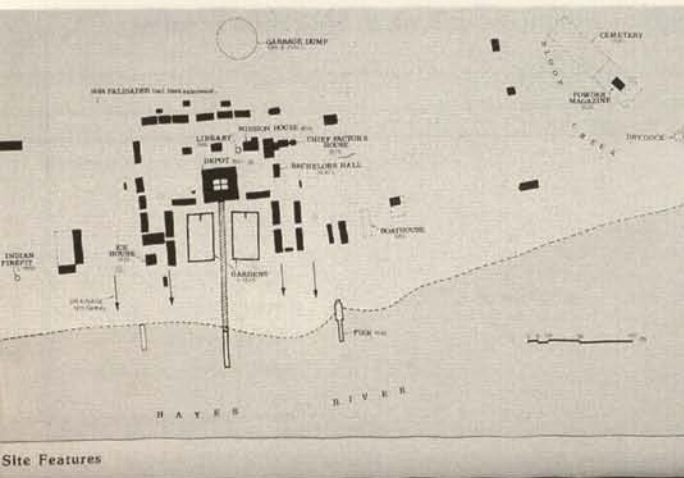
toric Sites of Canada that are at risk to coastal or shoreline erosion, and for which monitoring is being developed or implemented.

- **Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site**, Cape Breton Island, Province of Nova Scotia. *Features entirely or partially lost or at risk:* 18th-century fortifications related to the French occupation of Louisbourg.
- **Kouchibouguac National Park**, Province of New Brunswick. *Features entirely or partially lost or at risk:* archaeological resources associated with a pre-contact Aboriginal occupation of the area.
- **Navy Island National Historic Site**, Niagara River, Province of Ontario. *Features entirely or partially lost or at risk:* camp sites, lithic workshops and human burials related to a pre-contact Aboriginal occupation of the region, and a myriad of Euro-Canadian sites, including late-18th and early 19th-century Naval period sites and 1837 Rebel sites.
- **York Factory National Historic Site**, Hayes River mouth where it enters Hudson's Bay, Province of Manitoba. *Features entirely or partially lost or at risk:* remains of 18th and 19th-century entrepot and outbuildings of the Hudson's Bay Company.
- **North Slope, Ivvavik National Park**, Yukon Territory. *Features entirely or partially lost or at risk:* features associated with historic period Inuit occupation of the coast of the Beaufort Sea.

- **Petroglyphs in Kejimikujik National Park**, Province of Ontario. *Features entirely or partially lost or at risk:* 18th and 19th-century petroglyphs carved into soft rock that lies just above lake level.

Approaches / solutions

As with many threats to heritage resources, the first step to finding a solution is identifying the threat and the second is monitoring the resource to determine the source, rate and nature of the loss or damage. In the examples listed above, monitoring programmes have included the following steps. The state and condition of the archaeological resource at a particular point in time is recorded through mapping, measuring and photography. Benchmarks are established, by which any change can be measured. The resource is then monitored on a regular basis to try to determine trends and rates of loss. In several cases, engineering solutions have been examined or tried – such as sandbagging or shoring up the edges of the bank or shoreline, or creating breakwaters or log booms to reduce wave action. However, generally speaking, these are only short-term solutions. In many of the cases mentioned, because of the inexorable forces of nature, the effects of the erosion may be mitigated, but cannot be stopped. The last resort is often the recording and/or salvaging of archaeological features, stratigraphy and artefacts before they are washed away.



Plan illustrating York factory complex in 1854



Bird's eye view of York factory depot and shoreline erosion

Shoreline erosion (permafrost melting) threatening cultural resources



The former Pickering Airport in Toronto

The former Pickering Airport lands are presently being considered for potential creation of a regional airport. In preparation, the federal agency responsible for Toronto area airports is considering the demolition of over 30 buildings, many dating from the last half of the 19th century. For more than 25 years these buildings have been leased to the federal government by some of the original owners. A significant loss of tangible values would result if they were demolished.

Vacant Heritage Properties at Risk in the Province of Ontario: Two protection approaches

The ACO (Architectural Conservancy of Ontario), an advocate for the protection and conservation of Ontario's architectural and landscape heritage, has created H.A.L.P. – Historic Architecture Linking Program – Referral System for Vacant Heritage Properties at Risk. Designed to publicise the availability of vacant historic buildings threatened with neglect, demolition or inappropriate alteration, HALP aims to refer interested buyers in the real estate market to heritage properties at risk and is available on the ACO website, <http://www.hips.com/ACO/>

The Trillium Foundation, an Agency of the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Cultural and Recreation, is providing financial assistance to the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Community Heritage Ontario and the University of Waterloo who have joined in an effort to ascertain the extent to which Ontario has been losing historically significant buildings over the past 15 years. The research project will commence in September 2001. To learn more about the study, queries can be addressed by email to: aco@on.aibn.com

The military site of Île Ste-Hélène, Habitat 67 and Cité du Havre, Montreal

The City of Montreal owes its existence to the presence of the St. Lawrence River, a mighty waterway whose course was interrupted by a series of rapids that prevented navigation upstream. The first Rapid coming from the Atlantic is the Rapides de Lachine, formerly known as Sault St-Louis, the presence of which forced the establishment of what was to become Montreal. Due to major projects like the St. Lawrence Seaway inaugurated in 1959, most of these rapids were eliminated and the Rapides de Lachine are the last set remaining. The archipelago of Montreal or Hochelaga comprises some 325 islands, the largest one being Montreal's Island. Facing the older part of the city is Île Ste-Hélène (St. Helen's Island). St. Helen's Island has a diverse history that includes the presence of the Indigenous people, agriculture under the French Regime, a military base under British rule, the city's first major public park (inaugurated in 1874) and a major component of Expo 67, the World Fair that coincided with the Centennial of the Canadian Confederation in 1967. It is also the place where the French burnt their flags in 1760, rather than surrender them to the British.

For most people, the history of St. Helen's Island is recent, being mostly associated with Expo 67 which transformed the island and its setting by expanding it and creating next to it the Île Notre-Dame. But, from 1818 to 1870, the island was a centre point of the military defence system for Canada, developed after 1812. The system aimed at protecting the vast territory of British North America from an American invasion. The island was an integral part of a well thought-out network of fortified places, including the Citadel in Quebec City, Fort Lennox in the middle of the Richelieu River, Fort Henry in Kingston as well as the Lachine

Canal in Montreal and the Rideau Canal in what was to become Ottawa.

In 2001, this military history is represented by a group of heritage buildings on the island. The military site of St. Helen's Island includes a number of buildings that were strategically placed, taking into account the qualities of the site and its natural setting in terms of topography, geology, vegetation and natural setting. The buildings were created using the special stone of this island. In addition, archaeological resources provide precious information on the different occupations of the site and on landscape features that help understand and trace the history of the place.

Despite this comprehensive cultural heritage, the evolving functions of the site – from military base and arsenal to a recreational park to a world fair site – have reduced the presence and recognition of the military heritage, which is slowly being forgotten. This lack of attention has translated into neglect of the buildings, some of which enjoy a museum function while others – such as the wooden blockhaus – have suffered from vandalism and arson. In addition, St. Helen's Island is about to live a new phase of its history as the City of Montreal recently sold the fun fair built for Expo 67 to Six Flags, a giant corporation specialising in developing fun fairs and theme parks across North America. This sale included very few clauses to ensure protection of the cultural heritage on the site, including an ancient Belgian Carrousel and modern artwork commissioned for Expo 67. Another risk factor is the selection of Montreal to host the 2005 World Swimming Championship on the island, which will involve alteration and/or demolition of the current basins, pools and bathers pavilion, built in 1930–50s. In the context of such pressures, particular attention will be needed to ensure the preservation of the military and civic heritage of St. Helen's Island, as well as the more recent components – such as those created for Expo 67.

Located between Old Montreal and St. Helen's Island is the Pointe de la Cité du Havre. This narrow strip of land extending in the river was created gradually from the end of the 19th century, to prevent the ice pack from impacting the harbour, piers and buildings of the city and to control flooding. Originally called the Mackay Jetty, it was renamed at the time of Expo 67 when it was expanded to host a number of pavilions, many of which still exist although they have found different uses over the years.

Habitat 67, designed by architect Moshe Safdie, is a residential ensemble and one of the most renowned landmarks of Expo 67; it has been acclaimed as a masterpiece of modern architecture. Docomomo recognised it and included it in its World Register. The buildings, with their pure setting and relation to the river and the city, are an emblem of the visionary feast of architecture and planning of the 1967 World Fair, under the theme of 'Man and his World / Terre des Hommes'.

Although the building is carefully managed by the owners' association that is now in charge, Habitat 67 – as well as the greater landscape it fits in – is currently at threat in its setting and relationship to the surrounding green spaces, cityscape and water basins. Indeed, the Federal Government, in an action not dissimilar to the one it took when it sold part of the mountain to private developers, has transferred the park land of the Pointe de la Cité du Havre next to Habitat 67 to a governmental corporation mandated to sell it to generate benefits. Newspapers have released the information confirming the interest of the Quebec Pension Funds and some British Developers to build a residential tower on that site and waved the name of international design star Philippe Starck in relation to the project. Because it is not built, this green space, partly landscaped, is essential to the definition of the views linking the old city, St. Helen's Island and the River. Habitat 67 is an integral part of that landscape and its presence as a landmark

would be greatly reduced if the project of a tower is realised on that site, instead of maintaining the existing park.

Fire Destroys 247 Year Old Church in World Heritage Town of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

St. John's Anglican Church, built under Royal Charter in 1754, was a Provincial Heritage Site, a National Historic Site and an integral feature of the Town of Lunenburg, a World Heritage Site. It was the second oldest Anglican church in North America – St. Paul's in Halifax, Nova Scotia, being four years older.

Originally constructed as a modest New England style meeting house, St. John's was transformed during the late-19th century into a more flamboyant Gothic Revival landmark. Alterations in the 1870s and 1890s demonstrated the high degree of craftsmanship exhibited by local carpenters at a time when Lunenburg was a respected shipbuilding centre for wooden sailing vessels.

For two and a half centuries, St. John's Anglican Church was a prominent occupant of Lunenburg's central public square. It witnessed many important personal and community events, daily punctuating life on the Lunenburg townscape with the ringing of its bells.

The disastrous fire was set around midnight on 31 October 2001, one of many prank fires set on this Halloween night. Although the church was fitted with sprinklers and fire alarms – and the response from firefighters was prompt – the blaze proved impossible to check. An investigation now underway suggests that a copper roof, not an original design feature, added considerably to the difficulty of firefighting. The fire travelled under the metal roof, beyond the reach of the sprinklers, where the firefighters were not able to access it. St. John's burned well into the following day, and left only parts of exterior walls standing. Fortunately, many interior and exterior building details, as well as church artefacts, have been found in the debris.

Church officials are considering rebuilding St. John's, and are looking at the nearby example of St. George's Church, Halifax. A round, wooden church, built in 1800, St. George's was the target of arson in 1994. Although over 30% of the building fabric was destroyed, St. George's has now been rebuilt to its original design in a \$4.6 million restoration project.

Lunenburg At Risk

The Town of Lunenburg was formally recognised as a World Heritage Site in 1994. The designation cited the continuity of the fishing industry over 225 years, and the existence of some 400 early wooden buildings – residential, public, commercial and industrial – all largely intact, as important defining aspects of the site. Also noted was the formal town plan, expressed by a particular pattern and scale of architecture. The traditional and continuing use of wood as a primary building material is also an important aspect of Lunenburg's heritage value.

To conserve this World Heritage Site, specific fire fighting plans should be developed for all buildings, most of which are in private ownership. An ongoing program of public awareness would contribute to the larger conservation approach, serving as a positive first step to engage building owners in working with civic officials and the fire department, in the process of developing more specific plans. As the St. John's fire indicates, specific fire fighting plans should exist for all buildings within this site.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

The architectural heritage of Côte d'Ivoire is extremely diverse. Among its many examples are those that provide proof or bear testimony to the interaction of the pre-colonial history and the complete colonisation of the country by France during the second half of the 19th century.

Traces of European influence are most prevalent in the Southern region, and along the coast. This influence is most visible in the form of buildings that are now more or less dilapidated – but reflect the synthesis of prefabricated metal from overseas, small brick walls, thick wooden shutters, window frames built in cement, curved picture-windows and concrete lintels. Zinc sheets and tiled roofs continue to signify the genius, the pride and the willing persistence of Europeans to conquer and to subjugate a land that they knew was nevertheless hopelessly rebellious.

Grand-Bassam (first Capital of Côte d'Ivoire)

Although the first contact between Ivorians and Europe goes as far back as the 19th century (since the arrival of the Portuguese in Santa Andrea or Sassandra, which at that time was called 'Male Coast'), French colonial architecture remains the most pronounced and significant foreign building-type in the Ivorian architectural heritage. Some examples include:

The Governor's Palace

This building is of a particular interest because it was the headquarters of the first Government of the new colony. Totally prefabricated in France, the building was completed in 1893.

The High Court

Since the transfer of judiciary services to Abidjan (which became the capital in 1934) this building was evacuated and left in ruins. It was built in 1911, and from that time was the main administration centre for judicial matters of the colony. It was originally the largest building in Grand-Bassam.

The Varlet House

Representative of commercial architecture in the colonies, the Varlet House is associated with other buildings in the suburb to make up the former Bata and other vending shops, which were built one on top of the other to create a 'shopping-centre' type of structure.

The Ganamet House

This building is classified as civil architecture (cf. Bernard Colette, UNESCO, 1978). The Ganamet House was ranked among the group of picturesque structures belonging to rich merchants whose

architectural inspiration was drawn from local techniques of construction.

Old Northern Mosques

In contrast, in the north, bordering countries such as Guinea, Mali and Burkina Faso, a different scenario is visible: the relics of the Arabian Berbers are mostly manifested in examples of Islamic culture, particularly the old mosques of Sudanese or Sudano-Saharan type. These religious buildings are characterised by mud walls mixed with straw, cow dung and plant extracts, by terrace roofs supported from the inside by many forked wooden-columns and by mud walls fortified by wood and surmounted by minarets.

The Nambira Mosque

This Sudano-Saharan type mosque was built in the 18th century and lies on the outskirts of the village of Nambira. The mosque was created by Sekou Traore, who was the first Imam, and is well taken care of and restored by the faithful in the community. It covers a surface area 9 x 9 metres.

The Tengrela Mosque

In the same style of construction as the Nambira Mosque, the Tengrela Mosque dates back to the 15th century. Built by Famissa Cisse, also the first Imam, the structure covers a surface area of 8 x 8 metres, with very little support.

Conclusion

The census, conservation, restoration and development of these types of old monuments – should the case arise – make up one of the major political factors in decisions relating to the conservation of the architecture of Côte d'Ivoire.

By their very topography the echoes of these long past civilisations fit into a nostalgic past that is little altered. This landscape is strewn with buildings of variable geometry (rounded, rectangular and conical in shape), and with walls of concrete or mud. Among other tasks, the Minister of Culture has the duty of studying these various structures and their architectural techniques before finally restoring them.

In this context, the Ministers of Culture and Tourism also seek to promote architecture, in a mixture of both the old and the new. There is support from some developers who uphold sympathetic ideals in the construction of public works. In combination, it is hoped that traditional buildings and architectural techniques will lend to today's architecture.

Phillippe Yavo

CROATIA

War Damage to Cultural Monuments in Croatia

Between 1991 and 1995, paramilitary Chetnik units and the Yugoslav Army destroyed Croatian historical buildings of all types – not even graveyards were spared. This destruction was undertaken without military necessity, but rather with the aim of destroying a culture, a people and their continuity in a large segment of the territory of the Republic of Croatia. During 1991 and 1992 the historical centres of towns and villages, which had no military units or strategic assets or targets, were shelled or mined over many months.

From the beginning of aggression, the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of the Ministry of Education and Culture undertook measures laid-out in the *Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Assets in the Event of Armed Conflict*. In line with the Convention and the directives of the Minister of Education and Culture, the technical protection of the most valuable monuments in threatened areas was carried out. Protective scaffolding, boards and sandbags were successfully used in many cases to protect richly decorated façades of historical buildings. A large part of the moveable historical and cultural heritage from churches, monasteries, museums, galleries and private collections was evacuated and stored in safe locations.

Appeals to commanders of the Yugoslav Army, to treat cultural monuments in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Convention of 1954, fell on deaf ears. What is more, the actions of Serb paramilitary forces and the Yugoslav Army intensified towards the end of 1991 and resulted in the siege of Dubrovnik and the tragedy of Vukovar.

Monument Registration & the Determination of War Damage

Due to the increasing scope of damage, the Service for the Protection of Cultural Monuments began to systematically register monuments in the summer of 1991. Reports of damage were sent to respective ministries, information services and daily papers. Translated into English, they were forwarded to numerous bodies, including UNESCO, the Council of Europe and other international institutions and organisations. The Minister of Education and Culture and a number of cultural and public figures sent appeals to Federic Mayor, the UNESCO Director-General.

In autumn 1991 the Ministry of Finance had already begun to prepare the legal and professional foundations for the determination of war damage. As a result of timely co-operation with those concerned with the protection of cultural monuments, regulations for the methods and procedures to determine war damage included a number of provisions important for future work on registering and estimating war damage to cultural monuments. These included the formation of the Special Central Commission for Registering and Estimating War Damage to Cultural Monuments; the possibility to elaborate the specific typology of architectural elements and complexes; and provisions that excluded depreciation from the calculation of war damage to cultural monuments.

A Group of Experts was formed in January 1992 at the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments. In line with the new regulations concerning the determination of war damage, the Group was charged with elaborating a method to register and estimate war damage to cultural monuments. The starting point was an already established process, developed and used in the registra-



Čilipi, damaged sculpture of the Mother of God

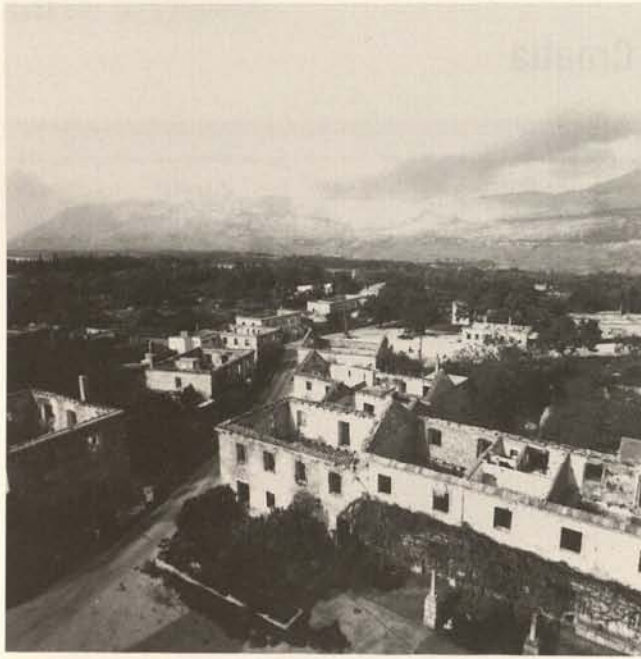
tion and estimation of earthquake damage to cultural monuments between 1979 and 1986. Guided by the Directions for the Implementation of the Act Concerning the Determination of War Damage, certain terms were defined and a determination was made to implement documents mandated in the Directions. In addition, objective parameters for determining the actual amount of war damage were identified, relating to the cost of repair or reconstruction of individual damaged parts of cultural monuments or whole monuments. Special consideration was given to the definition of the amount of war damage as the cost required to return a cultural monument to the condition it was in prior to damage.

It was also necessary to determine the way in which the register and estimate of war damage to cultural monuments differed from the estimate of war damage to other structures, and to precisely define these differences. This was achieved by:

- adapting existing nomenclature of assets and goods to the demands of the *classification of cultural monuments*;
- defining the *categories of cultural monuments*;
- adapting the *categorisation (degree) of damage*;
- adapting the implementation of the '*Standard calculations in construction work*';
- determining the parameters for the *estimate of damage of architectural decorative elements*;
- adapting the *methods of estimates* set out in the Directions.

Process & Organisation

During the registration and estimation of war damage to cultural monuments, the expert commissions applied all three methods set-out in the Directions decreed by the Minister of Finance: the *cost estimate* (elaborating the cost estimate description of the required



Čilipi, burned-out houses

work with amount and prices); *the calculation of complex elements* (using a specially developed modelling of basic construction elements of historical buildings that had, with the approval of the State Commission for Determining War Damage, replaced the 'Standard calculations in construction work'); and *global calculation*, which was used in calculating damage to totally destroyed cultural monuments. However, the listing and estimate of war damage to immovable cultural monuments were mainly carried out using the calculation of complex elements. This was because the cost estimate, which would have been more precise, could not be used due to the multitude of damaged buildings and the large territory that had to be covered.

The listing and the estimates of war damage to cultural monuments were recorded on forms authorised under the Directions for the Implementation of the Act Concerning the Determination of War Damage: forms Š-05 and Š-06 for immovable cultural monuments and movable monuments respectively. Form Š-05 was also used for archaeological sites. The documentation consisted of the basic form (an adapted form Š-01, obligatory for the registering and estimate of war damage on all buildings) and an additional set of forms for a more detailed recording of a historical building or a moveable cultural monument. The more extensive documentation included a scale drawing, photographs, a list of identifying data, a description of the damage and a proposed programme or methods and procedures for restoration.

In order to organise the work to register and estimate war damage, the territory of the Republic of Croatia was divided into seven historical regions with centres in Osijek, Daruvar, Zagreb, Senj, Zadar, Split and Dubrovnik. This was done so as to equally distribute the work by commissions and to ensure the best possible seats for registration areas with respect to institutions responsible for the protection of cultural monuments. These institutions were obliged to ensure the necessary organisational and professional conditions for the task.

The registration and estimation of war damage was undertaken by professional commissions consisting of three members, mainly conservation professionals – employees of institutes for the protection of cultural monuments. As a rule the team included an architect, a construction engineer and an art historian. These com-

missions brought together 120 professionals who, along with their regular work in their home institutions, carried out an exceptionally hard and frequently dangerous task of surveying damaged and destroyed remains. All the professional and organisational preparations for registering and estimating war damage to cultural monuments, including the control of the methods used, were completed during spring 1993. However, the systematic and continued work to achieve the task began in late 1993 or early 1994, after all the material and organisational conditions for the expert commissions were put in place.

Those parts of the Republic of Croatia that were accessible before June or August 1995 were covered by 30 June 1994, and the final treatment and verification were completed by December 1995. The areas involved were the Zagreb, Bjelovar-Bilogora, Lika-Senj, Virovitica-Podravina, Požega-Slavonia and the Dubrovnik-Neretva counties, as well as the accessible parts of the Sisak-Moslavina, Karlovac, Brod-Posavina, Zadar-Knin, Osijek-Baranja, Šibenik, Vukovar-Srijem and the Split-Dalmatian counties. More than 2000 historical buildings were surveyed, and war damage was assessed on 1862 immovable cultural monuments. War damage totalling 935,316,000 kunas (259,810,000 DEM) was determined across a total area of 1,535,173 square metres of cultural monuments that had been either damaged or destroyed.

The areas liberated in the police and military operations 'Lightning' and 'Storm' (the temporarily occupied areas of the Republic of Croatia – parts of the Sisak-Moslavina, Karlovac, Brod-Posavina, Zadar-Knin and Šibenik counties) were surveyed in autumn 1995 and during 1996, while the final treatment and verification of data was completed at the end of May 1997. More than 500 historical buildings were surveyed in these areas and war damage was determined on 398 immovable cultural monuments. The total area of cultural monuments that were either damaged or destroyed was found to be 181,485 square metres, and the damage amounted to 445,812,686 kunas (123,836,857.14 DEM).

A preliminary survey of the Podunavlje region was undertaken by conservation experts in July 1997, after many months of negotiations with the UNTAES authorities. However, because of difficulties in obtaining permits for the movement of expert commissions, the registration and estimation of war damage to cultural monuments in this region were carried out as late as October and November the same year. The processing of the data was finalised during December 1997 and early 1998. More than 300 historical buildings were surveyed in this region and war damage was determined on 201 immovable cultural monuments. The effects of devastation during war operations were determined on a total area of 142,511 square metres of cultural monuments that were either damaged or destroyed. The war damage was estimated to amount to 523,271,829 kunas (145,353,285.71 DEM).

Damage Categories

As part of the estimation process, buildings were identified and classified in terms of damage categories.

Category 1

The building was not directly hit by an explosive missile. The fronts have been damaged superficially by shrapnel or light weapons bullets. Window-panes have been broken up to 50% of the total surface. The coverings have been partially damaged and scattered. The primary elements' joinery has sustained some minor damage. The building equipment has been only slightly damaged.

Both the building and its equipment may continue to be used with some minor essential repairs.

Category 2

The building roof or wall was hit by a small calibre explosive missile, whereas several explosive devices exploded in the surroundings. There is considerable damage of the fronts, all the window-panes were broken and the primary elements' joinery is partially damaged. There is light damage of the roof structure, the covering is considerably damaged, as well as the chimneys. There is local damage of the ceiling structure (penetration) or of the front (hole) that may easily be repaired. Interior ceiling and wall plaster has been damaged to a smaller extent or has fallen off. Partitions have been more severely damaged in some places. There has been more considerable damage of the building's ornamental elements, as well as of its equipment. The building's load-bearing structure system has not been damaged i.e. has been damaged only slightly and superficially. The building may be used after primary and secondary elements' repairs. Restoration works may be performed based on the works' description.

Category 3

The building was hit by a larger calibre missile or by several hits, or has been partially put out of use by mining. The roof structure has been partially caved in, whereas the covering has been destroyed almost completely. Fronts, ceilings and vaults have been penetrated in several places, but there are no major permanent deformations of the load-bearing structure. Partitions have been partially demolished or heavily damaged. The building's equipment has been partially destroyed. The building's load-bearing structure has sustained some lighter damage; there are small crevices in the monolithic ceilings, vaults, arches and walls in the vicinity of the penetration spot. Approximately 70% of primary elements have been preserved. The primary elements' joinery has been severely damaged, with door-posts and window frames partially knocked out. Both interior and exterior architectural features have been severely damaged. There was no fire. Before starting the remedial works, structural remedial designs and restoration work designs must be elaborated.

Category 4

The building was hit by a larger calibre missile or by several hits, or has been put out of use by mining. The fire was brought under control and put out on time. The roof has been demolished and the covering destroyed. Fronts and ceilings are severely damaged in several places, with the appearance of deformations that do not

threaten the stability of the whole yet. A part of the wooden ceilings has caved in. Partitions have been demolished. The building's equipment has been destroyed almost entirely. The primary elements' joinery has been destroyed. Parts of architectural features on the fronts have been severely damaged, whereas, inside, all kinds of wall finishes and ornaments have been destroyed. The building's structural system has sustained severe damage that may still be repaired. About 50% of the building's primary elements have been preserved. In order to perform the remedial works, it is necessary to elaborate the entire design documentation, including the restoration works' design, based on the existing state assessment.

Category 5

The building was hit by one or more large calibre missiles or was mined. The load-bearing structure has sustained severe damage that may still be repaired, but parts of demolished structure need to be replaced or rebuilt. The fire was not put under control on time and the roof covering burnt down, whereas a part of the ceiling has sustained severe damage. The fire has not severely damaged the load-bearing walls, however. Fronts, load-bearing walls, ceilings, vaults and arches have been damaged in several spots, with deformations occurring that do not threaten the stability of the whole. Partitions have been demolished. The building's equipment has been destroyed. About 30% of the primary elements have been preserved. The building may be reconstructed according to the project documentation to be elaborated on the basis of the existing state assessment or according to the reconstruction designs to be elaborated based on investigative work.

Category 6

The building was hit by a large calibre missile, demolished by several hits or destroyed by mining. The fire was not put under control on time and the wooden structures burnt down. The entire equipment was destroyed. Less than 10% of the primary elements have been preserved. The building facsimile may either be reconstructed on the substructure, according to designs to be elaborated based on documentation preserved, or there is no possibility for the building to be reconstructed.

Results

An estimate of war damage to cultural monuments across the Republic of Croatia (listed by type of monument and category of damage) is summarised in the table below.

Type of monument	Number of damaged monuments/category of damage						Σ	Area sq. m	War damage in kunas
	1	2	3	4	5	6			
Historical-memorial	4	4	3	0	1	3	15	32,501	12,888,514.28
Civilian	405	564	458	117	176	39	1759	1,342,325	1,099,481,142.85
Military/defensive	12	23	20	4	1	0	60	161,120	69,453,771.44
Economic	6	14	11	13	8	9	61	42,701	35,980,457.14
Religious	88	78	101	64	83	81	495	259,060	680,666,914.28
Graveyards, graves	3	3	2	3	2	2	15	1,376	4,377,085.72
Urban elements	6	4	5	0	1	2	18	20,086	1,552,628.57
TOTAL	524	690	600	201	272	136	2423	1,859,169	1,904,400,514.28



Karlovac-Kamensko, sanctuary of the church of St Mary of the Snow

Most of the damaged cultural monuments are located in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County (683 cultural monuments, most of them in the area of the historical urban site of the City of Dubrovnik, which is inscribed on the World Heritage List) and in the region of the Osijek-Baranja County (356 cultural monuments, most of them in the historical urban sites in Osijek: Tvrdá, The Lower and Upper Town). However, with respect to the severity of the damage (most category 4 and category 5 damage), the number of destroyed historical buildings (21 completely destroyed and 50 partly demolished) and the amount of war damage, the historical centre of Vukovar (see also *H@R Report 2000*) tragically appears at the top of the list.

Civilian buildings that are cultural monuments suffered the greatest amount of damage in this war: of the total number of damaged buildings (1759), most are located in historical urban centres, and war damage on cultural monuments in these centres amounts to almost three-quarters of the total war damage on immovable cultural monuments (72.59%).

Religious cultural monuments (churches and monasteries) are second on the list of damaged cultural monuments (one-fifth of the total number of damaged/destroyed cultural monuments), and those most frequently targeted by mining and arson were buildings associated with the Roman Catholic community. Greatest damage was done to those on occupied territories, where almost all religious buildings of the Roman Catholic community suffered heavy damage or were completely destroyed. In most cases damage was caused by explosives or fire. We should note that these areas (primarily parts of the Zadar-Knin and the Šibenik counties) hold the greatest number of mediaeval early Romanesque and Romanesque buildings characteristic of the earliest period of Croatian history.

Since the total number of registered and protected immovable cultural monuments in the Republic of Croatia amounts to 5926 monuments, we can conclude that some 37% of the total number

of monuments suffered at least some damage. When we consider the fact that the buildings in categories 5 and 6 were heavily damaged or destroyed, and consequently now lack architectural integrity, this means that almost 7% of the total number of immovable cultural monuments in the Republic of Croatia was destroyed during the Patriotic War between 1991 and 1995.

Movable Cultural Property

The registration and estimation of war damage to immovable cultural monuments were carried out using a method that was entirely adapted to the types of material, as well as conforming to the Directions Concerning the Act on Determining War Damage to Cultural Monuments in the Republic of Croatia. However, in order to adhere to the priorities determined for registering and estimating war damage on immovable cultural monuments, and with respect to both the great number of items that had to be covered and the lack of professional staff, the registration of damage to movable cultural monuments could not be undertaken at the same time as work on immovable cultural monuments. For this reason, at the time of writing this report, we still have no complete data with respect to the war damage inflicted on movable cultural monuments.

Any approach to movable cultural monuments needs to keep in mind the great number of evacuated monuments and works of art that were already in poor condition before the war, while some were damaged during and after evacuation because of inadequate conditions in improvised storerooms (over 3000 objects, not counting archives and library holdings in north-west Croatia and a part of Slavonia). In addition, there was the major task of estimating numerous objects on the inventories of religious buildings that



Vukovar, the Eltz manor

were plundered or destroyed, a fate also suffered by the buildings in which they were kept. Because only a small number of these inventories are kept in official records, their 'reconstruction' requires comprehensive research. Finally, the registration and estimation of war damage to museum, archives and library holdings also needs to be undertaken.

The special commission for registering and estimating war damage to cultural monuments left the registration of museum, archives and library holdings to corresponding central institutions (the Museum Documentation Centre, the Croatian State Archives and the National and University Library). The registering and estimating of war damage to evacuated movable cultural monuments and those that went missing or were destroyed in the occupied territories were tasks given to expert commissions, in co-operation with the relevant institutions for the protection of cultural monuments.

At the time of writing this report, the fieldwork to collect data on the damage has been completed. The documentation of the region of Banovina (in the Sisak-Moslavina County) has been completely processed, and work has started to process the docu-

mentation for the region of the Zadar-Knin Šibenik and Dubrovnik-Neretva counties. Expert commissions have also registered and estimated war damage to evacuated holdings that were stored under the supervision of the Administration for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage, and we expect corresponding reports from conservation departments around the country.

War damage to archives and registry holdings has also been listed (402 archive holdings with a total length of over 37,000 metres have been destroyed).

We also know the damage done to museum holdings, but it has not yet been estimated: according to data collected by the Museum Documentation Centre, museum holdings in 45 museums and museum collections have been damaged, 6551 museum objects are missing, 1410 objects have been destroyed and 728 objects have been damaged.

Numerous library buildings have been destroyed and their holdings burned. In monasteries, such as the Franciscan monasteries in Karin, Hrvatska Kostajnica, Hrvatski Čuntič and the Pauline monastery in Kamensko near Karlovac, library holdings have been destroyed or damaged.

Vlado Ukrainčik
ICOMOS Croatia

CUBA

Current Achievements and Risks

Cuban efforts to preserve cultural heritage have been widely recognised. Several cultural properties have been inscribed in the World Heritage List in the past years. A paradigmatic and innovative experience is currently taking place in Old Havana under the City Historian's Office. The National Council of Cultural Heritage and local entities with heritage protection authority have achieved countrywide advances with regard to legal protection, research and inventories of cultural properties. However, beyond the achievements obtained in the rehabilitation of most historic towns and many monuments, natural parks and some cultural landscapes, there are other monumental features at risk. The main reasons for their deterioration are the very aggressive, tropical and humid climate (complicated by heavy rainfall and hurricane activity), omnipresent salinity problems, and the severe economic conditions of a trade embargo imposed over more than 40 years.

In the *Heritage at Risk 2000* Report, the ICOMOS Cuba National Committee noted two representative case studies: the 19th-century Reina Cemetery in Cienfuegos and the early 20th-century Jewish Cemetery in Guanabacoa. The first is currently under restoration, supported and funded by the Provincial authority. The second example, however, continues to suffer progressive deterioration and a transformation of its original appearance. Although the local Jewish Community has recently raised funds and successfully restored their most relevant Synagogue in Havana and maintains it as much as possible, it does not currently have the necessary funds to restore the cemetery, a significant Caribbean site of memory.¹

In the preparation of this report we identified the following sectors as containing major examples of heritage at risk in Cuba:

- Agro-Industrial Heritage
- Wooden Architecture
- Urban Industrial Heritage
- 20th-century Legacy.

Agro-Industrial Heritage

With respect to the first group, which could also be referred to as Rural Heritage, many of these properties are located in isolated territories, far from the centres of activity, and remain empty or misused. These factors have made preservation more expensive and difficult than is the case with urban historic fabric.²

The Valley of the Sugar Mills in Trinidad, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1989, and the Archaeological Landscape of the Coffee Plantations of the east of Cuba, inscribed in 2000, are fully protected and subject to preservation programmes. However, alongside these two World Heritage properties, there is a rich legacy of colonial sugar and coffee plantations from the 19th century that need restoration and sensitive re-use proposals to allow their continued role in the community. The majority of these plantations are archaeological sites and the significant remnants of their past require urgent repair and measures to prevent further damage. This is the case of Angerona, a former sugar plantation that was later dedicated to coffee production, located in Artemisa not far from the Capital. An astounding complex of ruins related to the main house, warehouses, slave barracks and driers represent the best agro-industrial traditions of the 19th century in the west of the Island.³

Other sites are more intact, such as the Ingenio Carolina in Cienfuegos, a sugar plantation and factory dating from 1835. Although quite deteriorated, it has retained the main industrial building, old offices and dwellings as well as the nursery. The *batey* or centre of the complex has persisted and is now inhabited. Ingenio Carolina is a magnificent example of our industrial heritage, exemplifying the Caribbean Plantation as well as providing a testimony of the history of slavery. However, it would require a large budget to allow the property to be properly rehabilitated by the highly qualified professionals in that region.

Alejandro, a former sugar-plantation close to Guines, not very far from Havana, is the remnant of the first sugar mill with hydraulic power in Cuba. Built by the French in 1790, it was one of the largest sugar factories of its times. It has miraculously retained its impressive aqueduct, raised from the ground level to a height of up to 9 metres along a 300-metre length. It was visited by Alexander von Humboldt.

Finally, among many other important examples, is the site of the Taoro Plantation, near Santa Fe Beach in the outskirts of Havana. Its former owner turned the *barracón* or slaves' barracks into his residence. Although later abandoned, it has retained a watchtower and the slaves' cemetery. This site, due to its beauty, its historical significance (it is linked to the Independence War), and its proximity to tourism enclaves has been subject to discussions urging its rehabilitation, but all efforts to date have been unsuccessful and damage continues unabated.⁴

As well as these plantations and rural industries from the late-18th and 19th centuries, it is important to add those agro-industrial complexes from the early 20th century, many of which are related to the influx of North American commercial enterprises over the eastern portion of the island. The establishment of modern sugar factories in these *centrales*, as they are called in Cuba, profoundly transformed both nature and society. The sugar complexes, many of them huge, attracted a large population and were models of rationalist planning. The subsequent urbanisation resulted in a rigorous social stratification. The larger complexes had all the services of a small town, and were laid-out with streets and green areas. With both their urban planning and the introduction of the wooden 'balloon-frame' architecture, Americans imported into the bateyes an image until then unknown in Cuba, closely associated with their own old towns. These Centrales are also testimonies to workers' struggles for their rights, and today remain as repositories of intangible cultural values.⁵

Basically, because most of these places are still in use and play an important economic role, they have been conserved. At the same time, their continued function often requires changes in order to modernise them. And this is precisely the threat to their integrity. It is necessary, therefore, to achieve ways of modernisation that do not transform the traditional values of these places.⁶ An outstanding example is the Central Bolivia in Ciego de Avila Region (former Cunaguas), which was declared a National Landmark in 2000 and is currently under a preservation programme. Also the Central Martínez Prieto (former Toledo) – although not as big and impressive as Bolivia, it is an interesting case study. Located on the outskirts of Havana City and adjacent to the most important technological university in Cuba (ISPJA – built in the 1960s), it is a unique installation. The factory still processes sugar on its final phase (refining) and has a power capacity to meet new demands. In addition, it could become an important recreation venue. The Ministry of the Sugar Industry has envisioned turning

it into a Reference Centre for the Sugar Industry and a tourism attraction. It is important to adopt these plans quickly, in order to avoid any further transformation or loss.⁷

Wooden Architecture

Although wood has always been employed in Cuba for modest popular dwellings in the countryside, a designed and more elaborate wooden architecture appears at the end of the Colonial period, in the late-19th century. As mentioned above, the 'balloon frame' was widely employed in the development of sugar factory-settlements, based on an Anglo-Saxon tradition. In general, almost 100 years ago, spas and coastal villages provided other contexts in which this architectural type spread. The pre-assembled components and qualified craftsmanship promoted a faster construction process. In addition, there was a low maintenance cost as this noble material had good resistance to salinity.⁸

Shady verandas and other wooden elements, as well as steeped roofs with shingles and bright colours, were different to Cuban urban architectural patterns, recalling Caribbean expressions. All this gracious architecture has suffered from the effects of time and lack of maintenance, and particularly from the permanent threat of a humid tropical climate and the plagues to which wood is particularly susceptible. The impact has been compounded because very often the woods employed were imported from the United States, instead of the local timber that could better resist the climatic aggression.⁹

Wooden architecture is a part of Cuban heritage that is undergoing a particularly rapid deterioration and disappearance. However, some examples that are deemed to be of high significance have been restored. The current Hemingway Museum in San Francisco de Paula is not only the great writer's home, but also an architectural work that reflects his origins and personality. It also exemplifies the way in which other cultures have been inserted within the national context.¹⁰ Another outstanding example is Hurón Azul, the home of painter Carlos Enriquez in Arroyo Naranjo. Currently a municipal museum, it has also been restored in the past few years. In Cayo Granma (former Cayo Smith) in the midst of the wonderful landscape of Santiago de Cuba Bay – a tiny and charming cay and leisure resort for wealthy local families – is a fishermen's village. Under the stimulus of the inclusion of the Cayo within the Castillo del Morro's World Heritage buffer zone, a rehabilitation programme for the village is being undertaken by Santiago's Conservation Office.

Unfortunately, however, an amazing amount of wooden construction remains in danger country-wide. In the north-eastern 19th-century coastal town of Gibara, the famous Casa da Silva, which faces the Bay and the mountains, is almost lost – as are the delicate interior gingerbread works of the Municipal Theatre. Other very important examples include San Miguel de los Baños, a nostalgic turn of the century spa close to the City of Matanzas, where a set of pretty and comfortable wooden bungalows wait their restoration and full use as a very particular tourism resort. On Cienfuegos Bay, Cayo Carenas, a former leisure spot, is now almost abandoned. Due to its wonderful location and views, it has been identified as a possible place for tourism purposes. This would be a good way to safeguard its handsome wooden architecture and the natural values. The local authorities in charge of heritage are currently discussing these issues.¹¹

Finally, a claim for the definitive salvation of the last wooden remnants in Varadero Beach. With a tremendous effort from the local authorities and the support of the National Council for Cultural Heritage, the Municipal Museum, located in one of the most

beautiful houses on the Beach, has been turned into a stronghold of local history. Unfortunately, since the 1950s, the modernisation of Varadero led to the loss of its best wooden exponents. Now, the very few that remain face the perils of fast tourism-growth. Due to the high cost of wood, this type of heritage architecture poses one of the greatest challenges for Cuban preservationists. Since tourism has turned into the primary source of income, it should be possible for this industry to invest in the preservation of wooden heritage.¹²

Urban Industrial Heritage

In addition to the impressive exponents of the rural industry in Cuba, outstanding examples of the national patrimony are represented by various functional buildings or complexes, such as those related to the production of cigars, beer, timber, electricity and paper. These structures are found mainly in the Capital. The Real Fabrica de Tabacos Partagás, built in 1845, is located behind the National Capitol, in the Ring of Havana. It is the oldest cigar factory in the country and one of the most important urban industrial buildings from the 19th century. Although it is still functioning, and great efforts to preserve it have been undertaken, there is a need for more concerted intervention to ensure its preservation as one of the most significant Latin American industrial exponents.¹³

Because most of the old urban industries are characterised by their large dimensions, spacious areas, high quality of construction and, in general, by a coherent design, they attract adaptation proposals that are not always compatible with their cultural values. Until some 10 years ago they were mostly preserved, although altered by additions or transformations of their original appearance. They were considered to be simply public properties and not 'cultural' examples. But currently many of them are being abandoned due to obsolescence and this poses a true risk, with consequences that may be irreversible. At the same time, in line with changes that have taken place in the country during the last years – particularly the opening to new investments, some foreign – there is a pressure to re-adapt industrial buildings to other functions than the original. Due to their relatively good physical conditions and location, they turn into highly valued objects. But, unfortunately, this value is pragmatic and economic, and not related to cultural significance.¹⁴

Notwithstanding, some relevant national entities have already demonstrated their concern with regard to this industrial heritage. At the same time, research is being carried out at the academic level. In 1998 an International Symposium on Industrial Heritage was organised by the National Council for Cultural Heritage, and the merits of these industries were discussed and debated in depth. Interesting studies have been made on different industrial sites that are no longer active – due to their image, spatial structure or location in important areas of the cities or within the Great Metropolitan Park of Havana. There are many Cuban industries with a high cultural and economic value. At the same time it is evident that the recovery of industrial heritage requires considerable financial investment. But these buildings are generally owned by powerful entities that have more resources to invest in their properties. For this reason, the rehabilitation of industrial buildings can be associated with intelligent and financially sound management.¹⁵

The Papelera Cubana (Cuban Paper Factory) is an interesting case study, but just one of many examples requiring urgent intervention. The Cuban Paper Factory was founded in 1919, and is an important urban landmark within the City. It is located on Puentes Grandes Street, within the territory of the Great Metropolitan Park. An additional reason to recommend the rehabilitation of this

factory is that the enterprise that runs it is willing to take advantage of its spaces for new uses that can revitalise it. Undoubtedly, a comprehensive programme for the rehabilitation of industrial heritage in Cuba is urgently needed.

Twentieth-Century Legacy

Another fragile sector of Cuban heritage is the 20th century legacy. Besides its valuable Spanish Colonial built-heritage (covering from the mid-16th century to the end of the 19th century) Cuba has an important heritage from the 20th century that amounts for most of the urban fabric in its cities. This built mass was basically raised in two large construction booms: the first dating from World War I up to the Depression, the second since the end of World War II until the mid-1960s, which followed the architectural codes of the Modern Movement.¹⁶

The first decades of the 20th century represent a time of impressive change in the country. Havana turned into a very active and cosmopolitan city. This was the time of Havana's greatest construction boom, to the extent that its current urban territory is almost all dateable to the 1940s. This urban growth had much to do with the employment of building techniques of moulding or cast mortar. Notwithstanding, this fact has not yet been properly researched with respect to its importance for cultural heritage. The three styles that shared these techniques – Art Nouveau, Eclecticism and Art Deco – developed in two variants: a minor one related to middle-class architecture, and a major one employed by public entities and wealthy families.¹⁷

The producers of this architecture, generally Catalonians, were at the same time manufacturers, designers and constructors. This process offered a wide variety of columns, balustrades, cornices, mouldings and ornaments that could be chosen from a variety listed in catalogues. These features characterised Cuban architecture of the times and favoured the development of the rich and extended eclecticism that today determines the most common image of the Cuban townscape.¹⁸

Due to a fragility of the materials of the many ornaments, and due to age, climate and lack of maintenance, many Art Nouveau, Eclectic and Art Deco exponents are currently in danger. This is particularly the case for the minor or modest expressions of this ornamentation, which form the majority of this valuable heritage item. Art Nouveau, the last Spanish influence in Cuban architecture, is in particular danger. Among the most outstanding Art Nouveau examples that need urgent restoration are the *Cetro de Oro*, a commercial building and a dwelling, and *Crusella's House*, both of which are on *Reina Street*. Another relevant example is *Masiá Lampurdá* in *La Víbora Quarter*, strongly influenced by *Gaudí*. Also impressive are the tenement houses on *Cárdenas Street* on the border of *Old Havana*, among the best exponents in all *Ibero America*.¹⁹

Among the eclectic examples, probably the most threatened are those in the *Centro Habana District*, and the more modest ones like the extraordinary ensemble of houses on *Primelles Street*. One of the most important exponents of Art Deco, the *Bacardi Building*, has recently been restored; however, there are many others in the *Capital* which require a full restoration – such as the *López Serrano Apartments Building* on *Vedado*, one of the first Cuban skyscrapers.

If European eclecticism – particularly through its generalised *minor* trend widely applied in lower-middle class and even working class dwellings – stamped the first construction boom in the 20th century, it had already been substituted in the 1930s with an American influence through Art Deco. The massive urban growth

from the end of the 1940s through the whole 1950s consolidated that influence, and the architecture of the Modern Movement became widespread, especially in the capital city, *Havana*.²⁰

Scores of new housing subdivisions, promoted by real estate speculation, created a first suburban ring of one-storey, single-family houses with Modern architecture. Some in-fill interventions in vacant lots were built, mostly apartment buildings (including the high-rise condos that began to impact the scale of the *El Vedado waterfront*). At the same time, there was the rapid creation of the most alive, mixed-use modern city-centre, *La Rampa*. The building boom at that time included some substitutions with Modern architecture in the central business district in *Old Havana*, but for the most part this rebuilding was located in the main commercial district at *Centro Habana*. Yet the process was cut short when the 1959 Revolution stopped real estate speculation, sparing most of the earlier built-heritage in *Havana* and other Cuban cities.²¹

Modern architecture was used not only for utilitarian purposes, such as factories, office buildings or department stores, but was extended into housing across all social layers, including the upper-class. This boom was supported by the availability of good building materials and high skills in construction workers and techniques. Happily, the widespread use of monolithic reinforced concrete proved adequate for the Cuban weather and patterns of use.²² Nevertheless, the massiveness of this construction boom, plus the negative impact of speculation and the accumulated deficit in maintenance, has worsened the technical condition of the Modern stock, which is now more than half a century old.

Some landmark buildings from the 1950s such as the *FOCSA*, *Retiro Médico*, *Retiro Odontológico*, or *23rd* and *26th* – just to mention some in *Havana* – already display significant deterioration. The problem is complicated by the lack of public awareness about the need to preserve this recent heritage, compared to the widespread perception about the values of the old historic core in *Habana Vieja*. The relatively better physical condition and good location in once-privileged neighbourhoods, with good access for automobiles – and less congestion and social problems than in the central districts – brought these areas where Modern architecture has its best examples into the focus of new investments in tourism and condominiums, seeking urgently needed foreign currency. The search for maximum profit in these investments inevitably places a stress that often results in projects, building heights and mass, and architectural expression that tend to break with the built and social context. Another threat comes from additions, elimination of front-gardens and porches, construction of high fences and other alterations undertaken by the residents themselves. The negative effects are more striking in formerly elegant neighbourhoods, which are often also those in which Modern architecture predominates.²³

In order to prevent these negative impacts, the National Commission for Landmarks approved a resolution declaring some 20th-century avenues and areas like *Fifth Avenue*, *Avenida de los Presidentes* and others as *Protected Sites*. As a result, all new projects on these listed places have to be approved by this Commission. In spite of this, there are still investors who try to ignore relevant legal conditions.²⁴

These problems demand several parallel approaches: a systematic mass-media campaign; research to promote investments that would be sensitive to the preservation of the Modern heritage; intelligent and adaptive re-use of Modern buildings and the recovery of endangered heritage structures by finding a productive use for them; and the passing of new building codes and city regulations more adequate to the new context, including more effective means of dissuasion. Finally, there is a need for visible and public support for a selection of projects to recuperate Modern heritage

that could serve to create a paradigm and exemplar for additional preservation programmes.²⁵

Authors

This report is the outcome of a brainstorming session organised by the ICOMOS Cuba National Committee led by Isabel Rigol Savio. The participants were Daniel Taboada, Mario González, Mario Coyula, Angela Rojas, José E. Fornés, Víctor Marín, Felicia Chateloin and Nilson Acosta.

ICOMOS Cuba

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CYPRUS

Case 1: The Venetian Walls of Nicosia

In Cyprus, ancient monuments are protected by the 1935 Antiquities' Law as amended over the years. Monuments are divided into Schedule A (the property of the State) and Schedule B (privately owned). The Venetian Walls of Nicosia, constructed in 1567 as a response to the threat of an imminent attack by the expanding Ottoman Empire, has been listed as a Schedule A monument since 1935 and constitutes not only a fine example of Renaissance military architecture but is also the monument/landmark of Nicosia city, the capital city of Cyprus.

Recently the Department of Antiquities, responsible for the protection, preservation and promotion of the ancient monuments of the island, was under criticism as it refused to give permission to the civic authorities that wished to construct a two-storey underground car park inside the moat. The Department of Antiquities argued against the construction of the car park, which would be an irreversible intervention within a vital part of the monument. In addition, it would have created a precedent that, once permitted, would almost certainly have led to uncontrolled and disastrous actions. In addition, within the framework of a long-term restoration and preservation programme that began in 1996, financed by the United Nations Office for Project Services and carried out by the Department of Antiquities, the Walls will be completely restored, studied and promoted in their context and with the retention of their current integrity.

During recent investigations of one of the bastions, a project never before undertaken, new information was retrieved regarding the original 16th-century siege levels of the city. In addition, an excavated section in the moat has indicated that the original height of the walls was an additional 3.6 metres of finely preserved stone wall with a sloping profile, extending below the present surface. A removal of these deposits will expose the walls to their original imposing height and would enhance the monument significantly,

particularly if all present obstacles – such as above-surface car parks – obscuring its structure are removed.

The civic authorities, in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and Works and the Cyprus Technical Chamber, and insisting on carrying-through their plans, invited experts from Italy and Greece to advise on the possibility of implementing their project. Although the decision is still pending, it seems that the experts' reports have specified requirements that are difficult and costly to meet, thus deterring immediate implementation of the project.

Case 2: The Church of Thermia

The cultural heritage of the northern part of Cyprus, occupied by the Turkish army since 1974, is inaccessible to the Department of Antiquities. Many churches of Early Christian, Byzantine and mediaeval date and decorated with frescoes, mosaics and portable icons have been looted, their furnishings illegally sold on the antique market (see also *H@R Report 2000*); in one case the entire building was completely demolished. A very recent example of the way cultural heritage is managed in the occupied areas is the case of the church of Thermia. This is a remarkable monument with remains possibly dating to the Early Christian period within its extent, while remains that may date to the Bronze Age are found in the plot directly adjacent – which is to be used for the construction of a restaurant. The prospective developer also rented the adjoining abandoned church. One of the Turkish-Cypriot English newspapers reports that there is resentment among the people in the village, at least among the English inhabitants, as there are suspicions that the church might be used for commercial purposes.

ICOMOS Cyprus

CZECH REPUBLIC

Endangered and Unused Cultural Heritage

In the previous report, collated for ICOMOS in 2000, we focused on the general summing-up of the threats to items of cultural heritage in the Czech Republic. We also reviewed the poor building and technological condition of much of this heritage. In the text and accompanying photographic documentation, we highlighted some negative examples of the situation.

In the past year, only little has changed – for better or worse – in the condition of items of cultural heritage. The situation has somewhat improved in the sphere of Jewish items of cultural heritage, of which the greater part have been given back to the Jewish Community as restitution. The renovation of synagogues for instance in Prague (the Spanish Synagogue), in the Bohemian localities of Březnice, Radnice, Kdyně and Kasejovice, and in the Moravian localities of Třebíč, Boskovice, Holešov and Dolní Kounice, has been completed or is being undertaken. The State gives a financial contribution to some items of cultural heritage. Jewish cemeteries are also being gradually renovated, mainly through self-help.

The situation is also more hopeful as regards the items of cultural heritage in the former frontier zones, where efforts are made to renovate those little churches that still may be saved. The Czech National Committee of ICOMOS is dealing with these problems and preparing a seminar on the salvation of small churches in the frontier regions. Recently, restoration work is being carried out or has been completed for instance in the churches at Boletice, Malonty, Cetviny, Pohoří na Šumavě, Svěráz, Polná na Šumavě, Svatý Kámen, Dobrá Voda, Hůrka (the chapel for burials), Stráž, Svatá

Karlovy Vary, District of Karlovy Vary, the Spa House Peter, saved from demolition:
state of the exterior in 2000 after renovation, when it became a hotel again.



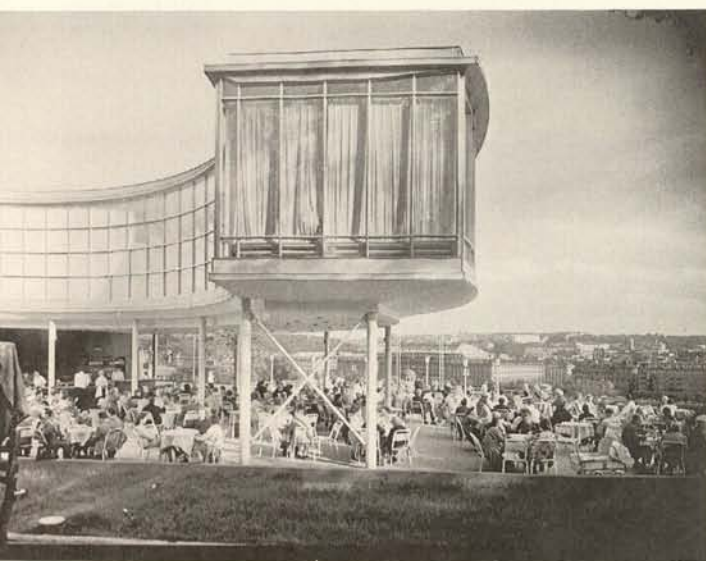
Prague 6 - Střešovice, Müller's Villa, state of the exterior after renovation

Kateřina, Údrč, Kuřivody, Brandov (the decision was made before 1989 to demolish it), Březno, Výsluní and others, but most of them are still waiting for renovation. In the Olomouc region, the salvation of the pilgrimage church of St. James the Bigger and St. Ann has begun; after the withdrawal of Soviet military units from this area, it was found that the state of this church was desolate. However, the Czech Army does not have the financial means for the restoration of cultural-heritage items, which are unneeded properties from its perspective; therefore, it has interrupted their restoration and this church continues to fall into disrepair.

Achievements and Successes

We are pleased that renovation is being carried out on a number of items of cultural heritage, which we listed as unused, endangered and in a bad structural condition for years, and for whose suitable re-use we have looked in vain. For instance, the chateaux at Chyšce, Čechovice, Jindřichovice, Valeč, Kaceřov, Hrádek u Sušice, Dolejší Krušec, Prášíly and others are being renovated successfully. After renovation lasting more than 20 years, the Kynžvart chateau and, last year, the Nebilovy chateau were re-fitted and opened to the public. The monasteries at Kladruby, Teplá, Rajhrad, Šternberk and in other localities, the farmyards Hubenov, Býkov and Kalc of the Plasy monastery, the extraordinary architecture of the riding school at Světce near Tachova, the stronghold Opálka and other monuments are being renovated gradually.

The salvation of the 200 year old framed spa-hotel Peter in Karlovy Vary has been a great success; in recent years, it has faced seven demolition proposals (the last demolition notification was issued in 1989) and the intent to substitute a new building in its place. Successful renovation was completed this year. In Prague, Müller's Villa in Prague 6 – Střešovice, one of the most important architectural monuments from the first half of the 20th century (1928–1930), designed by architects Adolf Loos and Karel Lhota, the renovation of which was begun at the end of 1998, has been renovated successfully and opened to the public. This renovation



Praha 7 - the EXPO 58 Restaurant in the Letná Park: the exterior after the transfer of the building from Brussels after 1960



The EXPO 58 Restaurant: the exterior after devastation lasting several years - photograph from 2000

is exceptionally successful, because the original state of not only the interior and exterior, but also of the inner equipment, including furniture and the works of art, has been preserved to a maximum extent. A proposal for declaring the villa an item of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage is being prepared.

The renovation of important palace gardens below Prague Castle has also been almost completed. After the successful renovation of the Ledebur Garden and the Small and the Large Pálffy Gardens, the renovation of the Small Fürstenberg Garden was completed last year and this garden was opened to the public in a ceremony. The renovation of the Large Fürstenberg Garden is being planned.

An overwhelming majority of historic towns, municipal conservation sites and municipal conservation zones also endeavour to renovate items of cultural heritage; as a result, their aspect has changed much for the better in the last few years.

Continuing threats

However, a large number of immovable items of cultural heritage remain threatened and not secured, their condition is deteriorating and some of them are already threatened with doom. The chateaux at Kostelní Bříza and Všechovice, the house (land-register No. 14) in the square at Tovačov (broken-down floors), the house (land-register No. 4) in the square at Lipník nad Bečvou and the summer refectory at Klášterní Hradisko in Olomouc are among them. As a consequence of the ever-deteriorating state of the buildings on the premises of the Pivoň monastery, its farm buildings have collapsed. A number of examples of places in danger also exist in Prague, and these are discussed below.

The EXPO 58 Restaurant

Constructed for the Czechoslovak exposition at the World Exhibition in Brussels in 1958, this pavilion was assessed as the best and given the Golden Star prize. It also received another thirteen important awards as an excellent architectural work, as well as for its perfect interior. Therefore, the authorities decided to transfer the buildings of this exposition to Czechoslovakia. Set up in the Letná Park in Prague, this Brussels (originally Pilsen) Restaurant was used as such until 1990, when it was included in an auction within the so-called small privatisation of enterprises. Changes of owners, problematic management and vandalism ensued. As a result, the state of the property is desperate and only its basic structure remains. A problematic project to convert the restaurant into offices (an administrative building) has been approved. In mid-2000, the Club for Ancient Prague, together with the National Technological Museum, organised a protest press-conference. The situation has still not been solved in favour of this item of cultural heritage.

The Kinskýs' Summer House (land-register No. 98)

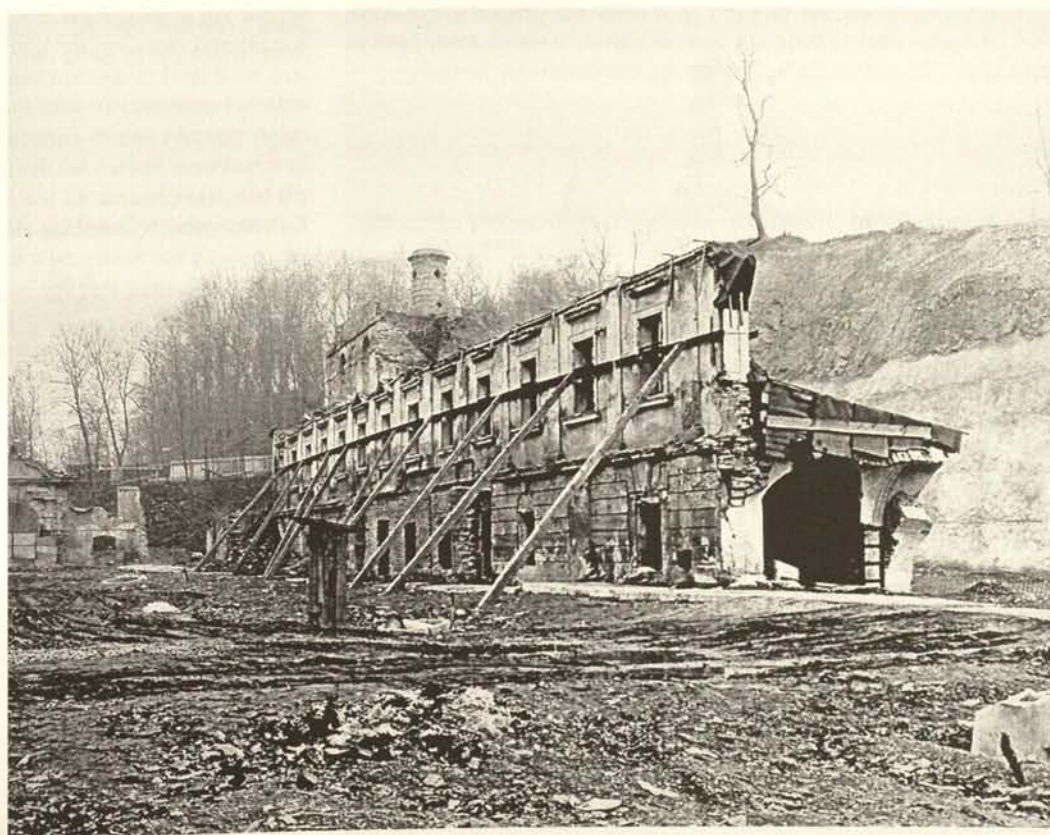
Situated in a dominant position in the Kinskýs' Garden in Prague 5-Smíchov, the house is an example of neo-classical architecture from 1827-31, designed by the Viennese architect J. Koch. Collections of the Ethnographic Department of the National Museum were housed there from 1905. As maintenance work was not carried out during the years of the totalitarian regime, the state of the property became so bad that the collections had to be transferred elsewhere. As the owner did not renovate or at least secure the property thereafter, the current condition of the building is critical. The present owner is the Municipal Council of Prague. Proceeding without permission, the former private owner pulled down part of the gatehouse (at the entrance to the Kinskýs' Garden) when reconstructing it for dwelling purposes. Although the owner asserts that he carried out reconstruction and only part of the monument collapsed, the fact remains that a new building now stands in which modern material has been used.

The Cibulka Farmstead (land-register number 118 in Prague 5 - Košíře)

The building has been documented as a farmstead as early as the 14th century. Rebuilt in Baroque style, it is an Empire farmstead that today has an extensive, quite overgrown park with several romantic buildings. Without intervention, it will continue to go to rack and ruin. A small Empire chateau with a tower forms the core of the ensemble; dwelling and farm buildings surround the central courtyard. The state of the entire site is gloomy. Since 1989, the



Praha 6-Bubeneč, the Imperial Mill
in the Royal Game Preserve: the
exterior in 1991



owner has been the Autoturist enterprise (with foreign participation); its original project was to use the buildings for tourist purposes, but as there is a surplus of such facilities, Autoturist presented a plan for the reconstruction of these buildings to convert them to luxury flats. However, this project has not been implemented, due to the pressure exerted by the authorities for the State preservation of monuments, and at least minimum security has been imposed: stop-gap repairs of roofs and gutters, provisional fencing and water removal from the cellars – undertaken with the financial contribution of the State.

The destiny of monuments that have been impaired or destroyed by human intervention forms a separate chapter. Recently, a bulldozer demolished a Gothic house with frescoes in the square at Kašperské Hory. At Velešín, the house (land-register No. 65) with mediaeval vaults has been torn down after the procedure for its inscription as an item of cultural heritage was initiated.

Prague

Sadly, this part of the report also concerns the gem among towns – Prague. We have outlined several negative examples of the approach to the renovation of items of cultural heritage in the city.

The Imperial Mill

The Mill is located in the Royal Game Preserve at Bubeneč in Prague 6, which the Emperor Rudolph II acquired in 1584. From around 1589 it was reconstructed as his private summer residence – it represents a unique set of mannerist buildings, works of garden architecture and waterworks. Due to a lack of maintenance, the structural condition of the individual items gradually deteriorated. The owner (known as ART CENTRUM before November 1989 and renamed after it became a joint-stock company) allegedly built depots at the site; its successor, EDERA Ltd, declared its intention to use the property as a hotel and gradually tore-down the neo-classical buildings and completely destroyed this extraor-



Praha 1 - the New Town, the U Hybernů House: the interior of the nave of the former church after its partial demolition, photograph from 2000

Kuřivody, District of Česká Lípa, St Gallus' Church: state of the exterior after the withdrawal of Soviet military units from this former military zone



Kuřivody, District of Česká Lípa, St Gallus' Church: the interior today



dinary monument, of which only ruins have been preserved: part of the grotto and part of the entrance gate and a corridor or gallery.

The U Hybernů House

Originally the early Baroque church of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, it was built by C. Lurago between 1653 and 1659. The church building was reconstructed between 1811 and 1813, after being closed down by the Emperor Joseph II, to become a neo-classical customs house. Valuable architectural elements were mostly preserved, as shown in a photograph from the 1940s, at which time it was reconstructed for use as an exhibition hall. The State leased the property to the enterprise MUSICAL Ltd. The present reconstruction of the property to convert it to a musical theatre has fundamentally damaged and impaired this cultural monument: approximately one-quarter of the preserved walling of the church has been demolished, including both pillars of the triumphal arch with the adjacent areas of the chancel and of the transept of the church, to enable enlargement for the stage and the gridiron area. Part of the building was newly roofed with a metal truss, which incorporates storeys and was substituted for the original wooden truss. This drastic intervention has greatly damaged and impaired this important work of architecture.

Among other problem sites, we will mention only Herget's brickyard in Prague 1 – the Lesser Town, and the Hotel Juliš in Wenceslas Square in Prague 1 – New Town.

Former Military Sites

There is continued difficulty in dealing with the cases in which military garrisons have ceased to exist in extensive areas with items of cultural heritage. This is especially true of former monasteries, such as Zelená Hora, Louka or Chotěšov, where, for several years now, the authorities have been unable to find either the financial means or investors interested in the renovation and suitable re-uses of these properties.

Still more complicated is the search for a suitable use for the Baroque fortresses – municipal conservation sites Terezín and Josefov – where garrisons have ceased to exist. In both these cases, the problem is the use of extensive military properties for other purposes, the blocking of some properties due to property rights issues that have still not been clarified, the natural devastation of the properties as they have been unused for several years, and the preservation and gradual renovation of the fortification system.

Terezín has four big barracks and a peripheral fortification circle, all in a bad structural condition and left unused for 2 to 3 years. The interventions into the structure of the town will be carried out according to a recently drawn-up regulation plan for the centre. For the time being, the authorities have been unable to find another use or sufficient financial means, either domestic or from abroad.

Most of the buildings in Josefov were used by Soviet military units, including the largest property in the town – the hospital – which they abandoned in 1991. Since then, it has been empty, becoming dilapidated, and it has been impossible to find a use for it. Meanwhile it has been possible to reconstruct the headquarters building to make flats. As this process has proven to be a good one, steps have been taken to transfer the ownership of the former artillery barracks to the municipality. The project documentation for the reconstruction of the barracks to make flats has been completed and the municipality is trying to find the means to implement this project. The preservation and gradual renovation of the three-kilometre-long fortification system is a problem. For the time being, the authorities have been able to provide for the main-

tenance of three sections, whereas the remaining part of the ramparts gradually fall into disrepair or are being dismantled as building material.

Threatened Items of Cultural Heritage – Vernacular Village Buildings

Original vernacular village buildings (such as barns, granaries, cowsheds, sheds, haylofts) are a specific group of items of architectural heritage. Due to progress, many of these buildings lost their original function, especially in the 20th century. Methods of agricultural production, dwelling and the overall life-style have changed substantially. In the conditions existing in Czechoslovakia, the era of the rise of communism impacted unfavourably on the overall image of the countryside on the one hand and, on the other, on the thought and opinions of village people – the result was a break in the continuity of cultural development. The post-revolutionary period led to a relaxation and a revival of citizens' activities, but the deformations of past decades are manifested in the absence of humility and deference to the values created by humans and nature, in the intensification of the way of life focusing on consumption and fostered already by socialism, and in the loss of legal consciousness. In the village setting, this may be seen particularly in the increasing pressure for usually unsuitable and even ruthless reconstruction of valuable original works of vernacular architecture, to adapt them for residential and commercial pur-

Stará Voda, District of Olomouc, the pilgrimage church of St. James the Bigger and St. Ann: state of the exterior in 1991 after the withdrawal of Soviet units from this area



poses. It is also seen in the continued wilful and ill-considered elimination of older high-quality housing, owing to the desire to obtain new building plots.

The general shortage of means for protection of cultural heritage is a very serious problem, with particular impact on monuments of vernacular architecture. A long list of threatened village buildings protected as monuments is a consequence of this situation. Cases of the intentional damaging of, or of a conscious lack of interest in these monuments, leading to their gradual devastation and ruin, are the saddest. These cases include:

- the gradual 'disappearance' and complete rebuilding of the timbered farm (land-register No. 45) at Studeňany;
- the demolition of the half-timbered cottage (land-register No. 78) at Stachy, which was damaged by fire, but could have been saved;
- the timbered house (land-register No. 1/106) at Rumburk, the setting on-fire of which was not due to an unlucky coincidence;
- the collapse of the attractively built mill (land-register No. 66) at Nová Ves nad Popelkou;
- the unauthorised demolition of the farm (land-register No. 59) at Neubuz and of another farmstead at Vysoká;
- the total reconstruction of the farms (land-register No. 84) at Vysoká Lípa, (land-register No. 17) at Újezd, (land-register No. 11) at Slatina, (land-register No. 42) at Pístina, (land-register No. 4/28) at Dobčice, and more.

There is a large number of original village buildings threatened by a long-term lack of maintenance, including:

- the mediaeval granary (land-register No. 1) at Modlešovice;

Stará Voda, District of Olomouc, the pilgrimage church of St. James the Big-ger and St. Ann: the interior today



- the extensive timbered farm (land-register No. 36) at Havlovice;
- the framed farm (land-register No. 111) at Hynčice;
- the timbered house (land-register No. 10) at Krásná, probably the largest in the Czech Republic;
- the farm (land-register No.8) at Ounuz;
- one of the last intact Valachian farms, (land- register No. 25) at Nový Hrozenkov-Vraneč;
- the mill (land-register No. 22) at České Křižánky;
- the set of timbered haylofts in the wet meadows near Třeboň.

In addition, there are those buildings damaged by unauthorised and quite unsuitable remodelling carried-out gradually, such as:

- the Renaissance farm (land-register No. 1) at Krnín;
- the Renaissance mill at Dolní Věstonice;
- the remarkable farmsteads (land-register No. 19) at Krsmol, (land-register No. 93) at Pavlov, (land-register Nos. 12 and 49) at Štítary, (land-register No. 4) at Ubušínek, (land-register No. 37) at Šluknov, (land-register No. 32) at Studeňany, (land-register No. 5) at Záluží u Vlastiboře;
- part of the historic housing in the Old Town at Strážnice.

However, many positive examples of successful repairs on, and regeneration of, protected vernacular village buildings with a suitable and satisfactory use also exist. For instance:

- the farms (land-register No. 53) at Rtyně, (land-register No. 171) at Čistá, (land-register No. 34) at Vidlatá Seč, (land-register Nos. 4 and 6) at Střezivojice;
- the house (land-register No. 4) at Krásná Lípa;
- the farms (land-register Nos. 8, 9 and 13) at Doubrava and (land-register Nos. 1 and 13) at Nový Drahov;
- several farms on the village greens at Přikazy, Vratětnín, Záluží, and Holašovice.

Ongoing challenges

Cultural-heritage properties, especially the chateaux that have become objects of speculation (as we wrote in the previous report), remain a problem; their owners attract credit for their other activities, not for the securing or renovation of properties that are items of cultural heritage value. Bankruptcy proceedings have been instituted for some of these chateaux, and bankruptcy administrators appointed. Without help, all these chateaux are quickly falling into disrepair.

Sadly, the situation does not change with respect to the number of thefts that have literally inundated the country after the revolution (1989). These are thefts not only of furniture, paintings, china and sculptures, but also of built-in pieces of cultural heritage: large forged gratings; statues in churches, cemeteries and the landscape; wayside shrines, crosses, steps to churches, copper grates and fallpipes, building material and more.

The inhibition of industry contributes to an improvement in the environment on the one hand, but on the other leads to the redundancy of old factory-halls and equipment, thus raising the problem of either their new use or of their elimination. This also concerns the cessation of mining activities, coal pits and steelworks in the Kladno and Ostrava regions and the general issue of items of industrial cultural heritage.

For Ostrava-Vítkovice, a comparative study was drawn up in 2000 of the costs of both the demolition of the premises and the indispensable securing of selected properties. It turned out that the costs are approximately equal. Moreover, the document titled 'The solution to the problem of the preservation of the premises of the

Hlubina Mine, coking plant and a blast furnace in the Vítkovice Ironworks', including the cost of repairs, has been drawn up.

At present, the Philosophical Faculty of Charles University is drawing up a sociological study 'The public interest and the cultural-heritage protection, preservation and presentation to the public of the premises of the immovable item of cultural heritage: The Hlubina Mine - the Vítkovice Ironworks in Ostrava'.

In the sphere of archaeological items of cultural heritage, everything stated in our 2000 report remains the same.

Financing for the renovation of items of cultural heritage continues to be insufficient. The promised total amount available for 2002 for programmes for which the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic contributes to owners for the renovation of items of cultural heritage is a little higher than in 2001, but the real need is multiple. The funds for preventive protection against thefts have been diminished substantially (approximately to one-tenth of their total amount in 2000).

The List of the Most Endangered and Unused Immovable Items of Cultural Heritage in the Czech Republic, which the State Institute for the Preservation of Monuments drew up and published in 1999, will be updated in 2001.

ICOMOS Czech Republic



Studeňany, land-register No. 45, District of Jičín - a dilapidated timbered farm before its complete demolition



Havlovice, land-register No. 36, District of Trutnov - a timbered farm from the end of the 18th century in a critical state



Krásná, land-register No. 10, District of Jablonec nad Nisou - a massive timbered house built in the mid-18th century, its present state being critical

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Preparación al Desastre y Medidas de Intervención en el Contexto de la Gestión de las Ciudades del Patrimonio Mundial¹

En el Gran Caribe, región donde en la actualidad hay 11 ciudades inscritas en la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial, además de una cantidad de Monumentos y Paisajes Culturales también declarados, ocurren todos los tipos de desastres naturales y humanos, que han producido grandes destrucciones al patrimonio construido a través de la historia.

Cuando hablamos del Gran Caribe nos referimos a la región que abarca, según el Plan de Protección del Medio Ambiente de las Naciones Unidas, los Estados insulares y continentales del Mar de las Antillas y el Golfo de México. Así como los del Océano Atlántico adyacente.

América Central y el Caribe están dominados por dos sistemas orográficos, lo que hace de la zona uno de los grandes ejes volcánicos de la Tierra. En las Antillas Menores, por mencionar sólo dos casos, podemos recordar las erupciones de Mont Pelée en el 1902, que destruyó la ciudad de Saint-Pierre en Martinica y las recientes erupciones del volcán Soufrière que obligaron a evacuar la pequeña isla de Monserrat, causando daños en la misma.

Las activas fallas que delimitan la placa tectónica caribeña producen constantemente temblores de tierra y terremotos, como el que sacudió hace unos meses a El Salvador y Guatemala, produciendo gran cantidad de muertes y destrucciones al patrimonio construido. En el caso de El Salvador vimos como se desarrolló una cadena de acontecimientos, siendo las primeras noticias que se dieron a conocer, los deslizamientos de terreno que dejaron sin vida a una gran cantidad de personas y sepultando un sin número de inmuebles.

Muchas ciudades del Gran Caribe han sido destruidas en los últimos 500 años por causa de los terremotos, siendo una de ellas la Villa de la Concepción de la Vega, en la República Dominicana, fundada por el Almirante Cristóbal Colón al final del siglo XV y destruida por el terremoto del 1562, obligando a los vecinos a trasladarse a otro lugar cercano. Otro caso reciente de deslizamiento de tierra que provocó grandes daños, fue el ocurrido en La Guaira y otros poblados venezolanos, como consecuencia de fuertes lluvias.

Ligados a los terremotos y a los desprendimientos en las profundas fosas de la zona, están los maremotos o tsunamis. En la República Dominicana un maremoto destruyó el primer asentamiento de la Villa de Azua de Compostela en el siglo XVII y en el 1946 otro destruyó el poblado de Matanzas y muchas casas de pescadores que se encontraban en las playas de la Bahía Escocesa, en el noreste de la isla.

La fuerza del viento convertida en huracanes y tornados, son otros de los fenómenos naturales que causan grandes desastres en la región del Caribe. Del 1ro. de junio al 1ro. de diciembre de todos los años, el Caribe es amenazado por huracanes que se forman en sus aguas o en las costas africanas, cerca de Cabo Verde, del otro lado del Océano Atlántico. Aunque con los últimos adelantos se puede saber desde el momento que se forma una depresión tropical y cuándo se convierte en huracán, así como la trayectoria que lleva y posibles trayectorias a seguir, la fuerza de los mismos es tan grande, así como de las cadenas de acontecimientos, que causa grandes desastres en la región año tras año. Son muchos los huracanes que podríamos citar que han dejado grandes destrozos en las islas del Caribe, así como en las penínsulas de

Yucatán y la Florida, el Golfo de México y Centroamérica, ante todo en los países más septentrionales.

El mero hecho de que se produzcan fenómenos naturales extremados y se desencadenen fuerzas elementales conexas no es por sí mismo un desastre. El desastre ocurre cuando uno o más de esos fenómenos se abate sobre un asentamiento humano, una zona de cultivo o un Bien Cultural.

Las inundaciones ocasionan aproximadamente el 90% de los daños y pérdidas de vida más desastrosos. Por este motivo se considera que las planicies de inundación fluvial y costera son las regiones de máximo peligro potencial desde el punto de vista de los asentamientos humanos en general y de modo más especial cuando las inundaciones pueden producirse en combinación con huracanes, terremotos, deslizamientos de tierra y otros fenómenos.

Recientemente tuvimos el paso de Chantal por Chetumal y Campeche, que aunque afortunadamente sus vientos no alcanzaron la fuerza de huracán, las aguas produjeron grandes daños.

Se ha repetido ya hasta el cansancio, la necesidad de tener un conocimiento de los Bienes Culturales existentes, a través de un inventario y catálogo, como medida indispensable ante toda acción de protección, conservación o restauración de los mismos.

Todavía hay muchos países y territorios de los 40 que conforman el Gran Caribe, por no decir la mayoría, que no cuentan con ese inventario y catálogo, o peor aún, no cuentan con una estructura adecuada para proteger su patrimonio cultural.

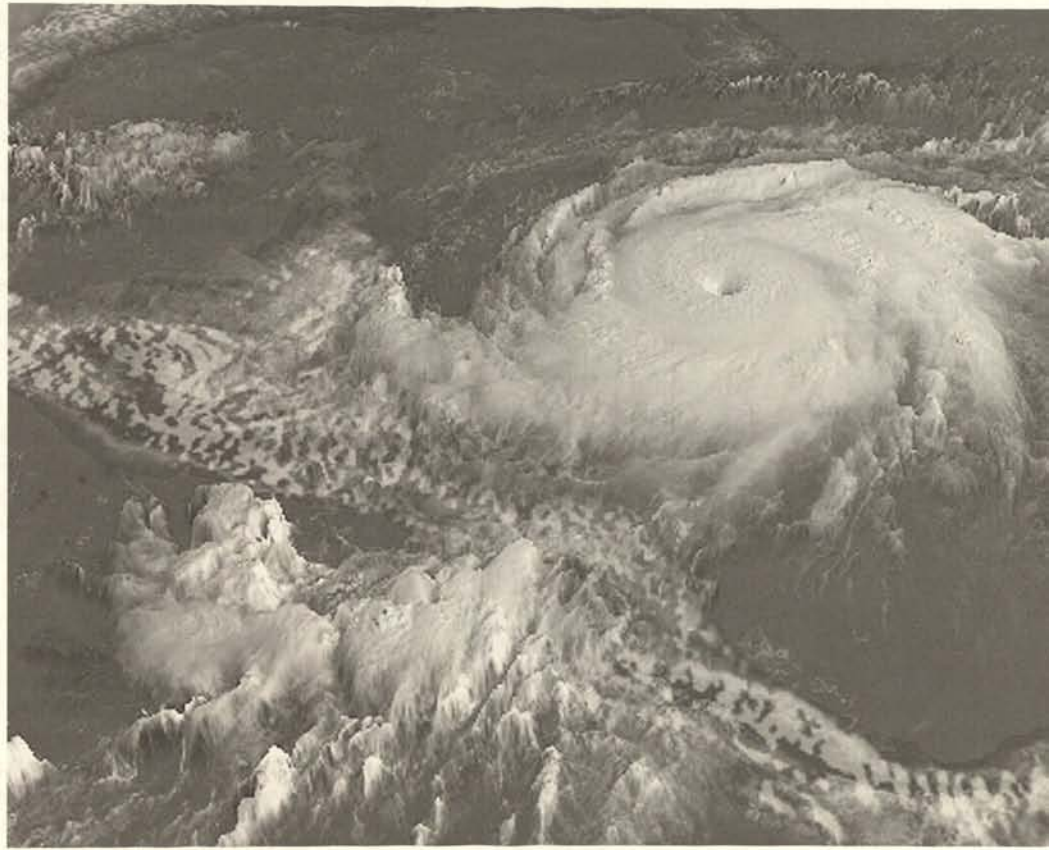
La Organización del Gran Caribe para los Monumentos y Sitios, CARIMOS, es una entidad no gubernamental, de carácter regional y sin fines de lucro, que tiene como objetivos el estudio, divulgación, protección y restauración de los monumentos y sitios que hayan definido el carácter local, regional, nacional e inter-regional del Gran Caribe, contribuyendo a su identidad cultural y desarrollo.

En sus casi 20 años de funcionamiento, CARIMOS ha venido investigando y dando a conocer por diferentes medios, el patrimonio construido de la región, siendo uno de ellos las exposiciones sobre Arquitectura Vernácula, Fortificaciones del Caribe y el Patrimonio Monumental del Gran Caribe, compuestas en total por 177 carteles, que han contribuido grandemente a la difusión del patrimonio arquitectónico de la cuenca del Mar Caribe.

Dada la importancia del conjunto de fortificaciones que hay en la región, algunas de las cuales ya están incluidas en la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial, CARIMOS está preparando un proyecto para nominar las Fortificaciones del Gran Caribe como Patrimonio Cultural Mundial, en la categoría de Ruta Cultural, para lo cual ya ha firmado Acuerdos con el Instituto Veracruzano de Cultura, el Instituto de Cultura de Quintana Roo, el Instituto de Antropología e Historia de Honduras y la Dirección del Patrimonio Cultural de Guatemala.

Uno de los grandes desafíos abordados por CARIMOS, lo representa la ejecución de una serie de proyectos de restauración en potenciales ciudades a ser declaradas Patrimonio Mundial, como Spanish Town en Jamaica, Cap Haitien en Haití y Paramaribo en Suriname. Estos proyectos están siendo financiados por la Unión Europea, en el marco del Programa Regional de Turismo para el Caribe, a través de CARIFORO.

También bajo los auspicios de la Unión Europea y otros organ-



Hurricane in the Caribbean

ismos e instituciones de la región, CARIMOS instaló en Santo Domingo, República Dominicana, un Centro de Inventario para los Bienes Culturales del Gran Caribe, en su categoría de patrimonio construido y monumental, dando prioridad a las ciudades y monumentos declarados Patrimonio Mundial o que potencialmente tengan valor para ser considerados como tales o que estén declarados Monumentos Nacionales o que de alguna forma estén protegidos oficialmente.

Este banco de datos proporcionará información general del Bien Cultural, incluyendo su nombre, localización, fecha o periodo de construcción y aspectos legales, así como sus características, dentro de lo cual tenemos los materiales de construcción, estado de conservación, estilos arquitectónicos y uso principal. Además se podrán encontrar datos históricos, una descripción física o arquitectónica, así como planos, fotografías y referencias bibliográficas.

La captación de datos se está realizando gracias a la integración de agencias, organizaciones e individuos de toda la región, siendo los actores principales las autoridades nacionales del sector patrimonial y del sector turístico.

Como en la gran mayoría de los países de la región no existen inventarios, se ha tenido que obtener la información de los monumentos, de libros, publicaciones, internet, entrevistas, videos, documentos, etc.

No pudiendo obtener ningún sistema de inventario existente, CARIMOS tuvo que diseñar su propio sistema, utilizando algunas experiencias conocidas, de otros países.

Para diciembre del 2001, la primera etapa de este inventario estará disponible en el Web-site de CARIMOS (www.carimos.org), convirtiéndose en un instrumento esencial para los planes de protección, conservación y restauración del Patrimonio Cultural del Gran Caribe.

En la portada de la página se podrá seleccionar uno de los tres

idiomas disponibles, que son español, inglés y francés. Además de los datos de inventarios, la página tendrá informaciones sobre los países del Gran Caribe.

En esta primera etapa se espera tener disponible en la red, las fichas de 1,000 monumentos correspondientes a los países ACP del Caribe y poco tiempo después se complementará con fichas de otros países del Gran Caribe.

El objetivo de CARIMOS es convertir este inventario en una herramienta de información, educación, planificación, desarrollo turístico y gestión, que estará disponible a todas las naciones, organismos, técnicos y público en general.

El Grupo de Trabajo sobre Inventario y Catalogación, dentro del Encuentro Internacional sobre Patrimonio Cultural del Gran Caribe, CARIMOS 2001, Cancún, celebrada en dicha ciudad a finales de abril del presente año, hizo las siguientes recomendaciones, dentro de la "Declaración de Cancún" aprobada por los participantes:

1. Solicitar a la Organización de los Estados Americanos, OEA, el Respaldo moral e institucional necesario para el reconocimiento del inventario por parte de cada una de las naciones miembro que conforman el denominado Gran Caribe.
2. Poner a disposición de diversas instancias de los países de la región, los instrumentos desarrollados por CARIMOS para la realización del inventario, muy especialmente los formularios de levantamiento de información, sus instructivos y manuales.
3. Procurar la compatibilización y unificación de los sistemas de inventario de Bienes Culturales de los países de la región sólo en aquellos casos en que la situación de desarrollo de esta tarea se encuentre en una etapa temprana o preparatoria que acepte la integración fluida de metodología y sistemas.
4. Procurar el registro del patrimonio construido de las diversas unidades geopolíticas del Gran Caribe en el inventario regional aun en países sin legislación para la protección del patrimonio,



Damages caused by storms

- así como en países con legislación incipiente y en aquellos donde la legislación se encuentre en etapa de transición.
5. Considerar el concepto de "paisaje cultural" definido por la UNESCO como parte integrante de los bienes inmuebles en el Inventario de Bienes Culturales del Caribe.
 6. Aprender de la experiencia reportada en Valladolid, México, donde el sector académico propició la realización del inventario de la ciudad con la participación de sus estudiantes, coordinando su ejecución con las autoridades correspondientes, y gestionando a través del sector privado los recursos materiales necesarios para suplir las carencias de los organismos oficiales.
 7. Divulgar los inventarios por medios electrónicos o CDs, en contraposición a los medios convencionales impresos en virtud de las economías que esto reporta.
 8. Focalizar la búsqueda de financiamiento en áreas predeterminadas de interés para las agencias internacionales. Por ejemplo, en el caso de la OEA, enfatizar la tarea de la educación y capacitación en el tema de los inventarios, especialmente a través de medios electrónicos a distancia.
 9. Canalizar hacia el Comité Ejecutivo de CARIMOS las solicitudes de colaboración para promover y difundir los resultados de inventarios ya realizados en el ámbito de las localidades de la región.

Y como conclusión proponen:

- a) Colaboración entre agencias y organizaciones para desarrollar los inventarios locales y el inventario regional.
- b) Gestión para conseguir fondos que permitan en el ámbito local capacitar recursos humanos, instalar métodos e instrumentos tanto físicos como electrónicos en los países que lo requieran.
- c) Sustentabilidad o sostenibilidad del Inventario Regional ya que los recursos con que cuenta están limitados en el tiempo.

Tal como dijéramos en la Declaración Conjunta firmada con la OEA hace unos años, se hace necesaria ya una acción concertada, nacional e internacional, pública y privada en la Región del Gran Caribe, acción que responde a una necesidad reconocida, a un punto de vista moderno, a un estado de alerta institucional y a una conciencia cada vez más fuerte hacia una actitud comunitaria dispuesta a la búsqueda de soluciones concretas a los graves problemas del desarrollo de la región. En tal sentido, queremos manifestar el interés de CARIMOS de unir esfuerzos con la Organización de las Ciudades del Patrimonio Mundial, para concluir este Proyecto de Inventario de los Bienes Culturales de la región, así como para conservar adecuadamente el Patrimonio Cultural Mundial y el Patrimonio Cultural en general, del Gran Caribe.²

Arq. Esteban Prieto Vicioso
Coordinador General de CARIMOS

Damages caused by storms



¹ This report was given at the Puebla, Mexico, meeting of the World Heritage Cities Organisation.

² The Caribbeans – a group of islands, States and some Meso-American nations, for reasons related to the tectonic plates and earth movements – are particularly subject to natural disasters with great impacts on cultural heritage, historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological sites. This has proven dramatically true when St-Pierre, in Martinique, was destroyed by the sudden volcanic activity of Mont Pelée, in 1902, or, more recently, when the Soufrière volcano forced the evacuation of the British island of Montserrat. In addition, tropical storms and seismic activities have led to major disasters such as Hurricane Mitch and the earthquakes followed by landslides in Guatemala and El Salvador, some years ago, causing a great number of deaths and losses of cultural heritage.

ECUADOR

Introduction

The cultural heritage of Ecuador is at risk at a national level, due to threats from both natural causes and human action. In the case of natural phenomena, the risks are mostly related to eruptions, earthquakes, lava flow and floods. Human factors are related to issues such as poverty (on one hand) and wealth (on the other), and with a significant weakness in the area of cultural and political administration.

This report will discuss three specific situations: the city of Quito in general, the Quito 'calle La Ronda' (street of La Ronda) more particularly, and the city of Zaruma, which is included on the UNESCO World Heritage tentative list.

Heritage at Risk in Quito

The more extensive and general discussion of this situation was contained in a paper presented in June 2001 in Toledo: 'Charter of Toledo and Quito in the frame of a sustainable development in the Iberoamerican cities'.

Highlighted in this paper are the problems arising from the flagrant disregard for international norms and guidelines in Quito, the first city in the world to be declared as 'World Cultural Heritage'. It is evident that the abovementioned charters need urgent amendments and corrections, to ensure that they comply more precisely and strictly with an international level of heritage protection. These amendments should include the conclusions and recommendations of the paper delivered at the abovementioned Toledo Seminar.

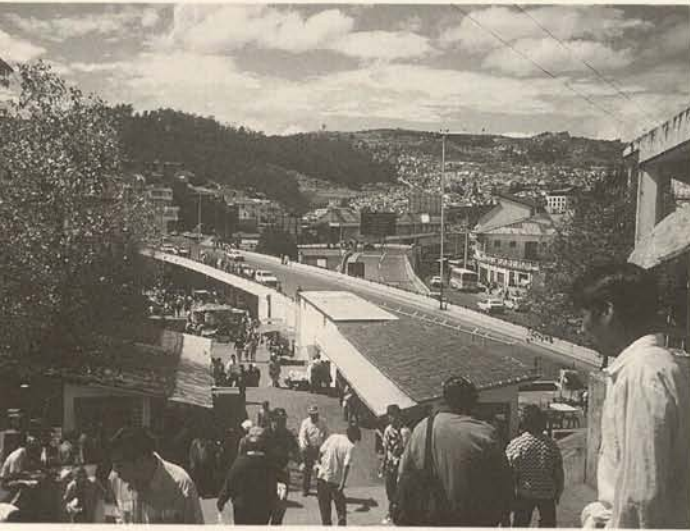
More specifically, Quito cultural heritage is at risk for the following reasons:

- The historic city centre is crossed by a highway that has damaged and destroyed the urban fabric and increased the level of detrimental impact from pollution.
- Many structures have been demolished over the last 40 years, among which we can highlight the Palacio Municipal, located in the Plaza de la Independencia, where the new buildings that have been constructed are unacceptable from all points of view.
- The local population has been systematically evicted from the area, which has seriously changed the historical uses and traditional customs of the city.
- The planning of new uses lacks technical, social and cultural support and has produced an economic hiatus, because most of the buildings that have undergone 'rehabilitation' and 'restoration' are empty and for the most part abandoned. There is an urgent need to identify new use-proposals in order to gain some benefit from these investments.
- Among these buildings are large car parks, luxury shopping centres, 5-star hotels – but without any enticement for a tourist investor.
- In the historic town centre the biggest transport terminal has been built, with its corresponding highways.
- Around 70% of the professionals responsible for relevant studies and projects do not have the necessary specialised training, and many are engaged in works that favour personal interest over historical and cultural value.

We must ask, therefore, what is more important – financial interests, or culture and society?



Nuevo centro cultural ubicado en una de las esquinas de la Plaza de la Independencia; vista de sus cubiertas.



Estación central de tránsito rutero nacional ubicada en el corazón del Centro Histórico de Quito.



Viaducto de alta velocidad que atraviesa el centro histórico de Quito de oriente a occidente.



Uno de los 6 grandes estacionamientos vehiculares ubicados en el centro histórico, de los cuales solamente uno funciona para esa función, mientras que los otros se están readecuando para centros comerciales populares.



Venta ambulante en el exterior del convento de La Merced, en cuyo claustro hace algunos años se construyó un estacionamiento vehicular que en la actualidad está siendo ocupado por venta ambulante.

Claustro del convento de La Merced, convertido tanto en estacionamiento vehicular cuanto en comercio popular.

Antiguo estacionamiento vehicular de propiedad municipal, en proceso de conversión en comercio popular ambulante.





Autopista de penetración al centro histórico de Quito y nuevo "mall" centro comercial de lujo, vacío ya muchos años por falta de demanda.



"Vivienda popular" de reciente factura, en el centro histórico de Quito, convertida en nuevo tugurio.

Heritage at Risk in the Calle La Ronda, in Quito

This street is probably one of the most emblematic of the culture of the city, because of its spatial configuration and morphology.

It has been completely abandoned for many decades; its old owners have left due to the existing social 'atmosphere' and its identification today as the 'red-light area' of the city. In addition, many residential buildings have collapsed because of the highway construction.

The Calle La Ronda is the subject of a project aligned with the 'sustainable development' programme, carried out by the Universidad Central; however, the Town Council refuses to put this initiative into practice, in spite of its low cost and its high technical, social and economic benefits and qualities. This project was even given an award by Habitat-Estambul.

Interior del complejo de vivienda popular de la fotografía N° 9.



Heritage at Risk in the City of Zaruma

Among a number of serious problems, Zaruma suffers from an old and pre-technological period of mining exploitation. As a result, sub-surface mining galleries cross the city in all directions and are causing the subsidence of entire areas. In addition, there are serious urban traffic affronts and demolition of the most valuable 'inventoried heritage'.

Today, however, ICOMOS Ecuador and the Municipality are committed and determined to ensure the declaration of Zaruma as a town of 'World Cultural Heritage'.

ICOMOS Ecuador

Nuevo centro cultural de la fotografía N° 11 y sus formas de articulación entre lo viejo y lo nuevo.



EGYPT

Monuments, historic ensembles and cultural landscapes in Egypt are critically endangered. This applies to the sites on UNESCO's World Heritage List, as well as to the great number of monuments from prehistoric, Pharaonic, Christian and Islamic times. Due to an expansion of tourism into the desert and to large-scale irrigation projects, the many witnesses of early history – which very often have been neither documented nor studied – are at risk of being destroyed.

Abu Mina – World Heritage Site

A few years ago this 5th-century place of pilgrimage, consecrated to St. Menas, lay on the edge of the Libyan Desert. It is a spacious complex of buildings consisting of a large basilica, a crypt, a baptistery and several pilgrimage sites. Because of a rigorous expansion of the cultivated areas, combined with intensive irrigation, this important early Christian site is no longer situated in the desert but has become a 'historic island' in the middle of tomato fields. Due to permanent irrigation the layers of clayish soil immediately underneath the surface have become sodden and have eroded or washed out. The cavities that this erosion has created are now falling in, and large parts of the former town of Menas are either threatened by collapse or have already collapsed. The crypt, which was the starting point of this pilgrimage cult, has only been provisionally filled with sand; as a consequence it is just a matter of time before large parts of the structure will fall in here, as well as in the basilica. Only an immediate end to irrigation, which would lead to the gradual sinking of the groundwater level, as well as scientific investigations to prepare a restoration concept, could save this World Heritage site from destruction.

The Hibis Temple in the El-Charga Oasis

During the Saite period a temple was built in the centre of the oasis capital of Hibis, by the shore of a 750 metre-long lake. It was probably constructed during the reign of Darius I (521–486 BC), to honour the main god Amun. Problems occurred with the

foundations during the construction of the temple, so that the western wall had to be re-erected at that time. The temple was subsequently abandoned as a place of worship and was destroyed by earthquakes; it was excavated and restored at the beginning of the 20th century.

At present the temple is facing deterioration due to rising dampness discovered in the 1980s, which has caused further damage. It is feared that this deterioration will lead to a considerable loss of original building fabric.

Luxor, Western and Eastern Thebes – World Heritage Sites

Due to rising dampness and an increase in the number of tourists, many monuments of this important cultural site show considerable damage. All major temples, as well as a great number of tombs, have already been seriously harmed. Bacterial infestation is noticeable on the painted surfaces of several tombs, particularly the workers' tombs in Der el-Medina. A good example of the current threats to wall reliefs is the temple of Ramses III in Medinet Habu, where an extensive part of the relief on the south-west wall of the pylon, showing the king hunting, has already been lost because of efflorescence.

This kind of destruction can be seen on all lower parts of the temple walls in Luxor, which are situated only a few metres or sometimes centimetres above the current Nile water-level. Through the rise of the groundwater level in the Nile valley – from Aswan to the Delta – the fabric of nearly all temple complexes and archaeological sites is severely affected by rising dampness, as well as by irrigation for land reclamation. In addition to these problems, a lack of maintenance is leading to a further loss of historic substance. Considering the enormous number of monuments from over 5000 years of cultural history (plus other problems due to its state as a threshold land), it is asking too much to expect Egypt (or any other country in a similar situation) to take care of the conservation of its cultural heritage without assistance from outside sources.

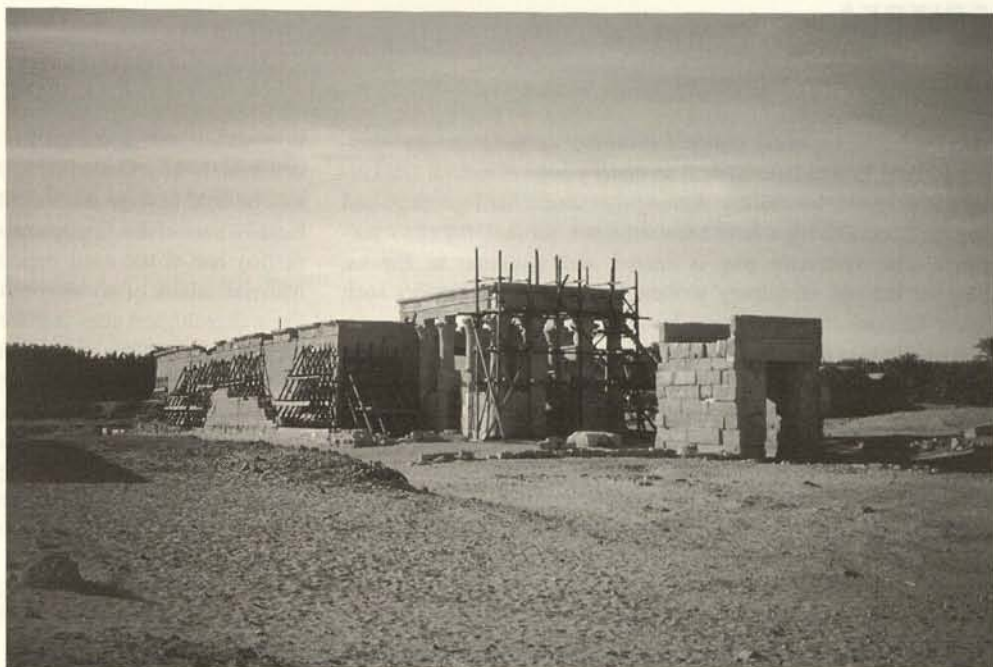


Abu Mina, The Great Basilica in 2001, extensive plant growth due to high groundwater level

FINLAND Protecting Cultural

These temples, which were built by the pharaohs of the 19th dynasty, were damaged by the British army in 1882. The damage was caused by the use of dynamite to clear the area for the construction of the railway. The temples were left in ruins for many years. In 1900, the German architect Carl Ludwig Schuchardt began the restoration of the temples. He used the original materials and techniques to reconstruct the buildings. The restoration work was completed in 1912. Today, the temples are well preserved and are a major attraction for tourists.

FINLAND Protecting Cultural



Hibis Temple, total view in 2000



El-Charga Oasis, Hibis Temple, northern wall with ancient crack, mortar from the restoration of 1910-12

Luxor, Temple of Ramses III, Medinet Habu, damages in the first pylon

Medinet Habu, sculptural additions



ERITREA

The Ethiopian invasions conducted on the southern and the western parts of Eritrea have destroyed many places of natural and cultural heritage in the country. Among the natural heritage, huge and ancient sycamore trees have been cut down for fuel and other purposes. The sycamore tree is sacred and symbolic in Eritrea, because the old customary written laws were made under such trees. Discussions, meetings, debates and judicious matters are still held under the shade of these large ancient trees. Sometimes they are known as the open-air parliament of ancient Eritrea. Moreover, crimes against cultural property such as archaeological sites, ancient monasteries, churches, mosques and historic monuments have been committed. Some historic monuments, such as patriots' cemeteries, have been destroyed and defamed. All these cultural resources were victims of indiscriminate heavy artillery, air bombardments, as well as looting. Other historic structures and ancient monuments have been deliberately knocked down by explosives and crushed by tanks.

The archaeological sites, ancient monasteries, mosques and historic monuments of Eritrea, as with all cultural resources are the common heritage to all humankind. In fact, some of these sites – such as the archaeological site of Qohaito and Mettera – have already been nominated (1997) as World Heritage Sites under the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. The sites have been selected as World Heritage sites because of their universal significance and/or their cultural representativeness. Therefore, Eritrea's stewardship of these priceless resources should address not only issues of historical identity, but it is also clear that sustainable responsibility rises to a level of global importance.

Some of the endangered and destroyed archaeological sites and monuments date back to the first millennium BC, and the ancient monasteries and churches have in their possessions some of the finest and the oldest manuscripts and mural paintings that date to the 14th century AD.

The Stele of Metera

The small, fast growing and lovely town of Senafe is one of the many Eritrean towns and villages that were destroyed under the Ethiopian Military occupation. The stele of Metera, which is located close to the town of Senafe has been deliberately knocked down by an explosive that was placed at the foot of the monument, and many fragments of the stele lie scattered all over the place.

The stele is one of the most important ancient monuments of Eritrea, dating back to the middle of the first millennium BC. The stele of Metera is unique, with its pre-Christian symbol of the sun over the crescent. The stele stood 4.68 metres above ground, with another 1 metre extending below ground, its width at the bottom measures 0.8 metres and its thickness is 0.28 metres. The most precious part of the monument is the non-vocalised Ghe'ez inscription, which translates as: 'King Agheze dedicates this monument to his fore-fathers who have defeated the mighty people of Awe'alefene and Wetssebelan'.

Today, however, the ancient stele lies shattered on the ground, deliberately knocked down by the Ethiopian soldiers. Should history be held hostage and then destroyed because of ignorance and hatred? Should the Ethiopians who are proud of their own history destroy one of the most important and irreplaceable examples of material culture of not only Eritrea, but of all humankind. In fact, the archaeological sites that are found in this region of Eritrea are the precursors of the Axumite civilisation. Did not the Ethiopians write most of their ancient history utilising the material evidence from the so-called pre-Axumite and Axumite sites of Eritrea. It is strange that the Ethiopians, who are proud of their ancient history and who are attempting to recuperate the stele of Axum from Italy, show no regard for Eritrea's cultural property.

International Co-operation & Responsibility

There can be no justification for attacking civilian populations and for the destruction of cultural property. It is the duty of a leader to forbid these acts of brutality and to prevent the pointless destruction of the noblest production of the human spirit. Pointless destruction of an irreplaceable culture is never excusable.

The International Peace Conference of 1907 played a particularly pioneering role in the development of the protection of cultural property in times of war. It clearly stated that all seizure or destruction of, or wilful damage to institutions of this character, historic monuments, works of art and science should be made the subject of legal proceedings by the competent authorities.

In sieges and bombardments all necessary steps must be taken to spare buildings dedicated to religion, art, science or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected (Articles 27 & 56, 1907).

The Hague Convention of 1954 provides a comprehensive code for the International protection of the Cultural heritage of humankind. The most recent conference regarding this convention was held at Hague from 15-26 March 1999, under the auspices of UNESCO. UNESCO has been increasingly called on to respond to emergencies caused by conflicts that have resulted in the destruction of items of cultural property. To that end, the active assistance of UNESCO and other international organisations – such as ICOM, ICCROM and ICOMOS – in the protection of cultural resources is imperative.

Therefore, the damage to cultural property belonging to any people whatsoever means damage to the cultural heritage of all mankind, since all groups make a contribution to the culture of the world. Consequently, considering that the preservation of cultural heritage is of great significance for all peoples of the world, it is important that the Eritrean cultural properties that are being destroyed by the Ethiopian army should receive attention and international condemnation. It is not only because it is a crime committed against the cultural patrimony of the people of Eritrea, but it is also the deliberate destruction of one of the most significant cultural heritages common to all humankind,

Yosief Libsekal
Director, National Museum of Eritrea

FINLAND

Protecting Cultural Heritage

The primary means to protect built cultural heritage in Finland is through land-use planning as prescribed in the Land Use and Building Act (2000). The important role of cultural heritage and cultural landscapes in all land-use planning is strongly stressed in the Act.

In addition to the Land Use and Building Act, Finland has other specific acts to protect cultural heritage:

- Act on the Protection of Buildings (1985): Protection of nationally valuable buildings and/or sites primarily outside the planned area.
- Church Act (1993): Churches and parish houses built before 1917 are automatically protected.
- Act on Archaeological Remains (1995): Archaeological sites are automatically protected. About 14,000 pre-historic and historic sites are registered.
- Decree on the Protection of State-Owned Buildings (1985): About 900 buildings and/or sites are protected.

The National Board of Antiquities is the national expert organisation for archaeological and cultural historic sites. The Ministry of the Environment has a decisive role at the national level in land-use planning and in the protection of buildings and sites under the Act on the Protection of Buildings.

The major threats to the built heritage in Finland (in the order of frequency) are:

- fire
- misuse and neglect
- moisture damage
- old or altered land-use plans that do not support the maintenance of the built heritage.

Main Development Trends

The important trends in Finland affecting the maintenance and use of the built heritage are:

- The polarisation of economic growth between the ten growth centres and the rest of the country, which is causing an overall threat to cultural heritage throughout Finland.
- Changes in agricultural production, which result in many of the old structures and buildings being taken out of use and which radically affect the cultural landscape.
- Local authorities have greater responsibility in land-use plan-

Old farmhouse in decay



FRANCE

FRANCE

ning matters since the Land Use and Building Act came into force on 1 January 2000.

- Stronger emphasis on public participation in land-use planning and heritage conservation under the Land Use and Building Act.

Heritage in the General Risk Preparedness Strategies

The Finnish Red Cross is responsible for organising training for the military in human rights issues during armed conflict. The Hague Convention is incorporated into the training programme, with expertise being sought from ICOMOS and the Finnish Ministry of the Environment.

The working group for the implementation of the Hague Convention in Finland has been operational since 1996 and is now finishing its task. It will present a list of monuments and sites to be marked with the blue shield in Finland.

The national committees of ICOMOS and ICOM in Finland invited the representatives of the Defence Forces, the Civic Protection and Training Organisations and the Fire and Rescue forces to discuss cultural heritage as an integral part of all risk preparedness activities. The fact that armed conflicts are most likely to take place in urban areas has elevated the question of the built heritage to a key point in discussions on co-operation.

Risk Preparedness in the Heritage Field

Through work being co-ordinated by the Finnish Museums Association (www.museoliitto.fi/englanti/index.htm), all museums in Finland are required to prepare a Risk Analysis and a Risk Preparedness Plan.

The Finnish national committees of ICOMOS and ICOM have produced a guidebook aimed at Finnish crisis relief workers working abroad. The guidebook *Integrating the Protection of the Cultural Property into Disaster Relief Work* (1999, 2nd edition 2000, in Finnish *Kulttuuriomaisuuden suojelu osana kriisityötä*) gives basic advice on how to take cultural heritage into account in relief work. A number of conventions are appended to the book: the Hague Convention; the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention; the Unidroit Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects; the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; and the World Heritage Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

For more information please contact:

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FRANCE

Distributed among different categories of more or less strong protective measures according to its architectural, historical, or cultural interest, the French heritage is faced with processes of erosion, which seem to be irreversible. Among the principal causes that can be put forward are the decaying of materials, the physical or chemical wear and tear on fabric – both traditional and modern – where effects are quantitatively and qualitatively accelerating, induced by causes which seem more and more difficult to curb and control. Equally important causes of decay are clumsiness and misunderstanding, but also criminal intent, stupidity or lack of knowledge. These impact on a limited basis as well as with development projects and at the level of urban development.

To counter these effects, the State, public authorities, and associations dealing with conservation have set up a series of regulatory measures including financial assistance, professional training, publicity and education. These measures are generally effective and contribute to a decrease in the pace of decay, but they nonetheless remain insufficient, particularly for certain categories of heritage such as vernacular, military, industrial, or 20th century heritage. The challenges include the movement of people away from rural areas, economic decline, as well as misunderstanding or lack of knowledge.

Generally speaking, the most devastating causes of alteration to all types of built heritage are development and re-use programmes, because of a complete absence of methodology and ethics. First and foremost, one has to recall the catastrophic effects of *façadism*, which, by relegating heritage to a theatrical set-up, empties it of its architectural and cultural meaning.

One must also condemn the increasingly more pronounced and devastating effects of standardisation applied to heritage for varied reasons such as safety of the public, regulations on trades, tools, and materials that eradicate traditional crafts know-how, and eliminate heritage as a cultural expression.

The recognition of the architectural heritage as a valuable representation of our cultural heritage and identity increasingly appears as a necessity if we want to save it, and as a prerequisite to the establishment of an efficient and decisive policy.

Yet there are examples which do not fall into these categories and whose scale go beyond every day action. The year 2001 in France was marked by two cases, among others, that were particularly striking, and these are discussed below.

The Flooding of the Somme Valley

In Picardy, the Somme Valley contains true architectural jewels, particularly from the Gothic era and the beginning of the Renaissance, of which it holds tens of the most remarkable examples. In Spring 2001, the valley was afflicted by very serious floods that impacted 125 municipalities and affected between 1500 and 2000 houses, causing considerable upset to the people and the local economy. About 20 of the more remarkable historical monuments were touched:

- 15 churches and monastery foundations
- 5 walled units
- 2 factories and industrial heritage
- 1 megalith.

At the initiative of the Regional Conservatory of Historical Monuments, the protected heritage has been put under observation since

August 2001. A mission was entrusted to the Architect in Chief of Historical Monuments, who assessed the damage caused by the water saturation of the soil and the structures:

- weakening of sub-soil and layers supporting the foundations;
- increased fluids upwelling through capillary action in masonry, dissolving of mortars, and potential weakening of the structures;
- salt migration, acceleration of chemical alteration of the materials;
- risks of alteration of works of art, murals, and furniture.

The damage observed at the highest levels of flooding may be aggravated when the water levels decrease by complementary phenomena such as:

- leaching of geological layers by the water's ebbing;
- soil retraction (clay and marl) and destabilisation of foundations.

Urgent interventions were prescribed, which unfortunately were not followed: this causes some concerns for the preservation of the edifices. More alarming yet is the fact that the phreatic tables are still saturated, and that the hydraulic works that should help evacuate the waters are still not yet ready, which constitutes a serious threat should there be a recurrence of flooding in the next damp season. The level of risk for heritage might be catastrophic.

Montagne de Laon

Around 120 kilometres north of Paris, Laon is perched on top of a narrow hill of about 70 hectares, which rises to a height of 170 metres above the surrounding plain. Settled since Roman times, the 'upper town' developed during the Middle Ages, sheltered by its surrounding walls. The remaining part is an outstanding urban ensemble including the Cathedral, a jewel of Gothic architecture of the 12th and 13th centuries.

The geological layers that support the upper town are composed of a stratification of sands, set over limestone layers under which lie sands again and a clay deposit: these different geological layers were quarried for the construction of the town, which created a large system of quarries, galleries and cellars, on several superimposed levels. The operation of the quarries started slowing down during the 16th century.

During the 19th and 20th centuries, the increasing urbanisation, coinciding with a progressively diminishing surveillance, caused the beginning of a decaying process of the underground layers. Until recently, this system was placed under the surveillance and regulation of the police, and under the responsibility of the municipal services.

The uncontrolled evacuation of the pluvial water has been added to by the considerable increase of domestic uses of water (up to 100 times within 50 years), which discharges directly into the geological layers of sands and soft clay, affecting their resistance. It must be remembered that the numerous underground systems are walled up and their condition is completely unknown: one is entitled to fear circumscribed collapses or a general landslide of the limestone layer.

The consequences have already been identified. The Gothic Cathedral, one of the major masterpieces of early Gothic architecture, has experienced localised failure of the foundations, with the

risks of repercussions on the vaults, the superstructures, and the general stability.

On the walls of the upper town (14th–15th centuries) observations are made of more and more frequent and significant collapses. In addition, effects are visible on the most important buildings of the upper town (Old Bishop's palace, the law courts) and other churches and chapels, as well as in the historical town, covered as a protected zone.

It is recommended that a multi-disciplinary survey be urgently launched that includes geologists, archaeologists, architects of the Historical Monuments Department and (BET) the research consultancy in charge of prospecting. It is most urgent to gain an exact knowledge of the soil and the galleries: their number, position and level; their condition and the rate of decay of the geological layers. As well, we must identify the urgent steps to be taken until definite measures can be identified, financed and applied. We remain aware that numerous excavations date back to the Middle Ages and thus will also represent a major interest in relation to the history of the quarrying techniques.

The rescue of the hill of Laon is a major, national project, which calls for strong and urgent action.

ICOMOS France

FRANCE

Réparti en plusieurs catégories qui le protègent de façon plus ou moins forte, en fonction de son intérêt architectural historique ou culturel, le patrimoine français est frappé de phénomènes d'érosion qui paraissent irréversibles. Parmi les causes principales, il faut invoquer la dégradation de la matière, dégradation physique ou chimique des matériaux, autant matériaux traditionnels que modernes, où les phénomènes s'accroissent qualitativement et quantitativement, provoqués par des causes qui paraissent de plus en plus difficiles à enrayer. Causes également majeures de dégradation, la maladresse, l'incompréhension, mais aussi la malveillance, la bêtise ou l'incompétence, autant au niveau ponctuel qu'au niveau de l'aménagement et de l'urbanisme.

Pour contrer ces effets, l'Etat, les collectivités publiques, et les Associations de Sauvegarde, mettent en place des mesures réglementaires, d'aides financières, de formation professionnelle, de publicité, de sensibilisation, etc. Ces actions sont généralement efficaces, et contribuent à ralentir ce phénomène ; mais elles restent malgré tout encore insuffisantes, en particulier pour le patrimoine atypique : patrimoine vernaculaire, militaire, industriel, ou patrimoine du 20^{ème} siècle, autant pour des raisons d'exode rural ou de déclin économique, que pour des raisons de méconnaissance ou d'incompréhension.

Plus généralement, et tout patrimoine confondu, ce sont les programmes d'aménagement et de réutilisation qui sont les plus redoutables causes d'altération, du fait d'une totale absence de méthodologie et d'éthique. Au premier rang, on rappellera les effets catastrophiques du façadisme qui en considérant le patrimoine comme un décor de théâtre, le vide de sa signification architecturale et culturelle.

Mais aussi doit-on dénoncer les effets dévastateurs de plus en plus prononcés que la normalisation impose au patrimoine, pour des raisons de sécurité incendie, sécurité des personnes, réglementation sur les métiers, les outils, les matériaux, qui en condamnant les savoir-faire artisanaux, condamne le Patrimoine comme expression culturelle.

La reconnaissance du Patrimoine architectural comme exception culturelle apparaît de plus en plus comme une nécessité de sa sauvegarde, et comme préalable indispensable à la mise en œuvre d'une politique efficace et décisive.

Mais il est des exemples qui échappent à ces considérations et sont d'une échelle qui dépasse l'action quotidienne. L'année 2001 a vu en France deux cas, parmi d'autres, particulièrement marquants:

Inondation de la Vallée de la Somme

En Picardie, la Vallée de la Somme rassemble de véritables joyaux de l'architecture, en particulier de l'époque gothique et du début de la Renaissance, dont elle compte plusieurs dizaines de témoins les plus remarquables.

Au printemps 2001, la vallée a été affligée de très importantes inondations qui ont concerné 125 communes, 1500 à 2000 maisons, provoquant un préjudice considérable à l'économie et à la population locales.

Une vingtaine d'édifices Monuments Historiques parmi les plus remarquables ont été atteints:

- 15 églises et fondations monastiques
- 5 ensembles fortifiés
- 2 usines et patrimoine industriel
- 1 mégalithe.

A l'initiative de la Conservation Régionale des Monuments Historiques, une mise en observation du patrimoine protégé était entreprise dès le mois d'août 2001. Une mission était confiée à l'Architecte en Chef des Monuments Historiques qui constatait les désordres consécutifs à la saturation des sols et des structures:

- affaiblissement des sous-sols et des couches portant les fondations;
- accroissement des remontées capillaires dans les maçonneries, dissolution des mortiers, et affaiblissement potentiel des structures;
- apports et migration de sels, accélération de l'altération chimique des matériaux;
- risques d'altération des œuvres d'art, des peintures murales, du mobilier.

Les désordres observés au moment des plus hautes eaux risquent d'être aggravés à la décrue, par des phénomènes complémentaires tels que:

- lessivage des couches géologiques par le reflux des eaux;
- rétraction des sols (argile et marnes) et déstabilisation des fondations.

Des prescriptions d'intervention d'urgence ont été conseillées; malheureusement sans suite, ce qui n'est pas sans inquiéter sur la conservation des édifices. Plus inquiétant encore est la constatation que les nappes phréatiques sont toujours saturées, et que les ouvrages hydrauliques devant faciliter l'évacuation des eaux ne sont pas achevés, ce qui fait planer un risque sérieux de récurrence dès les prochaines saisons humides. Le risque pour le patrimoine peut être catastrophique.

Montagne de Laon en péril

A 120 km au Nord de Paris, Laon est perchée sur une étroite colline d'environ 70 hectares qui domine à près de 170 mètres d'altitude, la plaine environnante. Occupée dès l'époque romaine, la 'ville haute' s'est développée au Moyen-Âge, à l'abri des fortifications. Il en reste un ensemble urbain remarquable, et la cathédrale, fleuron de l'architecture gothique des 12^{ème} et 13^{ème} siècles.

Le socle qui porte la ville haute est composé d'une stratification de sables, portés par des couches de calcaire sous lesquelles se retrouvent encore des sables, et un gisement d'argile: ces différentes couches géologiques ont été l'objet d'exploitation pour la

construction de la ville, et ont créé un important réseau de carrières, galeries, caves, sur plusieurs niveaux superposés. Jusqu'à une époque avancée, ces réseaux ont été l'objet d'une surveillance et d'une réglementation de police, sous la responsabilité de services municipaux.

Mais au 16^{ème} siècle, l'exploitation se ralentissait.

Aux 19^{ème} et 20^{ème} siècles, la densification de l'urbanisation coïncidant avec un abandon progressif de la surveillance, fut le départ de la dégradation du sous-sol.

A l'évacuation non contrôlée des eaux pluviales, est venu s'ajouter l'augmentation considérable (jusqu'à 100 fois en 50 ans) des eaux domestiques se déversant librement de façon anarchique dans les couches géologiques de sables et de calcaire tendre dont ils ont affecté la résistance, sans oublier que nombre de réseaux sont actuellement murés et dans un état totalement inconnu: on est donc en droit de redouter des phénomènes d'effondrements localisés, ou de glissement de l'ensemble de la roche calcaire.

Les conséquences se font déjà connaître:

- Sur la Cathédrale gothique, une des œuvres majeures du premier gothique: défaillance localisée des fondations, et risques de répercussions sur les voûtes, les superstructures, et l'équilibre.
- Sur les fortifications de la ville haute (14^{ème}-15^{ème} siècles) où l'on observe des effondrements de plus en plus fréquents et importants.
- Sur les édifices majeurs de la ville haute (ancien Evêché, actuel Palais de Justice) et autres églises et chapelles.
- Sur la ville historique, actuellement protégée comme Secteur Sauvegardé.

Une étude pluridisciplinaire serait à lancer d'urgence, afin de rassembler dans une même fédération de préoccupation et de recherche, géologues, archéologues, architectes du Service des Monuments Historiques, BET chargés de prospection, etc. Il est urgent d'avoir la connaissance la plus exacte du sous-sol et de ses galeries; leur nombre, position, niveaux; leur état sanitaire et la vitesse de la dégradation des couches géologiques. Enfin, définir les mesures d'intervention d'urgence, jusqu'à ce que les mesures définitives puissent être identifiées financées, et mises en œuvre. Sachant que nombre des excavations sont d'origine médiévales et représentent donc également un intérêt majeur du point de vue de l'histoire des techniques.

Le sauvetage de la colline de Laon est un enjeu majeur, national, qui appelle une mobilisation forte et urgente.

GEORGIA

Georgia is one of the oldest countries in the South Caucasus. The country has preserved its rich and age-old cultural heritage, comprising monuments dating from the pre-Christian epoch through the late Middle Ages to modern times. Due to this, heritage protection had always been a subject of special interest from the government and relevant professional bodies. Since its independence in 1991, Georgia has been deeply involved in the well-publicised and devastating warfare that affected all ex-Communist countries after the break up of the USSR. This campaign cost thousands of Georgian lives, not to mention the resulting political and economic weakness and moral and cultural damage. At present, the country remains devastated by the lasting economic crisis and a transition to the market economy, but is seeking ways for revival: cultural heritage is considered to be one of the major resources for future sustainable development. However, for a number of reasons, this process is slow. The major among these are the extremely scanty financial resources of the country, as well as a lack of necessary skills in cultural-heritage conservation planning and management. In addition, officials and the public are unaware of the acuteness of the problem, or of the potential significance of cultural heritage for the socio-economic development of the country. Consequently, and without exaggeration, it can be stated that the entire cultural heritage of Georgia is endangered at present.

In the global context, it is possible to discern several issues of special concern. The war-damaged heritage of Abkhazia represents one of our most vulnerable cultural properties. The still-unresolved political situation in this region of Georgia greatly hinders any reasonable action in response to the man-made disaster. Continually, cultural heritage in the region falls victim to the ever-present ethnic and political confrontation.

Serious problems have arisen in the field as a result of the changed relations between the State and the Church. The just and positive rehabilitation of the Church and its rights has greatly preceded the formulation of relevant legislation, resulting in inappropriate interventions on certain religious sites, which form a significant part of Georgian cultural heritage. In addition, a lack of co-ordination of the activities of State protection-bodies has fur-

ther aggravated the situation, even affecting Georgia's World Heritage sites. For example, inadequate alterations were undertaken on the structures within the territory of the 11th-century Svetitskhoveli Cathedral in Mtskheta; as well, an agreement was signed between the State and the Church on the reconstruction of the dome of Bagrati Cathedral (also 11th century) in Kutaisi, which is inscribed on the World Heritage List as an archaeological site.

The case studies that follow have been selected to highlight different risk categories:

- *Tbilisi Historic District* – endangered due to socio-economic changes and development pressure, directly linked with the lack of specific skills in the field.
- *Ikorta Church of the Archangel* – endangered by the 1991 earthquake.
- *Uplistsikhe rock-cut complex* – endangered due to the unsolved problems linked with financial and technological issues.

Case Study 1: Tbilisi Historic District

Tbilisi, one of the oldest Christian cities in the world, is a 'city-chronicler' as it offers a fascinating narrative of its historic life from the 5th century AD to the present. The Tbilisi Historic District is characterised by 19th-century urban fabric, with samples of monumental architecture of various styles and periods (5th–19th centuries) scattered throughout the quarter.

The city, which had always been and continues to remain a multi-national unity, has up to the present preserved its unique cultural identity. It reflects the integration of diverse cultural and spiritual traditions, revealed most prominently in its distinct architecture. The spatial organisation of the city is preconditioned by the peculiarities of its landscape. Especially valuable is the urban vernacular architecture, which is a significant feature of the historic Tbilisi urban fabric.

Due to its significant architectural and urban value, as well as



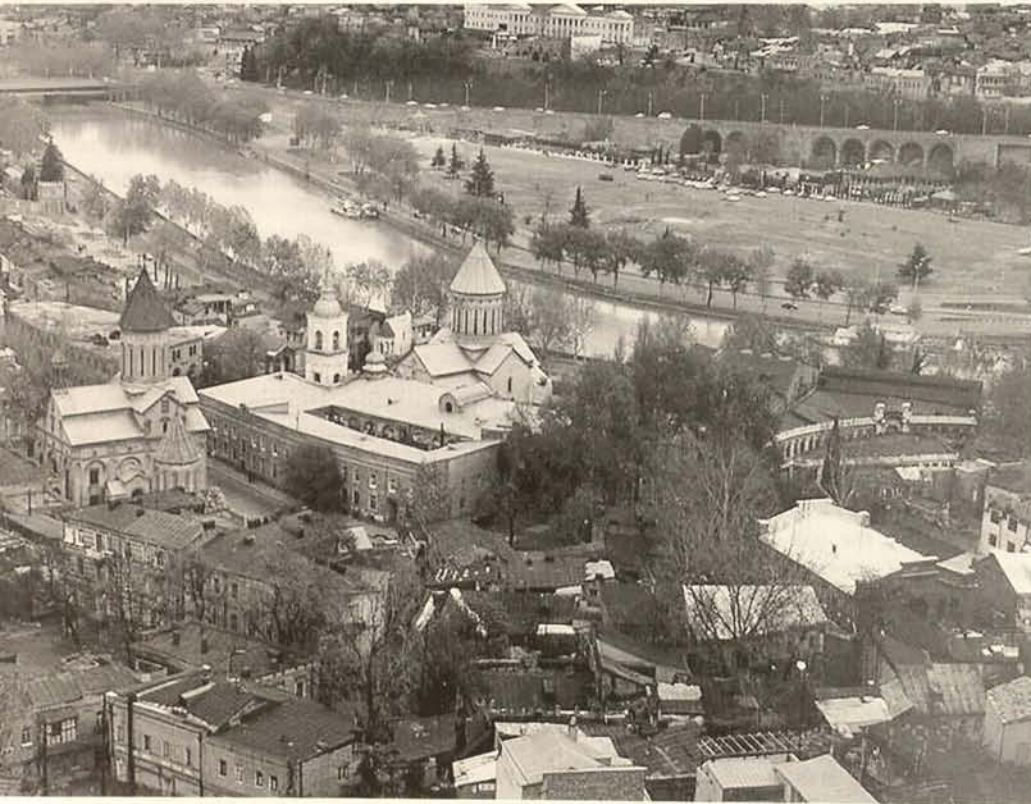
Brutal interventions in the historic urban fabric of Tbilisi

the threat to its survival, Tbilisi Historic District was added to the '100 Most Endangered Sites' list (World Monuments Fund, World Monuments Watch Programme, 1998-1999; 2000-2001, www.worldmonuments.org). Also, the nomination of the Tbilisi Historic District for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List in December 1999 testifies to the statewide recognition of its significance.

The extremely endangered and vulnerable state of the site has become a subject for acute discussions at government, professional and public levels. The urban fabric of the site is in very bad

physical condition, caused by diverse but related problems, among which the most important are: a decades-old lack of regular maintenance; malfunctioning of the water supply and sewage systems; breaches in the application of existing legislation, caused by changes in ownership, and improper interventions. Apart from the current economic crisis in the country, the causes of these problems are varied and often interrelated.

The site has inherited an earlier and questionable conservation policy and attitude towards the historic city as urban heritage. At present there is no adequate conservation strategy or policy, nor is



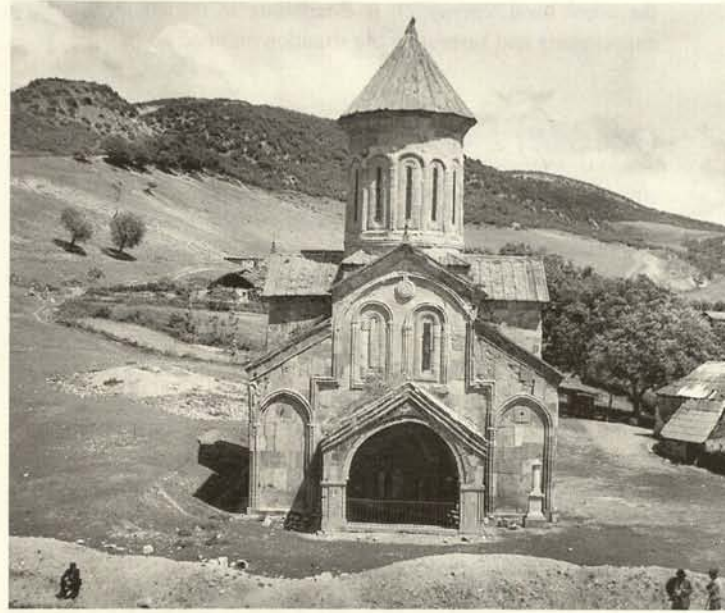
Tbilisi historic district



State of listed historic buildings in one part of Tbilisi historic district

there a conservation and management plan. Accordingly, the site does not meet the benchmark of an integrated conservation approach consistent with high standards of conservation. One reason is the lack of sufficient managerial, technical and multi-disciplinary planning skills. At the same time, the character of the site – with its predominance of ‘anonymous vernacular architecture’ – has led to an insufficient understanding and interpretation of the urban fabric. Yet these individual buildings, which appear to lack outstanding artistic value, are essential for creating the unique urban ensembles and environment. One result of the lack of an updated conservation master-plan is that decisions relating to individual non-listed buildings have led to their often-unjustified demolition, thereby giving a ‘green light’ to inappropriate and unsympathetic interventions. These are often justified by social and economic factors, such as a response to the demands of the local community and to free-market interests. Unfortunately, the economic and social value of urban conservation continues to be misapprehended, and the age-old debate – conservation versus development – is usually found in the foreground during discussions.

However, thanks to the efforts of local agencies, awareness of the problem is quite high at present and, in response, there is enhanced recognition of the problem at local authority and government levels. Unfortunately, this recognition is all too often no more than ‘lip service’, partially due to the inability of local institutions to find proper solutions and effective tools to implement the rehabilitation process and prevent improper interventions. On



Ikorta church of the Archangel before the earthquake

Ikorta church of the Archangel after the earthquake



Ikorta church of the Archangel during restoration



the other hand, corruption is flourishing in the country, thereby encouraging and sustaining the situation outlined above.

Case Study 2: Ikorta Church of the Archangel

Ikorta Church of the Archangel is an outstanding sample of 12th-century Georgian architecture. For ages it has been one of the significant cultural and spiritual centres of Georgia. It occupies a special place in the history of Georgian Christian architecture, being one of the earliest examples of the 12th-13th century Georgian domed churches. The building combines peculiarities of the 11th-century decoration system with artistic approaches characteristic of the new stage of development (12th-13th centuries). The artistic significance of the church is increased by the superb ornamentation of its exterior walls and the contemporary murals preserved in the interior. Due to its diversity and high artistic mastery, the Ikorta ornamental decoration is justly considered one of the great achievements of mediaeval Georgian sculpture.

The 1991 earthquake in Georgia greatly damaged the church: the walls were deformed, perforating cracks have emerged, facing masonry has fallen off and is weakened in many places; due to great deformation, fragments of the vault, pendants and supporting piers have collapsed; vaults of the southern and western cross-arms were severely damaged; the structural stability of the church interior had decreased to a great extent; a large portion of the dome (approximately one-quarter) had collapsed in its western part, damaging roofs and roofing constructions of the western and southern cross-arms. In the following years, preparatory conservation works conducted by the Main Board for the Protection and Utilisation of the Monuments of History and Culture of Georgia and supported by the local authorities were initiated on the site – metal scaffolds were arranged in the western and eastern parts of the church. The situation was aggravated by the repeated subsoil tremors, due to which another large part of the preserved dome collapsed and deep vertical cracks emerged on the extant dome. Collapsed dome fragments damaged metal scaffolds and the roofing of western and southern cross-arms; the pediment of the southern cross-arm was completely destroyed, and interior construction details and architectural fragments were damaged.

Ironically, metal scaffolds, which were to ensure the safety of the general body of the church, turned into a major risk factor in terms of further deterioration of the site. This clearly testifies to the lack of a risk-preparedness strategy and a well thought-out conservation methodology.

Since 1999 active efforts have been undertaken to protect the

site. In 1999 with financial support from the Open Society Georgia Foundation (Soros Foundation – US \$9,500 grant) protecting wooden-scaffoldings were arranged in the interior, deformed exterior metal-scaffoldings damaging the site were removed, the interior and roofs were cleaned of fallen stones, and a temporary roofing ('umbrella') was arranged in order to safeguard interior mural paintings.

In 1999 the site was listed on the '100 Most Endangered Sites' list (World Monuments Fund, 2000-2001; www.worldmonuments.org).

In 1999 with financial support from the Fund for Preservation of Cultural Heritage of Georgia – a joint programme of the World Bank and Government of Georgia (US \$9890 grant) preliminary research, recording and design of the conservation project were undertaken.

In 2000 a grant of US \$65,080 was allocated through the Emergency Rehabilitation Programme of the Fund for Protection of Cultural Heritage of Georgia for works to reinforce the main body of the church (up to the dome), based on the prepared conservation project.

In 2001 a US \$60,000 grant was allocated by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation through the World Monuments Fund for the fulfilment of the conservation works on the site. Hopefully, this last phase of conservation works will guarantee protection of the site. Ikorta Church represents a unique case in Georgia in terms of a successful response to the danger. It is also illustrative that the fund-raising was totally based on international aid.

Case Study 3: Uplistsikhe Rock-cut Complex

The Uplistsikhe rock-cut complex is located in eastern Georgia, 10 kilometres from the town of Gori, on a high rocky bank of the River Mtkvari. This is a composite archaeological-architectural site. As a rock-cut 'town' it functioned from the 5th century BC till the Late Middle Ages. This is a unique example of the rock-cut ensemble of the Antique period in the whole South Caucasus, having preserved its original identity throughout a demanding historical life. The complex is noteworthy for the co-existence of pagan and Christian cultures, as well as the combination of various styles of rock-cut architecture (Asia Minor, mainly Paphlagonia and Media-Persia).

The physical state of the site is under substantial threat: cracks resulting from intensive physical, chemical and biological deterioration have disintegrated rock massifs. Disintegration processes are of varied intensity in different areas of the site. Several parts of the most vulnerable areas were completely destroyed by an earthquake in 2000.

Because the physical stabilisation of the site is linked with complicated technical and technological problems, in 2000 the Fund for Preservation of Cultural Heritage of Georgia (a joint programme of the World Bank and Government of Georgia) financed the development of a concept plan to safeguard and consolidate the Uplistsikhe complex. Based on the geo-physical study, a pilot project was prepared, which envisages the use of a method of anchor joints and crack cementation. In order to ensure hydro-insulation of the caves, 'eco-friendly' materials were identified.

Regretfully, allocated funds will only cover works in a small part of the site. It would be helpful if professionals or agencies with experience in treating problems similar to those outlined above were to respond for collaboration on future works. Please contact the ICOMOS Georgian National Committee (icomosge@ip.osgf.ge).

Uplistsikhe rock-cut complex



GERMANY

Contrary to most other European and overseas countries, the conservation of monuments in Germany is not centrally organised. Instead, in accordance with the German constitution and the independence of the 16 *Länder* (States) of the Federal Republic of Germany in cultural matters, the protection and conservation of monuments and sites are the responsibility of each individual *Land*, which itself pursues this task in co-operation with the towns and communities on a regional and local level. Since the German re-unification, this applies also to the five East German States on the territory of the former GDR, as well as to the State of Berlin. The former Central Institute for Monument Conservation of the GDR was dissolved. In accordance with this constitutional regulation, all German States have their own monument protection laws, which, although they have many important principles in common, take regional peculiarities into consideration: for example, the competence and regulations regarding the relevant authorities and levels of administration.

On the whole, the ministries in each State responsible for either culture and the arts or for buildings and town planning are also legally and politically in charge of conservation issues. The so-called *Landesämter für Denkmalpflege* (State Conservation Offices), responsible for the conservation of monuments and sites as well as for parks and archaeological sites on a regional level, are subordinated to these ministries. Their main tasks are listing and research on these monuments, to give expert opinion on matters of conservation and restoration, to prepare documentations and to grant and distribute public subsidies. The State Conservation Offices work together with the local conservation departments of the districts and the larger towns.

In total there are approximately one million listed monuments in Germany, about 100,000 objects each in Bavaria and Saxony, the lowest numbers being in the City States of Bremen, Hamburg and Berlin. Apart from public subsidies for monument conservation, for the largest part provided by the 16 States, there are certain cases where funds from the Federal Government can be obtained. This applies, for instance, to grants from the programme concerning 'cultural goods of national value', looked after by the German Federal Government Commissioner for Cultural Affairs and the Media. Very considerable subsidies have been granted by the programme of the Federal Ministry of Buildings on 'urban conservation'. The five East German States and the eastern part of Berlin have profited from this programme, which is equally funded by the *Länder* and the towns. Thus, in more than 120 large-size monument areas (including entire towns, ensembles and complexes), the decay of the historic building fabric has been stopped and a revitalisation of endangered old town-quarters has begun since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989/90. During the past 10 years, the *Deutsche Stiftung Denkmalschutz* (German Foundation for Monument Conservation) has also supported a large number of individual objects in Germany, focussing mostly on East Germany and thus preventing the loss of important monuments. The biggest private foundation for monument conservation, the *Messerschmitt Stiftung* in Munich, has contributed not only to saving individual sites in Bavaria but also in Brandenburg and Saxony.

However, the innumerable private owners of all kinds of monuments are responsible for their maintenance and protection. On the whole, these owners receive no public or other funds worth mentioning for maintaining their buildings and gardens or for letting their property, so that it can be managed sensibly and used properly on a long-term basis. Tax legislation offers owners of monu-

ments important opportunities to write-off measures necessary for their upkeep and sensible use. These tax advantages are also intended to serve as an incentive for private investors to buy unused empty monuments and repair them for a new purpose, instead of investing in competing plots for new houses, which contribute to spoiling the landscape outside historic village and town centres.

Current Threats to Monuments in Germany

Obvious or gradual threats to the monument stock have very different and sometimes contradictory reasons. First there is the pressure by large, internationally active firms threatening monuments in the attractive central areas of our towns by wanting to change them in accordance with their demands. The characteristic results of conservation in large towns, being full of conflicts anyway, are examples of so-called *façadism*, a type of backward erosion, sacrificing the fabric of the interior of buildings for the sake of basement garages, whole storeys for technical equipment and maximum utilisation of properties. Sometimes nothing remains other than 'stage-set' façades adorning the townscapes (for example in Berlin, Frankfurt/Main, Hamburg, Leipzig). The most recent example of such a brutal development plan is the 'Europa-Passage' project in Hamburg, where an entire complex of historic buildings, including two especially important merchant houses from around 1900, are destined to be sacrificed.

In view of the stagnating or even declining economic situation and a worrying demographic development, as can be seen particularly in some regions of East Germany, the problem of unused old buildings and monuments has reached an alarming stage. This applies not only to agricultural, commercial and industrial buildings, which due to rapid economic and structural changes increasingly stand empty and need new solutions for a sustainable re-use, but especially to the stock of residential buildings, which is indirectly affected by the declining population in some areas. Current discussions of publicly sponsored 'demolition programmes', first stages of which have already been implemented, illustrate the dramatic developments. These programmes have also made an impact on old buildings at least worth preserving or sometimes even of monument status. There are, for instance, individual examples of late-19th century blocks of flats or of 20th-century Modernism, which the public has difficulties in accepting as architectural monuments.

Important historic industrial monuments, which in some places in East Germany survived during the post-war years, are now under considerable pressure: due to a lack of economic demand there are no concepts of funding for adequate re-use and modernisation. The recent public dispute about the future of Vockerode power station may be representative of this current threat. The power station is a landmark of modern architecture from the time between the two World Wars, located in the 'industrial-garden kingdom' of Dessau-Wörlitz (Sachsen-Anhalt): its prominent group of chimneys were detonated in September. The taskforce for 'Industrial Archaeology' of the Union of German Conservationists has protested against similar attempts to demolish the overburden-conveying bridge of Böhlen II, situated near Leipzig (Saxony) and considered as 'the flagship of the history of brown-coal mining from the 1930s'. The taskforce has appealed to the people responsible to preserve the oldest and longest conveying bridge for



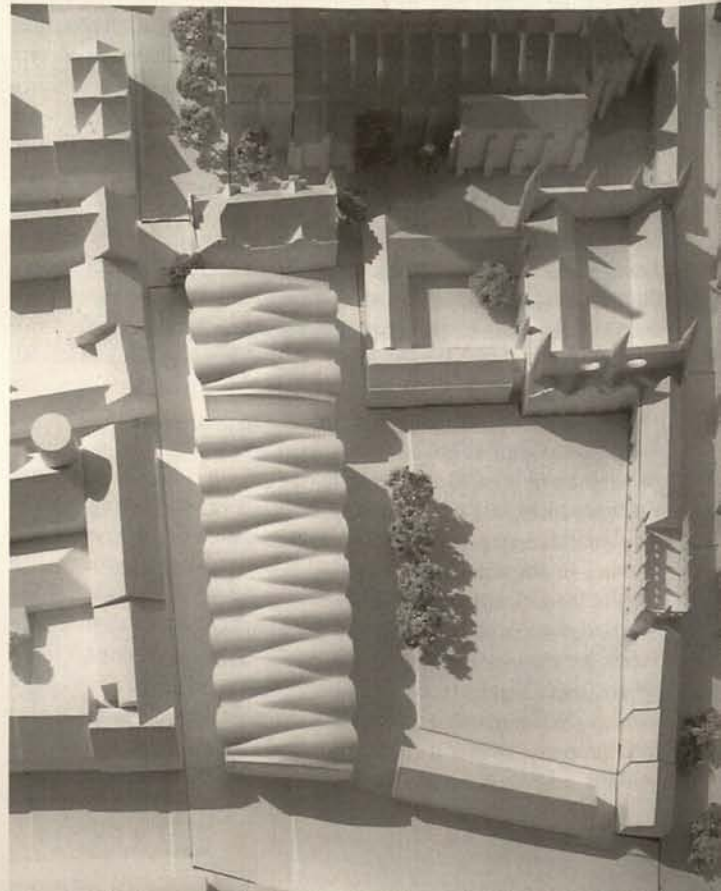
Lübeck, view from the Petri church to the market square, showing the town hall and St Mary's church. In the foreground the former post office.

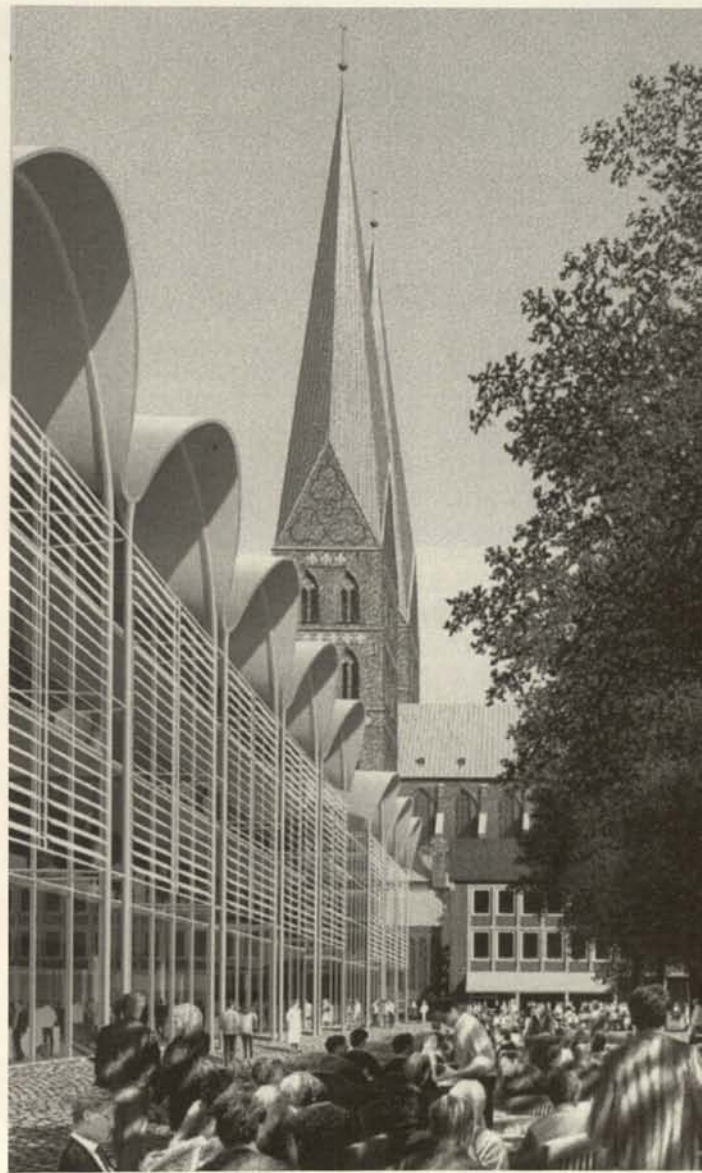
brown-coal opencast mining in Germany as an industrial monument.

In addition, we must refer to the dangers and still unsolved cases mentioned in *Heritage at Risk 2000*. Despite public protests, the cultural landscape around Neuschwanstein Castle remains threatened by a hotel project, although this is comparatively smaller than the earlier plans. Sadly, this project has already been approved by the municipality of Schwangau. Contrary to this situation, the threat of drastic redevelopment of the Olympic Stadium in Munich, a masterpiece of 20th-century architecture (see case study in the *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*), has fortunately been averted and the stadium will remain as it was.

As far as German World Heritage sites are concerned, a positive development is noticeable in the case of the Völklinger Hütte (iron foundry), thanks to new management and conservation plans, as well as to better funding. There is a fear, however, that the palaces and parks in Potsdam will be negatively affected by the expansion of the Havel River as a waterway. This development plan would change the unique landscape of rivers and lakes and could harm those buildings immediately by the water. In the Hanseatic city of Lübeck, on the World Heritage list since 1987, the centre of the ensemble is endangered by the project for a large department store on the city's market square. Even the version illustrated here, which has already been reduced in height, is still a drastic interference into the historic centre of Lübeck, whose building fabric suffered enough during World War II and the post-war era. The department store is intended to replace the former post-office, a comparatively unobtrusive and modest building, as well as another post World War II building. The fact that a department store is considered a valid counterpart to the outstanding group of buildings, consisting of the town hall and St. Mary's church, and would compete with these famous historic buildings in its dimensions, is a frightening precedent for all friends of Lübeck's townscape. Although the protest of ICOMOS Germany has had extensive coverage by the media, this has not yet led the decision-makers to reconsider their plans.

Model for the project of a new building complex on the west side of the market square





West side of the market square with view onto the steeples of St Mary's church: present and projected condition

Case Study: Berlin

Instead of a case study focussing on one object, we would like to describe briefly the general situation in Berlin. After the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989/90) and the German reunification (1990), building and conservation activities in the German capital were dominated by the move of Parliament and Government to Berlin. The majority of government authorities have been accommodated in historic monuments, some of which are well-known and controversial buildings from the Nazi era (for example, the buildings of the Aviation Ministry, the Reichsbank extension, the Propaganda Ministry, the Ministry of the Interior and the Navy Department). Other buildings date back to the time of the German Democratic Republic (the Council of State, the Patent Office and the Press Office buildings). In the course of the move of Government and Parliament, several listed buildings have been renovated and

restored to be used as seats of embassies, residences, missions, head associations and lobbyists: for example, the Swiss Embassy in the Spreebogen or the House of German Craft in the Friedrichstadt. Quite a number of these buildings were damaged during World War II and lost their original function after 1945, being only provisionally repaired.

The oldest monument in Berlin used for government purposes today is the so-called *Invalidenhaus* (1747), commissioned by the Prussian King Frederic II (the Great), now seat of the Federal Ministry of Economics. Its historic wooden-beam ceilings and clay panel construction were partly left visible. The most recent monument was formerly used as the 'permanent representation of the Federal Republic of Germany in the GDR'. Its high and well-lit roof studios were designed by Hans Scharoun in 1950 as a post-



Berlin, World War II ruin of the suburban church of St Elizabeth (1832-34) by K.F. Schinkel, condition of 1993



Student village of the Free University of Berlin in Schlachtensee (1957-60), designed by Fehling, Gogel & Pfankuch, funded by donations from the United States of America, state of 2001



war provisional solution for the building academy. Now the building has been restored for use as a library with a readers' gallery for the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. The most drastic example of political controversy, clearly illustrating the conflict of how a democratic State should handle witnesses of its undemocratic predecessor States, has been the still unsolved case of the Palace of the Republic, situated on an island in the River Spree. It was opened in 1976 on the site of the former Royal Palace, which itself had been demolished by the GDR in 1950/51, and was closed again in 1991. Another open question is the future of the Nazi bunkers in the old government quarter and close to the site of Hitler's *Reichskanzlei*, which itself was blown up in 1949.

Due to the very political character of many historic buildings, as well as of many conservation debates, other highly important works of architecture and art sometimes do not receive the necessary public attention in cases of danger. For example, the ruins of the baroque *Parochialkirche* (1700) and K.F. Schinkel's St. Elizabeth Church (circa 1830) are some of the most problematic cases of religious architecture in Berlin. There is no funding at the moment to continue and finish the stabilisation and restoration measures begun after 1990; in addition, the future use of these buildings is completely unclear. The baroque castle complex of Niederschönhausen in Pankow, circa 1760, used as a guesthouse of the GDR government, is probably the most dramatic case among several castles and manor houses that have been without any function for more than ten years and urgently need to be repaired. The largest and best-known example of a historic park in Berlin, the former electoral *Grosser Tiergarten* between the Brandenburg Gate and the Siegestsäule, which has been open to the public since the 18th century, is confronted with the destruction of its natural and cultural values due to mega open-air events, especially the so-called 'Love Parade'. The parade has attracted about one million people, surging through the park during one weekend every year since 1996. The plant protection authority and the conservation office in Berlin have discovered that central areas of this park monument, which covers 210 hectares, have not recovered from the damage caused every year. Instead, in places, the park's ecological health and conservation have been set back by years (see the further discussion in the Parks and Cultural Landscapes report on page 240).

The privatisation of listed properties originally belonging to the government, which has already been initiated and will continue on a large scale, must be seen as a particular challenge and chance to preserve historic monuments and parks adequately. In Berlin, these measures particularly concern the housing estates built between the two World Wars. The State of Berlin or the non-profit-making property companies are parcelling out these estates and selling them to innumerable private owners, without ensuring that the conservation of the characteristic uniformity of these houses is guaranteed by contract. On the current list of planned demolitions in Berlin, there are mostly monuments of the 20th century, especially of the post-war era. In the eastern part of the city this usually happens for ideological or political/aesthetic reasons (for example most recently the so-called 'Maple Leaf'); in West Berlin the reasons are usually economic or technical. Despite forceful protests from university and conservation circles, the Senate of Berlin has, for instance, decided to sell the listed student village of Schlachtensee (1957/58, designed by Fehling & Gogel). The village is a symbol of German-American friendship and the anti-totalitarian founding years of the Free University of Berlin. The intention is to demolish the buildings, in order to use this attractive plot of land for a more lucrative development and to attract wealthier customers.

GUATEMALA

Mayan Ruins of Tikal
in the Forest

World Heritage Site
1979

Monument of the Cold War: death strip and remains of the Berlin Wall in Bernauer Strasse, condition of 1999



Ten years after the opening and the fall of the Berlin Wall, the scanty remains of the Iron Curtain in Berlin are neither secured by planning regulations nor by adequate funding. The present process of converting former plots near the border of the Wall into development areas for investors is a decisive threat to the remaining relics of the Berlin Wall – the latter are obstacles for a legally permissible and politically wanted building activity. On the one hand, the remaining parts of the Wall as well as of the watchtowers are either pulled down or moved, on the other hand the historic no man's land and the 'death strip' become unrecognisable because of new buildings. Despite the fact that the remains of the Berlin Wall

are nationally and even internationally considered as an important witness of the separation of Berlin and of Germany during the Cold War, no special programme is intended at the moment to preserve and repair the listed parts of the wall, or to renovate and use the former watchtowers. The Federal Government and the State of Berlin should set a good example to private monument owners by initiating conservation measures for State-owned former frontier installations, which have been classified as monuments of recent German history.

ICOMOS Germany



Facadism: the so-called "Zollernhof" Unter den Linden during transformation into the capital studio of the ZDF (Second German Television channel) in 1998

GHANA

Franklin Lodge – Ussher Town, Accra

As a result of the increased trans-Atlantic slave trade, the Portuguese constructed this building in 1600 as a slave house to augment the holding capacity of other slave posts.

The structure is of the Renaissance style, reflected in the charm and romance of its character. It consists of a two-storey block, flanked on the north and east by single-storey structures and incorporating a large courtyard. The ground floor of the two-storey block has very robust walls and an arcaded frontage. The house had a dungeon under the two-storey block with a passage leading to a loading area at the Southern end – the less romantic relics and other evidence of the slave trade.

This historic building is at risk, facing major threats to its structure from:

- the tropical maritime climate i.e. strong winds, heavy rainfalls and corrosive salt-laden atmosphere;
- encroachment by the sea (sea erosion).

Combined with the lack of regular maintenance, climatic impacts and sea erosion are the primary causes of the deterioration of the physical fabric of the building.

The Ghana Museums and Monuments Board, the heritage institution responsible for preservation of Cultural Heritage in the



Franklin Lodge, main façade

country, in collaboration with UNESCO, is putting forward a proposal for the restoration of this monument that will include converting part of the structure into a historical museum. Adequate financial resources will have to be mobilised in order to achieve this goal.

Tenzuk Tallensi Settlements

Located only 10 miles from Bolgatanga are the Tong Hills, which harbour the unique cultural landscape of Tongo-Tenzuk. The area is of outstanding natural beauty and cultural richness. With their wondrous rock formations, caves and natural rock shelters, the hills are the sacred epicenter of the Talensi, an ethnic group in northern Ghana. Over the generations, through work and play, in building activities and rituals, the Talensi at Tongo-Tenzuk have managed to master their unique environment.

The environmental mastery has come through effective use of land for buildings, agriculture (which engages about 98% of the population) and shrines. The local architecture blends seamlessly into the natural environment, while also creating human order within nature. The design and placement of structures has served the social needs of the community for centuries, and has been carefully preserved through tradition. The houses mirror the social and ideological relationship among the Talensi. The footpaths, the shaded spaces, the shrine groves, cattle kraals and granaries, reflect the cosmological system and socio-political structures. The numerous compounds, clustered among the rocks of the hills, produce a landscape of extraordinary beauty and tranquility that is typical of the interdependence of nature and culture, of humans and their environment. Retention of water for effective agricultural purposes is realised by careful rock terracing. The caves, rock boulders, rocky pavements and land serve as shrines and sacred groves of the community. Some rock areas are used for processing foods: thrashing and pounding or grinding grains and shea butter.

The Tenzuk cultural landscape is unique in that the ancient cultural practices of the people – such as intensive land-use, terracing and strict religious practices – have remained intact to date.

The site has been nominated (tentative) for listing as a World Heritage property. However, there is grave concern as recently the site has come under serious threat from the quarrying activities of contractors.

Nicholas Ivor

GUATEMALA

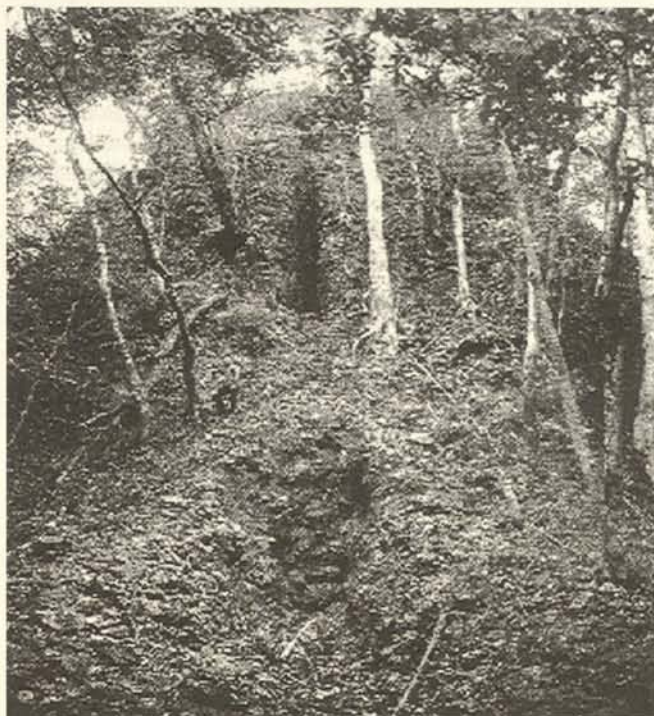
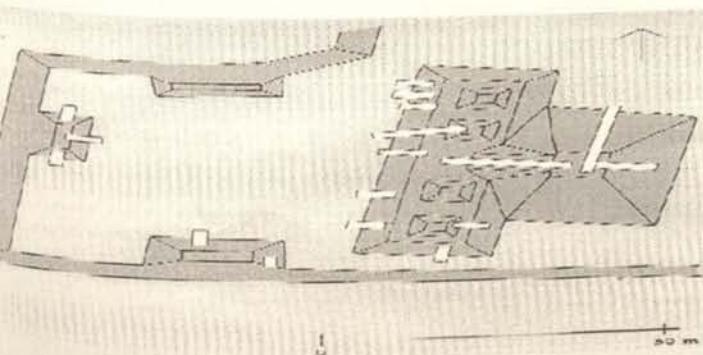
Mayan Ruins in Danger: North-east Region of Petén

For more than 40 years, Tikal has been a source of continuous work for excavation and restoration – and it is now the principal cultural and tourist attraction for the north of the country. Since 1989, the Ministry of Culture and Sports has focused its attention on what is known as the Cultural Triangle: Yaxhá, Nakum, Naranjo, creating a new neighboring park to Tikal. During the years 300 to 900 AD, the north-east Region of Petén saw exceptional construction activity with the erection of hundreds of monumental towns. Recent studies have been undertaken at 64 archaeological sites that contribute to updating the data and to a comparison of the quality and state of conservation of some of the most important towns of the north-east of Petén.

The most important causes of deterioration are neglect and abandonment of the ruins, the destructive actions of the tropical forest climate, and especially the destruction carried out by looters. As many as 2164 recent instances of damage caused by looting in 52 archaeological sites have been documented. There are cities like La Honradez, which registered 203 illegal excavations; another site known as Xultún reported 241, and Naranjo reported 154 illicit excavations. Tunnels more than 30 metres long and trenches around 20 metres high increase the instability of the already precarious situation of the ancient constructions. The investigative report identifies 18 buildings in danger of collapse, these pyramidal temples and palaces require urgent action. For these reasons, the Ministry of Culture and Sports worked on the preparation of five projects to be implemented in order to request technical and economic assistance through international co-operation. The principal actions will be to guide and implement preventive measures to expose architecture in sites in risk such as: Zotz, Kinal, Holmul, Xultún, La Honradez, Chochikitam and Río Azul. As in Tikal, all other archaeological sites of the north-east of Petén are within the Maya Biosphere Reserve, the largest protected area in Guatemala, in which the natural component of an unaltered tropical humid forest presents an example of important natural landscape heritage of worldwide significance.

ICOMOS Guatemala

Magnitude of damages of looting: Plan of the site of Río Azul



Xultún site (c. 800 AD) showing an enormous trench of the looters

The Pochitoca looting



INDIA

Report 1: The Nako Monuments

Nako (Kinnaur, Dt., Himachal Pradesh, India) lies at an altitude of c. 3600 metres above the Spiti River in Upper Kinnaur. Once an important centre of Buddhism, today most of the temples are almost completely neglected. Of at least seven temples from different periods, spread throughout the village, the two oldest – the Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang and the IHakhang gong-ma – are intended to be preserved under an Austrian project. These two early temples are, from an art-historical perspective, the most important ones. Both contain murals and (repainted and repaired) clay sculptures from the early 12th century.

Nako was visited in the first decades of this century by the renowned scholars A.H. Francke and Giuseppe Tucci. They also published the earliest reports about Nako. An ongoing FWF (Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung) funded Austrian research project on the early Buddhist art in the Western Himalayas has documented the Nako monuments in 1994, 1996, and 1998 and published certain aspects of the art preserved in the two oldest monuments.

Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang

The largest temple of Nako, the Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang or gTsug-lag-khang, is also the oldest monument in the village. It is a c. 7.9 metres long and 8.35 metres wide room with an apse at the back, c. 2.7 metres deep and 4.55 metres wide. The room is extremely high (between 5.5 and 5.7 metres). Of the original painting, the south-wall is best preserved. The inner section of the mandala of the north wall, presumably centred around Vairocana, has been repainted. Paintings from different periods remain in the apse, which is also occupied by contemporary but occasionally restored clay sculptures. There are also remains of inscriptions and a large wall-text in the apse. On the wall to the left (south) of the apse, and on the renewed entrance-wall, fragmentary donor depictions are preserved. The roof of the temple was damaged in a 1975 earthquake, and since then only a tin roof covers the monument and protects the murals and sculptures.

IHa-khang gong-ma

The (Lo-tsa-ba'i) IHa-khang gong-ma is placed directly opposite the Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang. It is a small square room measuring c. 5.55 x 5.55 metres, with a height of 4.7 metres. Although the main wall (east wall) is decorated mainly with sculptures, the side and entrance walls still preserve extensive parts of the original murals. The structure is endangered today because of the fragility of the architecture. New water damage has been observed between 1994 and 1996 and an emergency repair of the roof was carried out in spring 1998 (cf. below).

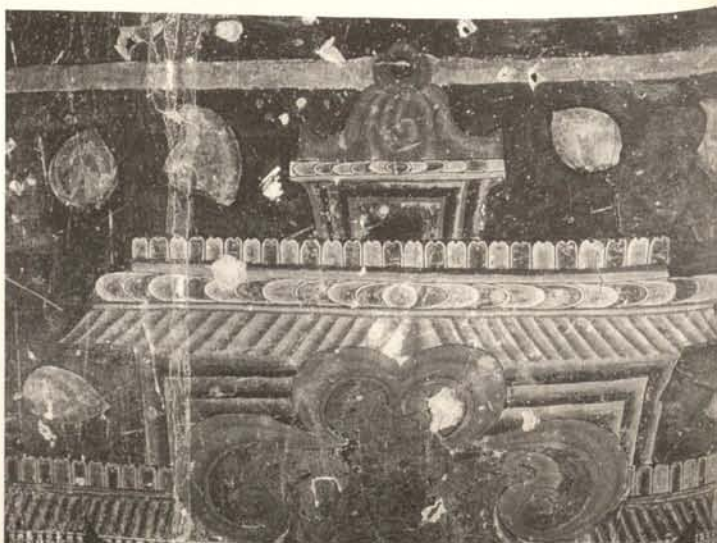
The Historic and Art Historic Importance of Nako Monastery

The earlier paintings in the Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang are clearly in the tradition of West Tibetan painting, of which the paintings of the renovation period (1042) of the temple of Tabo (Himachal Pradesh) are the earliest known remnants. Tabo Monastery is a



Nako, Kinnaur: deity with consort dressed in local western Tibetan dress, Main Temple, south wall

Nako, Kinnaur: architectural frame, Small Lo-tsa-ba Temple



National Monument in the lower Spiti Valley, just a few hours drive (or two-day's walk) from Nako. However, the decorative, iconographic, and technical details observable in the Nako paintings show an unusually large number of changes and inventions that occurred between the establishment of the two monuments. For example, for the first time, the fully developed mandala with gates, fire-circle and secondary non-Buddhist deities attending the mandala are depicted on the walls, goddesses take a much more prominent position, and gold and silver paint in high relief is used in the region. On account of these changes and the style of the paintings, the Nako Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang can be attributed to the first decades of the 12th century.

The IHa-khang gong-ma also preserves unique features. It is the only monument hitherto known where a central goddess as the main image of a composition is flanked only by Buddhas. It also preserves the depiction of a protective deity wearing Chinese or Central Asian armoured dress. The decorative details in the IHa-khang gong-ma paintings are much finer than in the Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang. The IHa-khang gong-ma is thus not contemporaneous with the Lo-tsa-ba IHa-khang, but approximately a quarter of a century later.

To summarise, the two oldest Nako paintings evidence a distinctive phase in the early development of (western) Tibetan Buddhism. They are the only monuments in the western Himalayas

attributable to the first half of the 12th century, a period facing the disintegration of the West Tibetan kingdom. They are thus an invaluable source for the study and understanding of the early development of Tibetan Buddhism and Tibetan culture in general.

In general, the monasteries of the western Himalayas during the 10th and 12th centuries were among the most important centres to adopt the Buddhist Mahayana traditions coming from India and subsequently spreading within the kingdom. In Tibetan historical literature this historical phase is called the Later Spread of Buddhism in Tibet. Due to the destruction of the great monastic centres in northern India during the first 100 years of the second millennium of the Christian era, and the destruction of the monastic centres in Tibet by the Red Guards in the 1970s, the monasteries of Himachal Pradesh are now among the oldest, continuously functioning Buddhist monuments in the Indian subcontinent and the Himalayas. Therefore, the evidence they provide concerning not only religious and art historical developments, but also the sociology and culture of this period is enormous. It is often only as a result of the evidence that has survived from these early periods in the western Himalayas that later developments in Buddhist art and culture can be explained. Thus, the art of this region is important not only for the study of the cultural history of India and Tibet but also for research relating to Buddhism in general.

Ernst Bacher
ICOMOS Austria

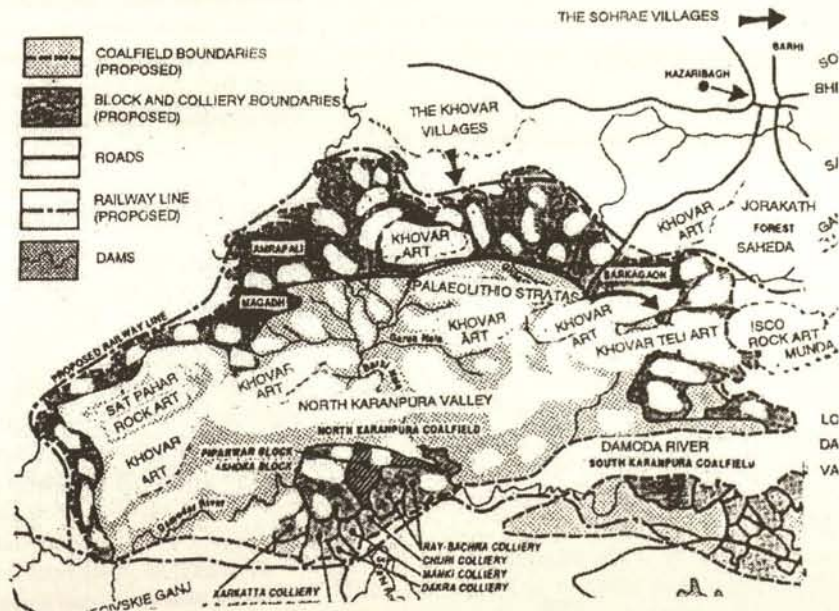
Report 2: Hazaribagh and the North Karanpura Valley

Heritage at Risk from Coal Mining

The Hazaribagh District originally covered the entire North Chotanagpur Division, or the entire plateau of Hazaribagh, which is the northern tract of the massif divided by the Damodar River from east to west, with the Ranchi plateau lying to the south. Today the region is part of the new tribal state of Jharkhand

(meaning Forest Land). This is an area rich in Palaeolithic deposits: Acheulian type stone tools such as hand axes and blades, habitation sites, Mesolithic rock art, Neolithic sites, Megaliths and Dolmens, Copper and Iron sites, rivers that are considered sacred such as the Damodar, and hundreds of sacred groves (sarana).

In 1987 a coal-mining project in the upper Damodar threatened over 2500 square kilometres of forests and agriculture, 203 tribal villages, hundreds of sacred groves, thousands of indigenous



Heritage at risk in the North Karanpura Valley in the catchment basin of the river Damodar in Hazaribagh

fruiting trees such as the mohwa (*Bassia latifolia*), which is the most sacred of all trees for the Tribals after the saal (*Shorea robusta*). Rich forests that are home and transit corridors between the forests of Palamau, Ranchi and Hazaribagh are filled with tigers, elephants, leopards, bears, and bison (*Bos gaurus*) moving through and living in over a dozen ranges of hills. Seventy-five opencast mines are planned throughout this pristine, peaceful area. Thousands of Adivasi families and their agriculture, livestock, and sacred sites will be wiped out of existence without a word in their defence. The process started in 1986 with the declaration of the North Karanpura Coalfields Project, which the author has contested from April 1987 to date. Initially Australian turnkey mining technology began the first mine, Piperwar Opencast Project, along the north bank of the Damodar, destroying one of the last remaining elephant corridors – since then, much of the south bank had been turned into a nightmare of mines covering thousands of square kilometres of once forested regions. Already hundreds of villages had been displaced, their Adivasis extinct by common definition – that is, ‘disappeared’. This is a common phenomenon in developing nations in the third world.

In 1993 the author met the Director General of UNESCO, Dr. Federico Mayor, in New Delhi. Dr. Karan Singh, our permanent Governor to UNESCO, was present at the meeting. According to Dr. Mayor’s advice, INTACH formally filed an appeal to UNESCO to declare the North Karanpura Valley an Endangered World Heritage Site. The appeal was formally routed, in accordance with the proper guidelines, through the Indian National Commission to UNESCO, New Delhi, in July 1993. Despite several reminders and visits to UNESCO the matter received no further attention. Shall we say ‘it died a natural death’. This scenario is standard in India. Whether it will remain ‘standard’ in a new era of globalisation is to be seen. I think it must not. Change is necessary.

Since 1993 three mines have gone into operation, and two other mines have been held up waiting environmental clearance from the Ministry. How much longer this deferral can hold out is a moot question. In 1987 the Maneka Gandhi government refused clearance for a super thermal power station at Tandwa, near to the two new proposed mines, but the thermal power station with a dam was recently cleared by the BJP government and foundation stones laid. Unfortunately the mines will destroy the last remaining forest corridors for tigers and elephants between the four districts of Latehar, Chatra, Ranchi, and Hazaribagh.

Eastern North Karanpura Valley

Rock Art Sites

The village of Isco sits in the north-easternmost corner of the valley. Densely forested and temporarily inaccessible, this picturesque village and its Munda tribal inhabitants face eviction by the Rautpara mine. Isco contains Lower Palaeolithic deposits and deep underground caves inhabited by humans during the ice ages, leaving one of the richest collections of the Middle Palaeolithic stone tool industry in South Asia. It has been recommended for listing as a World Heritage site by India’s leading archaeologists. Acheulian hand axes have been picked up from the bed of the Isco River, which flows through the Marwateri Cave. Borers, scrapers, strippers and hammerstones have been collected in large numbers in the cave and its surrounds. The deposit has been officially certified by the prehistory department of the Archaeological Survey of India (S.B. Ota, 1995).

About 1 kilometre southwest of the Marwateri Cave are the famous Isco rock paintings. Over 100 feet in length, this mam-

moth rock art site is called ‘kohbara’ by the local Munda and Oraon tribals, whose mud houses come to within a few hundred yards of it. Located deep in a cleft of a sandstone sheet several hundred yards wide and over a kilometre in length, the kohbara divides the jungle from the village. The rock art has been dated by the leading expert on India’s prehistoric rock art, Dr. Erwin Neumayer of Vienna, to the meso-chalcolithic period, so it is anywhere between 7000 and 4000 BC. There is an earlier level of rock art that could be much older.

In Isco, microliths of the Vindhyan type, the so-called ‘surgical microliths’ have been found in large numbers, as well as hammer stones and core stones. Copper objects have also been found during rice cultivation, and the houses are in some instances located on deep iron slag beds. In the hills near the village, huge mines have been gouged into the hills, reminiscent of the Bargunda copper mines 65 kilometres to the east, which are India’s oldest copper mines. Today, a rich copper smelting tradition and production of copper figurines continues in these jungle villages, with the unique copper work of the Malar tribe.

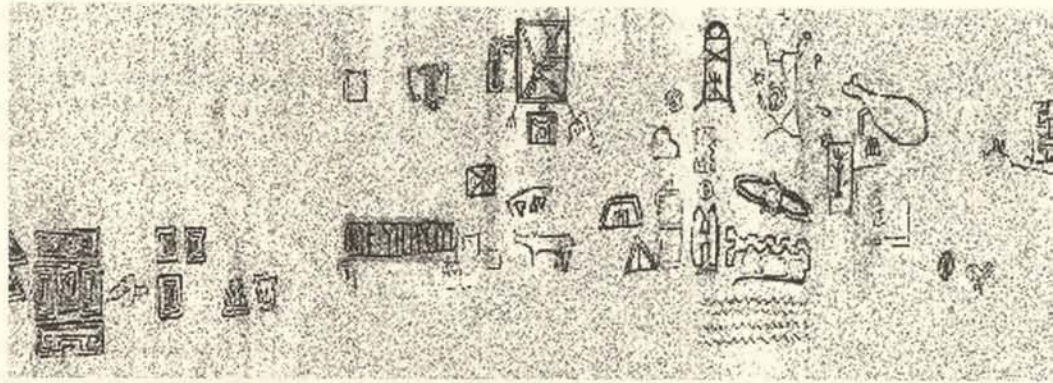
This complex of copper figurines and their sacred representations continues from the Hazaribagh Plateau and Damodar Valley to the hill ranges of Bastar in Chhatisgarh. A bright red pottery has been found throughout the area, some examples with traces of hand coiling. In the hills about Isco a pebbled shoreline is suggested, with finds of pebble single and bi-face choppers. At the uppermost level, on the plateau, huge hand axes and pebble choppers have been found at Chapri, while a wonderful series of flake tools have been found in the Dudhi Nala, a small cataract flowing to the east. Today, the entire region has become famous for the painted houses of the Kurmi and Ganju tribals, whose origins have been traced to the sacred tradition of the rock paintings.

Barwadi Punkhri

This is perhaps Hazaribagh’s pre-eminent megalith site: a calendrical archae-astronomical observatory that is the axis of a plethora of major megalith sites throughout the Hazaribagh plateau. It is located in the middle of the valley, 6 kilometres before the little town of Barkagaon. The megaliths stand on a circular sloping mound whose surface is strewn with flake tools and microliths. A kilometre to the east, in the opposite direction, are the remains of a Buddhist sanctuary with marvellous sculpted stone monuments. Barwadi Punkhri site is in the middle of a series of concentric circles having a major megalithic cluster on the rim. These sites in turn are aligned through other sacred sites to a number of more distant sacred sites. Barwadi Punkhri lies in the middle of the proposed Barkagaon Mine Block, which will destroy the entire area over 20 square kilometres.

Western North Karanpura Valley: Sat-Pahar rock art sites

Rock art sites in the valley have been brought to light over successive years, beginning with the Isco rock art in 1991. Their Palaeolithic origins are complemented by evidence of continuous civilisation and a continuing mural painting tradition by the Adivasi villagers. The Sat-pahar consists of a series of seven triadic ranges. Both the Thethangi and Sariya rock art sites face directly onto the Piperwar, Ashoka-I and Ashoka-II open-cast coal mines. The border of the mine blocks was initially to be kept several kilometres to the south, but it has been brought right up to the hills, with an attendant railway for coal haulage being built along their base. The



Isco, rock art paintings

rock art covers a large, grey sandstone expanse over 50 feet long and 30 feet high, which is painted with zoomorphs, anthropomorphs, geometrical designs in boxes, very realistically painted spotted deer (*Axis axis*), mandalas, cattle, and ritually arranged frogs. Both the Thethangi and Sariya rock art caves are threatened by the coal expansion project to the base of the hill. Huge dynamite blasts from the construction of the new railway line being constructed under the hill are already causing cracks in the cave walls, and the rock art is in danger of collapsing.

Sariya

Discovered by Erwin Neumayer in 1994, this is the most picturesque of the rock art sites, perched 3000 feet high on an eyrie overlooking the bifurcation of the new railway line being built from McCluskiegunj to Mangardaha washery. This is by far the oldest rock art in the region, believed to date to around 15,000 BC. It includes the first horned deity, shamanistic figures with sacred tasselled barbs, geometric upright fish, which appear much later in Indus and Susa, ritual frogs, deer, grasshoppers, votive pyramid, and fishes and small running animals resembling rodents. The blasting for the railway line directly below is in danger of destroying the site.

Khandar

Khandar is a small, precious rock art site about 3 kilometres along the side of the range towards its western end. It is located on a high level of a side stream gorge emerging from the Satpahars. Erwin Neumayer has suggested that it includes the only butterfly in Indian rock art. Also depicted are an Australian Aboriginal type

of honey-bag, a bush-bag Mandala, honey hive, gourd flask, deer, and hunter with bow and throwing-sticks. It is intended that the railway line that has reached Sariya will go right past Khandar.

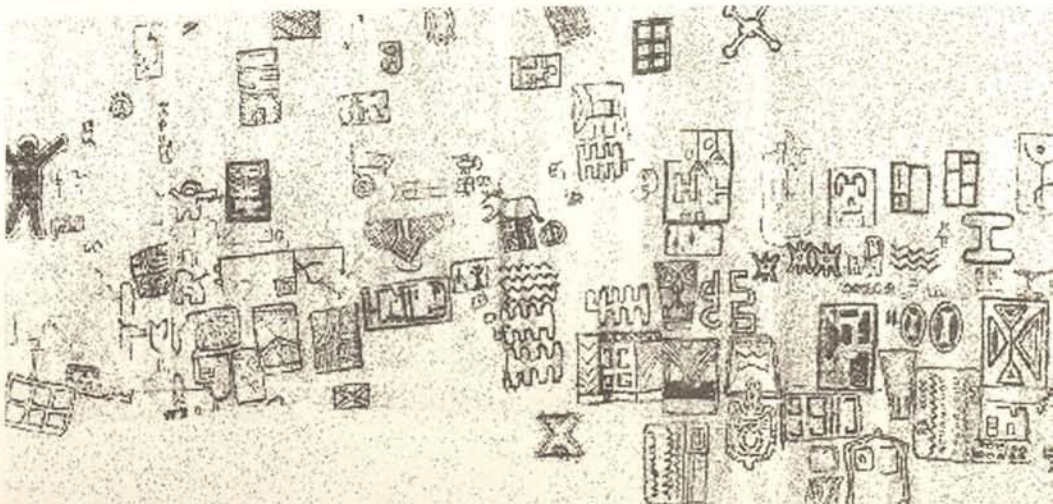
Raham & Sidpa

On the opposite side of the Satpahar Range, on its north facing side, are three major rock art sites facing the triple threats of a dam on the Tandwa river, the effects of the super thermal power project to shortly commence, and the opening of the Magadh and Amrapalli mines. Raham will stand on the edge of the submergence zone, being the easternmost of the three sites.

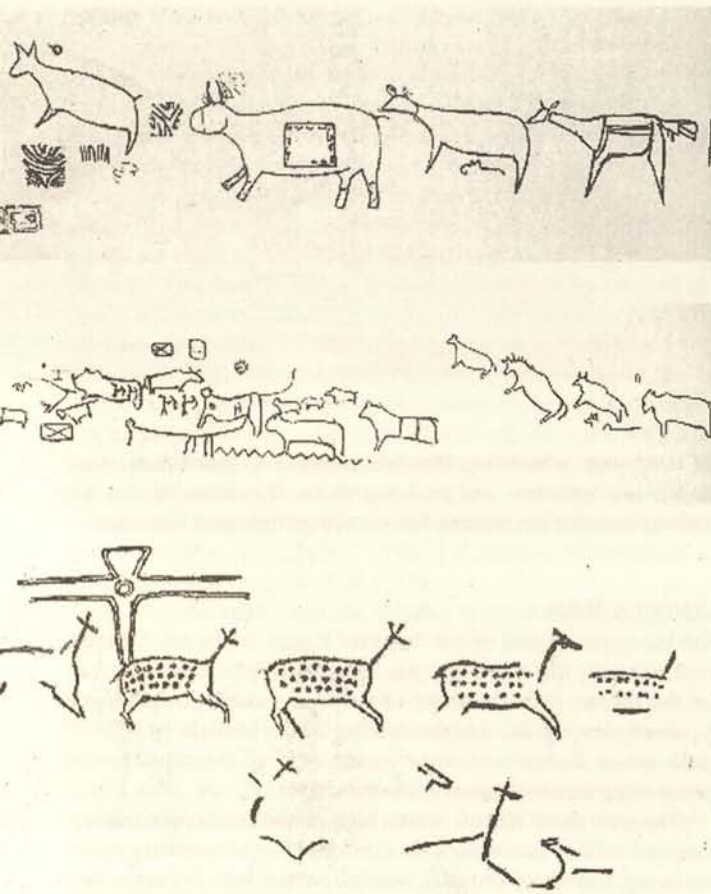
The rock art of Raham is on a high perpendicular/vertical rectangular wall of sandstone with wonderful boxed mandalas painted in red haematite. The cave was believed to have been a refuge for the Tana Bhagats during the end of the 19th century, from which period some graffiti remains on the lower edges. About 6 kilometres to the west is the Sidpa rockshelter with its enigmatic drawings of deer and bull. Also found here is a perfect tattoo design from the meso-chalcolithic still used in women's body decoration in almost all the tribes.

Satpahar-I, Satpahar-II, Satpahar-III

In a row, on the east-west ridge of the Satpahar massif are these three unparallelled rock art sites. The first is Satpahar-I, which presents us with the only examples of deer with bandaged feet – Erwin Neumayer notes this is a sign the art was painted during the Ice Age (10,000 BC). The site includes a bison in the X-ray style, and deer painted in an almost identical style to the Likhanya rock art of the Kaimur range of Mirzapur.



Isco, rock art paintings



Satpahar I, II, III, rock art paintings

Satpahar-II is slightly removed and on the west facing slope of the hill. Here we find record of a hunter's paradise: a string of animals from right to left – a pair of huge humped bison or gaur, a pair of nilgai or bluebull (a type of Indian antelope), a pair of tigers, the male behind accompanied by three wild boar, then a langur monkey facing a pair of hunters with bows and arrows (one hunter is shown in its stomach), a wild buffalo, and a horned rhinoceros, with some more figures of x-ray animals.

Satpahar-III is famed for possessing perhaps the oldest crucifix form (Great One), set over a double line of racing spotted deer.

Gonda

Gonda is a new rock art site, recently brought to light by Neeraj Vagholikar. It contains deer and elephant drawings.

The Satpahar range and its surrounds is facing the threat of permanent damage. The continuance of the rock-art tradition as folk art in the Khovar and Sohrai villages – where it is painted in hundreds of villages by tribal women in the marriage season January to June, and during the harvest season from October to November – must be seen as a precious and threatened heritage.

Forts and their adjoining Monuments At Risk

Badam Fort and Gondalpur Shiva Temple

Attributed to the Ramgarh rajas, a tribal dynasty, sometime in the middle of the second millennium, the Badam Fort is a precious

example of fort building at the time. The fort is located on the Badam River, across from which are several interesting relics and shrines. Mention may be made of a small Shiva temple and stone Nandi, and a Shiva temple on a tributary of the Badam River, all of which will be destroyed in the planned Badam mine.

Remains at Sidpa

Located beside the narrow metal road to Sidpa is an exquisite Mauryan period site with hundreds of huge stone blocks weighing several tons, carved with various designs such as that of a female deity sitting on lion's tail, woman churning butter, and a hunter on horse spearing a stag. The site is within a half kilometre of the Sidpa rock art and is within the submergence area of the dam.

Sariya Kushan Fort

The remains of a Kushan period fort constructed of large unbaked bricks are located below the Sariya rock art. It was first identified by the author in 1993, and brought to the attention of the Bihar Department of Archaeology, who surveyed the site in 1994. With a new railway being planned, Central Coalfields Limited was alerted to not damage the site. Despite the early warning notice, CCL has dug a 200 metre-wide trench through the forest, 30 kilometres in length, and brought it through this major site, dumping 40 feet of overburden over it. It is now buried and destroyed. Fortunately local tribal resistance has stopped the railway line trench, saving megaliths to the east at Thethangi village, and the approach to the Thethangi and Sariya rock art sites.

Satpahar

Lying on the hill face of the valley of the Satbohia (Seven Springs) River, beside a large ring-stone, are a series of stone walls – now collapsed and overgrown, the remains of one of the old stone forts that the Asurs defended themselves against the thunder-bolt hurling wrath of Indra...

Threatened Sites in the North Karanpura Valley: Megaliths

Bhagwantanr, Benti & Thethangi

In 1989 Bhagwantanr was facing destruction as part of the Mangardaha coal washery grounds. Faced with hard resistance, CCL constructed a wall around the megaliths and tiny grove of trees. Due to the coal miners removing one of the megaliths to put in a pillar (which was subsequently prevented) we found a large earthen ghara filled with cremated remains. Pieces of Kushan period statuary were also found immediately outside the walls. The Piperwar mine block comes within 100 feet of this site on one side, the washery immediately along the boundary to the north, and a four-lane coal extracting highway to the south. Where do we go from here?

The 30 large upright megaliths on the sloping hill of the little hamlet of Benti are surrounded on one side by the Piperwar mine, and on the other by the Ashoka mines. The megaliths are believed by local tradition to be a small wedding party, with the 'King' represented by a small round-head megalith in the middle. It is a matter of time only before the coal mines completely enclose this tragically beautiful space.

The Megaliths of Thethangi are at the base of the hill, about 500 yards to the north of Bandy Bhagat (Oraon)'s house, on the

path leading toward the rock art. In all there are over 30 megaliths, which include a unique square example, and another about 20 feet long, lying in a horizontal position. Red vermilion on the stones indicates current usage. If the railway line, which has reached Sariya 3 kilometres away, is allowed to continue, the megaliths will be buried under over-burden and the track to the rock art will be obliterated.

Sisai & Urda

The erstwhile capital of a small tribal state called Ramgarh stands on the way to Simaria from Tandwa. Here we find megaliths that are part of an earlier Chalcolithic and Mesolithic period. Located in the area of the newly planned series of mines in the north rim of the valley, the two sites of Sisai and Urdu represent only two of at least twenty such sites of major megalithic importance facing imminent destruction from the huge coal mines planned for the area.

Along with the sacred sites, such as megaliths (*pathalgada*) and the sacred groves or *sarna*, the damage by the coal mines will destroy hundreds of villages which contain a rich archaeological heritage. For example, the entire small township of Tandwa, perched on the right bank of the river they plan to dam, is sitting on 5-10 feet of iron slag. This heritage town will become the nucleus of the super thermal power project and the coal mines fringing the project. The submergence of a huge area under the dam that is to be built on the river will destroy an unbelievable wealth of archaeological heritage, as well as breaking the forest continuity used by migrating elephant herds coming from Palamau and into the Hazaribagh forests in the Bokaro, Konar, and Barakar catchments.

Natural Sacred Sites, Landscapes, Burial Grounds & Dancing Grounds

The entire upper valley of the Damodar River is tribal, forested and pristine, having largely avoided the impact of the destructive mining-development of the past 53 years. The North Karanpura Valley is agriculturally rich, gathering the silt of three major rivers and thirty-three hill streams that flow year round. Ringed by green and blue hill ranges, it is dominated by vertical sandstone walls of its rift formation, and capped or covered with stands of dense soaring saal trees. Throughout the year there is a constant presence of large wild animals such as tigers and elephants. Many of these fauna have found their way into village paintings, in a tradition that spans back to prehistory. These jungles are also the last home of the Indian peafowl – the national bird – which is the most important icon in the village arts of Hazaribagh, called locally *Mayur* or *Mor*.

The Satpahars lie 45 kilometres west of the Sati Range, and form a mighty triadic massive rising from the valley floor, replete with rock paintings in one of the greatest rock art galleries in the world, deemed to be a World Heritage site. UNESCO was apprised of this, but nothing has been done to protect them, and they lie unprotected awaiting certain destruction in the developer's wake. Sacred Groves or *sarna* are found in the middle of agricultural plots – they are dedicated to the goddess of the jungle, *Jhair Era*, and have been left as shrines to her memory when the first forests were cleared for agriculture. Alongside every village are the burial grounds and dancing grounds known as the *pathalgada* and *akhara* respectively. This complex social network is today endangered and is most definitely heritage at risk.

The Mohwa (*Bassia latifolia*) is the most threatened living heritage in the entire North Karanpura Valley – it is a food tree of the Tribals that takes hundreds of years to fruit and is being destroyed by the thousands in the new coal mines. The flowers are eaten raw or cooked, the pearly corollas collect in mounds beneath the trees overnight, and gathered in the early morning by the village women. The flowers are distilled to make a fine spirit. The mohwa seeds are crushed to produce an oil called *dori-tel* used for cooking, lighting lamps, mixing with buttermilk, the residual oil cake making a valuable manure. Hundreds of age-old mohwa trees are being dynamited in the valley to make way for opencast mining. It is not a pleasant sight.

Nomadic Sites

The valley is home to the Nomadic Birhor, a small population of hunter-gatherers resembling the Hadzabe of Tanzania, who move about twice a year to new camp sites – there are as many as 45 pairs of campsites in Hazaribagh. As a result of the introduction of government concrete housing, and attempts to impose a sedentary lifestyle on this little-known nomadic tribe, these campsites are being destroyed. The Birhors complain bitterly of the loss of their nomadic way of life, including the loss of practices such as the rich gathering of forest products at which they are very adept. A tentative list of such sites includes Hathiari, Lugu, Jhumra, Badwar, Chalanga, Konar, Gomia, Potmo, Churchu, Jamdeha, Pouta, Banhe, Holong, Khamma, Panimako, Boudha, Khorar, Padma, Ichak, Sijwa, Gomdhara, Tarwa, Dato, Rajderwa, Bhuswa, Kausar, Baseria, Katkomsadi, Petij, Itkhouri, Ghoparan, Balwa, Jori, Hendia, Kunda, Lawalong, Kari, Samaria, Paradih, Salgah, Tutilava, Sultana, Adra, Hudwa, Phatha, Satbohia Karma, Lukra, Dhingua, Matakdera, Demotand, Tumba, Marhand. Each of these places adjoins an iron-age or earlier work site, explained by the fact that the Birhors have traditionally camped close to more technological habitation sites in order to exchange forest produce for agricultural produce.

Bulu Imam
 Convenor, Hazaribagh Chapter
 The Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage
 (INTACH)

Nomadic sites



IRAN

Iran is an ancient land with nearly 10,000 years of history documented in the archaeological remains that are scattered across the vast, high plateau of the country. Thousands of archaeological sites date back to prehistoric and historic eras; there are close to 500 living and active cities, most of which feature valuable nuclei and historic fabric, thousands of valuable historic monuments, including houses, mosques, palaces, and bazaars, and some four million movable cultural artefacts that are displayed and deposited in museums and repositories. This entire physical heritage represents precious memories of the great and rich cultures and civilisations that have flourished in Iran. Conservation of this huge cultural wealth requires enormous efforts and resources.

As is the case with many other developing countries in the world, and despite numerous positive initiatives and goodwill, it is fair to say that due to the limited resources that are available for the safeguarding of cultural heritage, the present situation is far from being considered ideal.

Risk Factors

Iranian cultural heritage is at risk due to several factors. The most common deteriorating agents, including climatic factors, air pollution (mainly in major urban areas), and biological mechanisms, are constantly damaging cultural remains. However, there are other agents, which have more critical and determining effects, including natural disasters and especially earthquakes and floods that are major elements of destruction. Even though climatically a large part of the country is arid, there are still instances of flooding. In fact, in our history and also quite recently, a number of towns have been partially or completely destroyed due to this natural factor.

Other factors causing deterioration include:

- illicit excavations,
- smuggling of valuable objects,
- the previous unlawful transfer abroad of archaeological finds unearthed by foreign archaeological teams who were active before the Islamic Revolution,
- rapid urbanisation due to population growth,
- lack of proper planning and standards,
- non-implementation of existing norms and regulations.

The Impact of War

In reference to human-made disasters we need to mention the impact of warfare. Human conflicts are not a new phenomenon in this area, but the recent invasion of the Iraqi troops to Iranian territory had a particularly disastrous impact on the country, and the destruction of cultural heritage was no exception.

On 22 September 1980, Iran was attacked by Iraq from sea, air and ground – without any warning. Defence lasted for 8 years before the occupied areas could be recaptured. During this long and devastating conflict, the country suffered irreparable human, cultural and economic damages. Millions of people were forced to leave their homes, taking refuge in other parts of the country. In the process of the war, tens of cities, cultural and productive units, thousands of villages with their fields and environment, as well as

the unique ancient cultural heritage, some considered Heritage of Humankind, were either destroyed or damaged. The effects of destructive campaigns were not restricted merely to the war zones, but expanded to other parts of the country in different ways. Some of the principal cultural and historical centres of the country, such as: Isfahan, Kashan, Tehran, Shiraz, Hamadan, Qazvin, Boushehr, Tabriz, Kermanshah, Shush, Boroujerd – miles away from the war zone areas – were hit frequently by ground-to-ground missiles or air strikes. In the historic city of Dezful alone, 14,500 cultural, religious, residential or commercial units were either destroyed or severely damaged. Half the protected historic centre of the city, a unique and valuable example of the history of architecture and town planning of the Iranian Islamic period, was devastated and severely damaged.

The complete destruction of Khoramshahr and Abadan, devastation of Qasr-e Shirin and Hoveizeh, destruction of a part of the most valuable historic urban-fabric of Kermanshah, serious damage to the Friday Mosque (*Masjid-e Jameh*) and the surrounding historic structures in Isfahan, devastation of the museum and disturbance of the archaeological site of Susa provide visible evidence of this unfortunate historical event.

More recently, the Gulf War between Iraq and Kuwait had profoundly damaging effects on Iranian cultural heritage in various regions of the country. This was due to the effects of air pollution from burning oil-wells and the consequent increase in processes of deterioration.

Initiatives

The harsh situation imposed by war and other factors have resulted in national reorganisation and planning for various short- and long-term programmes in order to mitigate the potential risks of future disasters. These initiatives can be summarised as follows:

- construction of proper shelters for museum collections in various parts of the country;
- the launch of comprehensive surveys for the documentation of moveable and immovable heritage in order to plan a long-term strategy for protection against future intrusions;
- active implementation of the *1954 Hague Convention* through a national committee, training of armed forces, and the removal of several military barracks from the vicinities of historic sites and monuments;
- establishment and activation of national committees of ICOMOS and ICOM;
- strengthening scientific relations with overseas institutions, particularly ICCROM, and organisation of joint training and field programmes;
- organisation of regular national conferences on conservation and restoration of cultural heritage, as well as on the history of architecture and urbanisation;
- promotion and development of academic education in the conservation of cultural heritage.

ISRAEL

This paper is a direct follow-up of the report published last year in *Heritage at Risk 2000*, at that time without illustrations.

One of the biggest risks for cultural heritage in this holy land is the works conducted on holy and religious sites by religious authorities. While the political situation only complicates the issues, the traditional religious sole-control over maintenance, development and so-called conservation works at some very important sites is a real threat. Because many of the religious sites and structures are dated as early as the 1st century, and some of them are extraordinarily important monuments, in normal situations professionals in conservation should have made all decisions regarding their physical conditions. Unfortunately, this is rarely the situation. The Israeli 'Law of Antiquities' even recognises this special situation, and although due to the date of their construction some of these sites are considered 'archaeological', the legislation takes away the authority to decide in such places from the director of antiquities. Instead, the authority is granted to a committee of cabinet ministers, which – in fact – was never asked to meet, and consequently most works are implemented without conservation input. The illustrations attached to this report do not point at any specific wrong activity. They show the three holiest places in the old city of Jerusalem, where works that no professional conservation body would have approved were conducted. These works have been undertaken in recent times.

Although the photos show only the Wailing Wall, the Holy Sepulchre Church and the Haram el Shariff (Temple Mount), this unfortunate practice is not typical of Jerusalem only and can be observed in Kfar Nahum (Capernaum), Sidna Ali, Tiberias and many other religious sites.



Jerusalem, The Holy Sepulchre Church



Jerusalem, The Wailing Wall



Masada, construction of a new cable car

Bet Shean



Resource Limitations & Visitor Pressure

Another considerable risk is a lack of sufficient financial resources, combined with a lack of policy for prioritisation where the existing resources should be used. While lack of resources is a common problem worldwide, the situation in Israel is that decisions to plan, preserve and maintain are not based on the level of the cultural values or of the risk to the heritage, but rather on how attractive it is to visitors. The two photos, one of Khorvat Minnim and the other of Masada, illustrate the same issue in different ways. Khorvat Minnim is architecturally and culturally an extremely important site: it is also a national park and on Israel's Tentative List for World Heritage listing. In spite of this, it is completely neglected, with no management, no conservation plans, not even preventive conservation measures, and no maintenance. The other site, Masada, is probably the most famous archaeological site in the country, the most visited, and Israel's first World Heritage nomination. Unlike the previous site, Masada has good plans, an excellent conservation team and has received considerable amounts of money in the last years. Still, it is at high risk, which is the result of not having a long-term commitment to the continuation and financing of very important conservation works – these works must be carried out whether or not there are visitors to the site. Unfortunately, as a senior official in the National Parks Authority said: 'Let us not be naive, if there will be no visitors we will get no money for conservation'. If this is true for the country's most important site, it is no wonder that the less important are at permanent risk of neglect.

Closely linked with this issue, but from another angle, are the pressures from visitation and the pressures to undertake development work specifically for these visitors. Such development is seen basically as a positive objective and should be encouraged from the conservation aspect as well, but it brings many risks with it that should be met and known ahead of time. The Israeli situation in this respect is encouraging and can be used as an example to others, due to good collaboration between the financing side (tourism authorities) and the 'professional' group (archaeology, conservation, management). The biggest risk is probably to the scientific archaeological work, which is expected to provide results and answers much faster than normal archaeological projects would be. This pressure is mainly because of the need to provide answers that will make conservation and anastylosis work possible within the shortest time. The other issue related to developing for visitors includes the necessity for all kinds of safety and protection measures, infrastructure, and accessibility – which very often, even in the best cases, require compromises. Such are the two cases illustrated in the photos: the cable car leading up to Masada, and the railings and protective shelters in Bet Shean. All were very carefully designed and discussed at length, reviewing many alternatives. All are considered necessary to provide access for more people, for the disabled, and to be able to present important aspects of the heritage to the public – all solutions require compromises and are more or less intrusive. This is, of course, a general risk and not typical to Israel, but when income from cultural tourism is one of the major sources of revenue in a country, the pressure on cultural heritage is increased.

Looting

Another problem is looting – another universal issue of which Israel is not free. The illustration shows a case of theft of the central medallion of a mosaic floor from its original location. As a result of two year's of intense investigations the mosaic was



Khorvat Minnim



Akko, historic town, decay of decorated ceilings

found, but in pieces. In most cases that involve illegal excavations and destruction of whole sites, the stolen objects are lost to dealers, collectors and even museums. A special 'anti archaeological-looting unit' wages a permanent battle against this destructive phenomenon – with many successes but never enough.

Akko

The last illustrated case is of a historic city and another World Heritage site, the old city of Akko. Historic cities are far more complicated than archaeological sites. The very important objective and value of keeping the city alive also means the provision of facilities and infrastructure, serving both the community and visitors, handling property ownership issues, and at the same time, protecting the cultural values. It sometimes seems impossible and if the community is not convinced and does not collaborate, it is practically impossible. Therefore, historic cities need good management, good planning, conservation knowledge and skills – they also need incentives, education and trust. The old city of Akko had the entire first mentioned, as well as government and city commitment translated into big financial investments and planning efforts. In spite of this, cases of illegal construction, alterations and unskilful implementations are still too common. Education and other public activities, as well as model projects and law enforcement, are all part of the battle to reduce risks, and it works slowly. The photos show a general view of the old town and a partially rescued, typical wooden ceiling. Many of these existed in the past, some still do and many have disappeared.

The effort to minimise and eliminate risks is continuous and permanently with us. The risks will always be there and, therefore, the need for education, training, good practices and allocation of financial resources is also permanent.

Replica of a mosaic floor being put in place of the stolen original



ITALY

Last year's report for Heritage at Risk on the situation in Italy reminded us of the outstandingly rich and precious cultural heritage of this country. Of course, the sheer amount of monuments makes it difficult to preserve, restore and maintain all of them adequately.

Three case studies showing examples of positive as well as negative developments have been selected this year as an addition to the report of the year 2000.

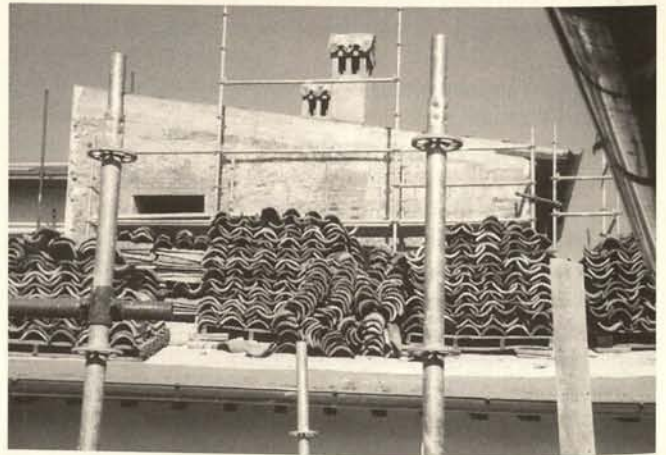
Case Study 1: Reconstruction of Towns and Villages in Umbria, Destroyed or Damaged by the Earthquake of 1997

In the *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*, information was given of the intensive and exceptional efforts to rebuild and repair S. Francesco in Assisi, but fears were also uttered that the repair of this important tourist city would go faster than in the other, less known places of Umbria. In this region, between Assisi and Spoleto, Nocera Umbra and Todi there are innumerable small and bigger towns and villages, most of which are of high artistic and architectural quality and contain a great density of cultural heritage. The earthquake shocks of 1997 caused tremendous damage, on average 30% of all buildings were so badly affected that they were no longer inhabitable. The historic centre of Nocera Umbra had to be evacuated completely (see *Heritage at Risk 2000*) and other historic places, such as the small town of Massa Martama, situated in the hills east of Todi and still surrounded by an intact mediaeval town wall, faced the same situation. Massa Martama had to be

Spello, repaired houses in the Via Belvedere



Massa Martama: The town, badly affected by the earthquake, is being repaired



Massa Martama: Old roof tiles have been recovered to be used again

Massa Martama: Despite strict earthquake protection measures this historic wooden ceiling with brick elements could remain in situ



evacuated after the first earthquake of May 1997, and all buildings needed to be supported by emergency scaffolds: it was dangerous to enter the town itself. The second earthquake occurred in October of the same year, causing the well-known damage to the historic structure in Assisi and to other historic places across the entire region.

It is a great joy to be able to report that the fears mentioned in last year's Heritage at Risk publication have not eventuated. Due to enormous private initiative, but also with the help of considerable public funding, the repair work has in some cases already been finished – in others it is well on its way. This does not only apply to Assisi, but to all small and bigger places concerned, even to individual farmsteads.

In Montefalco, for instance, the restoration of the Palazzo Comunale (13th–15th century) and of the church of San Francesco, now used as a museum and particularly known for its fresco cycle by Benozzo Gozzoli, is still in progress. In nearby Beragna the restoration work at the Palazzo dei Consoli (circa 1270) and at the church of San Silvestro (dated 1195) has been completed; on the other side of the square, San Michele (12th century) is still clad in scaffolding and restoration is underway. It is, therefore, all the more regrettable that the 2nd-century Roman temple in Beragna apparently has been in the process of decay for a long time, independent of the earthquake damage. In Spello, immediately south of Assisi, most of the damaged buildings have either been restored or are presently being restored; this includes the Palazzo Comunale (built in 1270) and the church of San Lorenzo (1120). At one palace with a baroque facade near San Lorenzo, a rusting scaffold was noticeable, however, the building is obviously uninhabited. In places such as the lively Foligno or Trevi and Nocera Umbra, as well as in the already mentioned Massa Martama (which has turned into a huge building site), the situation seems to be equally positive. Under the leadership of the town authorities, all houses are being repaired and adequately modernised. The most important aim of public funding is to make the houses as earthquake-proof as possible, an understandable aim in view of the unstable geological situation in this region. However, this is not possible without reinforced concrete – ceilings as stabilising slices or as tension rings in the wall crests – or without installing tie rods of steel. Historical constructions – for instance vaults and well-preserved wooden ceilings – can remain *in situ*, and the basic structure of the buildings, including features such as winding stairways, is being respected. Even the old roof tiles have been recovered and used again.

Case Study 2: Paestum

The remains of ancient Paestum can be found in the wide plain between the Amalfi peninsula and the Cilento. Thirty years ago it was still almost uninhabited, but is now almost completely urbanised in a seemingly chaotic way, particularly along the streets and the Mediterranean. Only a small area around the former urban settlement of Paestum remains relatively free from any development. From the archaeological park one can still have the illusion that the three magnificent classical Greek temples stand in noble seclusion. The unavoidable souvenir shops and restaurants at the entrance to the grounds, as well as the museum and the car park, are sufficiently hidden, even in summer by lavish greenery. Therefore, the first impression of this magnificent cultural ensemble is quite pleasant. The three temples are in excellent condition; they have obviously been cleaned and restored recently and in a very careful manner. The central, most monumental so-called



Paestum, "Tempio di Nettuno", interior still in scaffolding, and Basilica with protective fence

Temple of Poseidon (tempio di Nettuno), built around 450 BC and originally consecrated to Hera, is still in scaffolding inside – the building site (including the scaffolds) making a positive impression.

From the conservation point of view it is important and essential that the three temples are protected by fences that are optically unobtrusive but highly effective, even if today it is not possible for us to appreciate them in Goethe's sense, that is by walking 'around and through them'. Another aspect proving the exemplary care given to the temples is the solid, properly roofed wooden frame, where individual hewn pieces are stored.

As we know, during Antiquity, these three Doric temples were not in the open countryside, as the neo-classical and romantic ages (and perhaps we today) liked to imagine them. Instead they were integrated into a busy trade place named Poseidonia, founded in the 7th century BC by the Greeks, conquered by the Lucanians around 400 BC and governed under the name of Peistum. Afterwards it became and remained a Roman colony known as Paes-

Paestum, water basin in the former atrium of a Roman house: damaged covering of the wall crests, destroyed antique plaster, broken mosaic floor, extensive plant growth





Herculaneum, former shore front underneath the "Area Sacra" (entrance to the excavation)



Herculaneum, 5th Cardo with street front of the vestibule of the Palestra in danger of collapse

Both sides of the building fronts of the Decumano Massimo blocked off



tum, until its gradual decline in late Antiquity. The walls that completely surrounded the town and part of the settlement have been excavated. In comparison to the whole area, this is only a small strip between the temple of Ceres and the southern town gate, the Porta della Giustizia, along the Via Sacra connecting the three temples, the Greek agora and the Roman forum. This excavated and exposed part of the town – with architectural remains from Greek, Lucanian and above all Roman times – is regrettably much neglected and cannot be compared with the state of the three classical temples. The whole excavated area is heavily overgrown by weeds and bushes, particularly in the area between the Forum and the Tempio di Cerere and in the villa district west of Via Sacra. Here the plasters and the crests of the house walls, which are up to 1.5 metres high, are no longer sufficiently protected; furthermore, the elaborate mosaic floors are overgrown with bits broken off, tempting visitors to take coloured stones home as souvenirs. The situation is slightly better in the area of the Agora forum; however, the typically high substructure of the Roman Capitoline temple is used as a viewing terrace and climbing frame, with the individual architectural elements such as capitals and mouldings gradually sinking into the ground.

It is imperative that the site be adequately preserved and protected, due to the importance of the excavated area for the understanding that the three temples were integrated into a town, as well as to the high quality of the architectural remains.

Case Study 3: Herculaneum

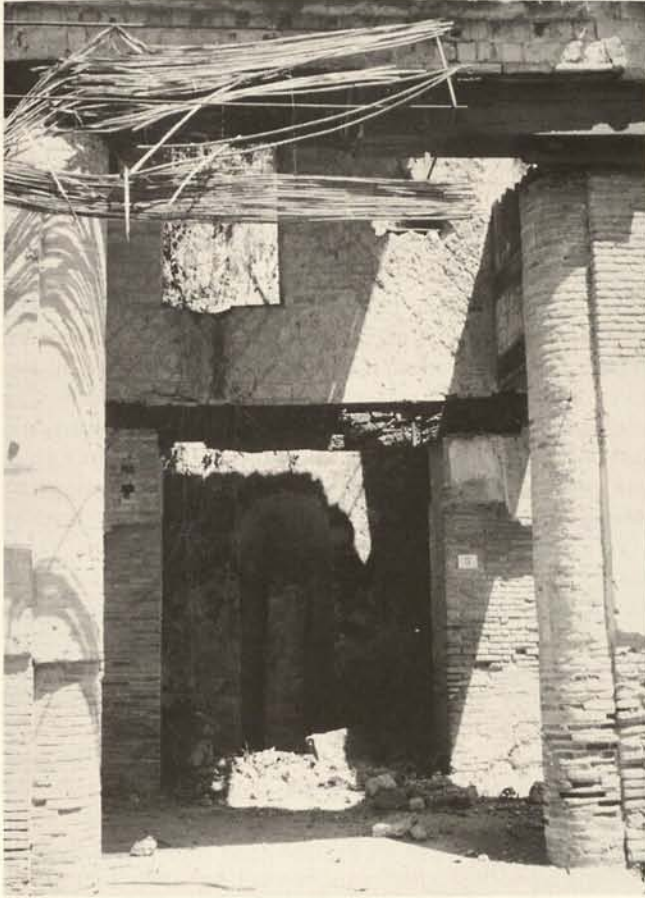
In the 2000 Report the lamentable situation in Pompeii was described in detail. Herculaneum, too, was buried by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD, but in contrast to Pompeii, not by hot ashes and lapilli but by muddy ashes and afterwards by lava. The excavation area in Herculaneum is smaller than that in Pompeii. The buildings, however, are comparatively better preserved and include a whole range of wooden elements. In the same way as Pompeii, Herculaneum has been only partly excavated; above the many metres of lava layers there is modern Ercolano.

It is regrettable to conclude that the conservation and care of this outstanding cultural site is in an equally bad state as that of Pompeii. The decay of the exposed buildings continues at great speed and the efforts to retard this development are far too small. The causes of this decay include unhindered plant growth on the protective roofs, as well as on the wall crests and original floors; and also inadequate or non-functioning water drainage from the roofs, resulting in the destruction of the roofs until they collapse. Without these roofs the antique masonry, the plasters with paintings, the floors and the wooden elements are also exposed to destruction. Moreover, similar to Pompeii, the restored areas open to the public are not sufficiently protected, especially the antique composition floors and mosaic floors.

The extent of the neglect and the consequent decay becomes apparent if one compares the present state with a small, but very instructive brochure from 1997 – the *Itinerario Archeologico Ragionato* by Mario Pagano, Director of the excavations.

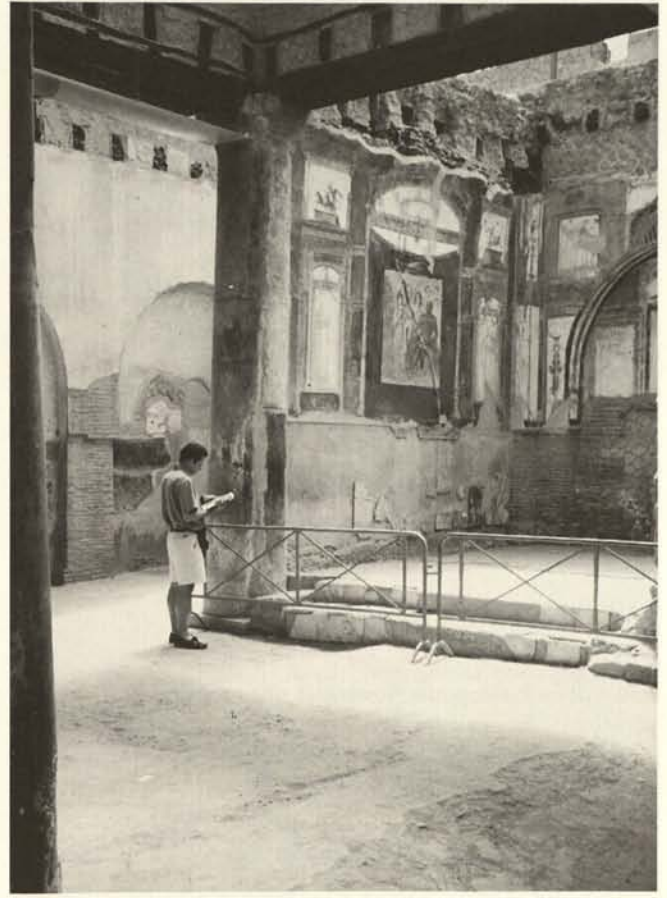
Immediately, at the beginning of a visit, one is shocked by the state of the substructure in the 'area sacra' and of the terrace with the altar of M. Nonio Balbo, considering that in 1981 well-preserved remains of more than 250 people were discovered here at what is the former coastline of the Mediterranean. These people died of hot gases when they sought shelter from the eruptions of Vesuvius in the vaults open to the sea.

In the 5th Cardo, at the beginning of the path around this section, the Casa dei Cervi (House of Stags) is presently being



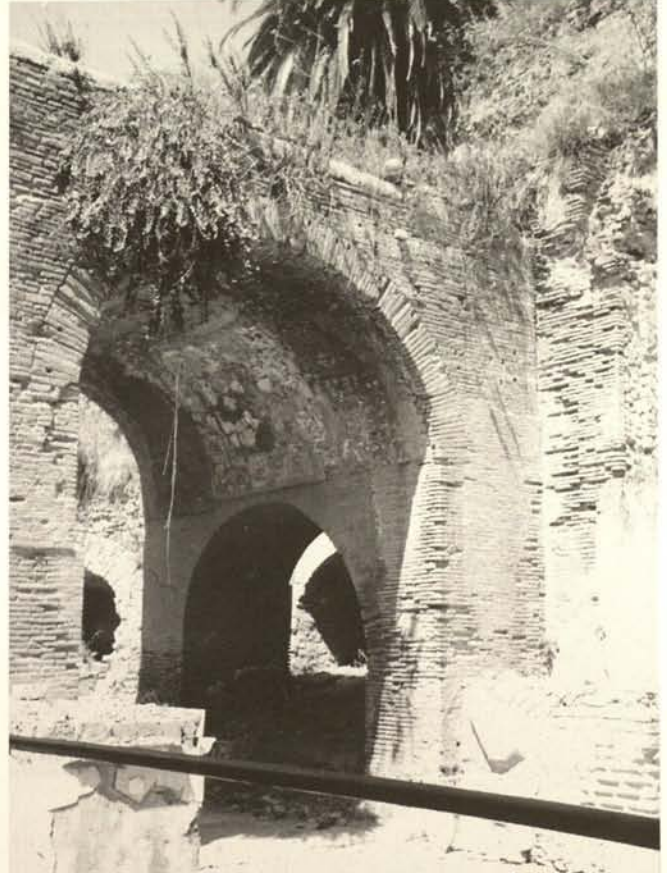
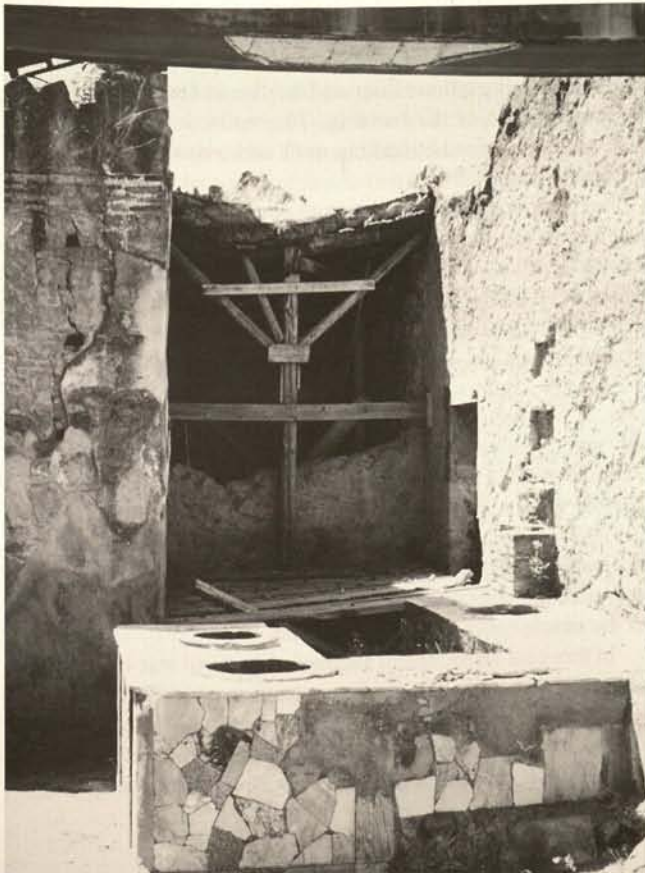
Decumano Massimo, the former shops behind the barrier are decaying

Former shop at the Decumano Massimo with modern ceiling, partly collapsed and only provisionally supported



Collegio degli Augustali, recently restored. Underneath the antique ceiling joist on the left a fibre glass pane has been installed to catch falling pieces of wood.

Archway of the so-called Basilica at the Decumano Massimo, open on four sides, now blocked off due to severe damages caused by plant growth and penetrating water. Particularly dramatic efflorescence on the stuccoed vault.





Casa del tramezzo di legno, crumbling wooden bed frame

restored; on the opposite, south-east side of the street is the large complex of the 'palestra' and the 'sala absidiata', with shops and workshops in front. Here, the decay caused by growth and damp walls is particularly severe. Pictures in the *Itinerario* of 1997 show buildings that are intact and rooms that are accessible; today the 5th Cardo is blocked off, the two-storey front of the buildings is threatened by collapse, at the rear most of the modern roofs have already collapsed or are badly damaged, the plant growth continuing unhindered. Apart from street barriers for the protection of visitors, no emergency measures can be seen.

Unfortunately, this situation is noticeable to an even greater extent at the 'decumano massimo' in the area of the former forum. Here, too, the photos in the *Itinerario* show antique buildings that

Women's changing room in the municipal bath: tourists are allowed to walk on the antique mosaic floors



are still intact and particularly impressive for the many (sometimes even wooden) details in the shops and entrances to the houses. Today both rows of buildings are blocked off by steel scaffolds, with only a narrow lane for tourists kept open in the middle of the wide 'decumano'. The buildings on the north-eastern side are not accessible, those on the south-western side only partly.

The important 'Collegio degli Augustali', which was restored a few years ago, needs to be mentioned, as it raises a number of questions. It is noticeable that the wooden parts, preserved here in an astonishingly high number and only superficially charred, have been surrounded by four layers of glass or fibre glass, a questionable method in view of the evolving micro-climate. Furthermore, it is obvious that no attempts have been made to stabilise the surfaces of these wooden parts, whether under glass or exposed. The consequence is that ceiling joists, door lintels, supporting beams and bed frames are crumbling and will therefore be lost forever. For instance, this can clearly be seen at the ceiling beams under fibre glass in the 'Collegio degli Augustali'.

A positive regulation in the 'Collegio' is that the central, richly painted room is not open to visitors, which is, however, an exception in Herculaneum. The standard is that tourists are allowed to walk on the antique floors – either composition or mosaic floors. Consequently, these floors suffer, especially since parts that are beginning to break off are not immediately repaired. An efficient and complete protection of the floors would not be easy to implement; some of the lavishly designed mosaics would not be entirely visible anymore, also the appearance and visual character of the rooms would be affected. But in many cases – at least where rooms are not passageways to others – a simple barrier at the entrance would be very effective, without impairing the visibility and appearance of the rooms. Of the 'first room on the real side' of the 'Casa del Atrio Corinzio' (House of the Corinthian Atrium) Mario Pagano writes in his *Itinerario*: 'beautiful mosaic floor with geometrical pattern'. With a barrier similar to that in the 'Collegio degli Augustali' this room could be viewed from the atrium and would have long-lasting protection.

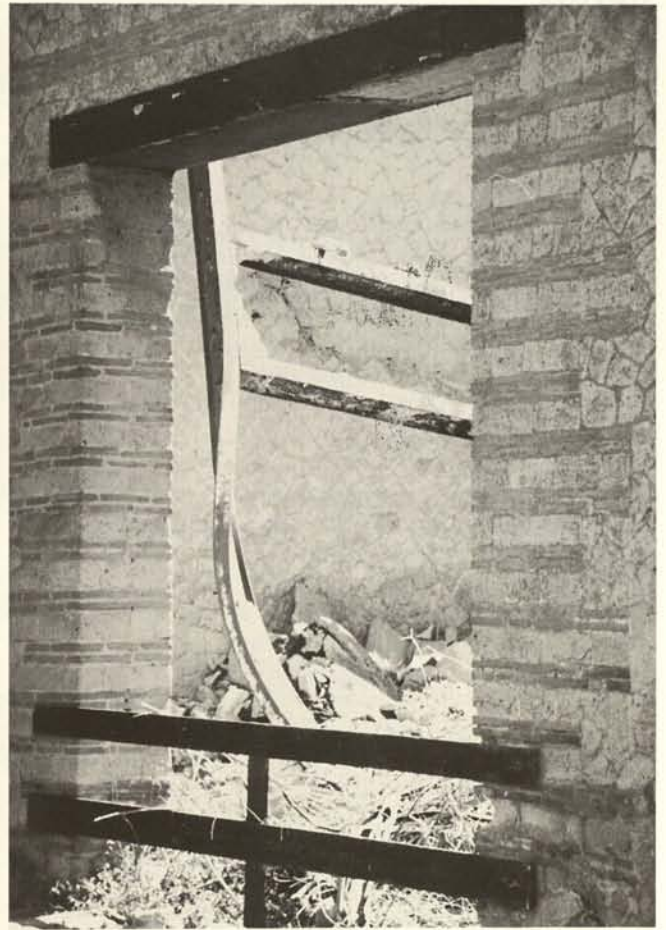
Among the particularly lamentable buildings is the 'Casa Sanitica' in the 4th Cardo, characterised by Mario Pagano as 'one of the best preserved and oldest (2nd century BC) houses in Herculaneum'. Today we see the most primitive supports for the modern ceiling above the ground floor and for the architrave of the loggia on the east side of the building. The walls show clear signs of water damage caused by leaking roofs and considerable damage to the plasters and paintings.

Regrettably, this negative picture could be extended. We would just like to mention the 'Casa del Atrio a Mosaico', described in the *Itinerario* as 'one of the most luxurious houses of Herculaneum'. The richly ornamented mosaic and marble floors are particularly remarkable, as is the wooden frame construction of the glassed-in veranda. Even in 1997 Mario Pagano wrote that it was only partly accessible because of danger of collapse. In the meantime, it has been closed entirely for visitors. The wooden frames are supported, otherwise no stabilising measures are noticeable. The modern steel ceiling above the big salons, which used to be open to the sea, has fallen down; the rich marble floor mentioned in the *Itinerario* is covered by rubble, and one can only guess as to the current state of the marvellous wall paintings. In view of this situation, the elaborately painted and durable sign warning people of the unsafe building seems a mockery.

In this case study, Mario Pagano's *Itinerario* was quoted several times – not only to compare the situation of 1997 and today, but also because he describes the partly excavated 'Villa dei Papiri' originally outside the urban settlement of Herculaneum, which is underground and only open to access by professionals. He com-



Casa sannitica: provisionally supported ceilings and severe water damages due to leaking roof



Casa dell'atrio a mosaico, salon facing the sea, collapsed modern ceiling

plains that the goal to excavate the entire villa and open it to the public is still far away (one would have to demolish all the buildings above, dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, a whole town quarter). Nevertheless his opinion is that 'the complete excavation

is one of the most urgent tasks of Vesuvian archaeology'. From a scientific point of view this may be right, but in view of the state and rapidly continuing decay of the already excavated parts of this World Heritage site such an initiative would be irresponsible.

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ICOMOS Germany

KENYA

The Case of Tana River Delta Sites

A Brief Historical Background

The Kenyan Coast is blessed with numerous archaeological sites and monuments. Their unique and striking architectural designs result from a long history spanning several centuries of interactions with the outside world. The construction and evolution of these sites/monuments can be compared to the development of other historic towns since the Middle Ages, based on the fact that they have been settled and resettled several times over the years.

The Tana River Delta Sites – Ungwana, Shaka, and Mwana – are settlements that grew as a result of contact between the local inhabitants and the Persian/Arabian cultures. This unique interaction evolved into a distinctive civilisation, referred to as the Swahili Civilisation, which extends along the eastern African coast from Mogadishu in the north to Mozambique in the south, includ-

ing both the Comoros and the Madagascan islands. The ruins are located at the present mouth of the Tana River, along the Kenyan Coast at Kipini, and extend in the order above from Kipini, south-east across the north end of Formosa or Ungwana Bay.

Ungwana

According to research, Ungwana has been identified as Hoja and was initially settled by the Portuguese. This site extends over roughly 45 acres and its structures include a perimeter town wall, eight mosques, numerous houses and several groups of large monumental tombs.

Excavations concentrated in the two *jamias* (Friday mosque) and in the mosque of the domed *mihrab*, both intrinsic sites of



Entrance of dry-walling enclosures of Thimlich Ohinga in South Nyanza. Note the similarities with Great Zimbabwe.



Thimlich Ohinga, view during the wet season. Note the collapsed wall in the background.



Mwana, view of vegetation growth inside the ruins and of beach sands threatening the site

Ungwana. The work revealed six archaeological periods. Period II and I are postulated to have preceded the construction of the two jamiyas, and are consistent with the dates 1200 to 1250 AD. No plan could be obtained of the earliest constructions that dated to the period 1200 to 1250 AD, but there are stone and plaster walls that suggest that brickwork rose above the lowest courses, indicative of an earlier settlement. At the location of the mosque of the domed *mihrab* the earliest levels contain evidence of occupation. In the period II level (1250 to 1350), within the area of the two main jamiyas, more walls were discovered above the initial levels of construction. These turned out to be tombs that pre-dated the later mosques.

Ungwana Period III, dating from 1350 to 1450 AD, spans the life of the first construction of the mosque of the domed *mihrab*, a notable benchmark of Ungwana. Period IV, dating from 1450 to 1500 AD, witnessed the rebuilding of the Old Jamia (Old Mosque), another notable structure on site, and the construction of the New Jamia (New Mosque). Period V at Ungwana incorporated the first half of the 16th century, and was marked by reconstruction following the Portuguese raid of 1505 AD. Both the New Jamia and the Mosque of the domed *mihrab* were probably rebuilt following collapse during this period. The final period, known as Period VI, was marked by the construction of another mosque and lasted until 1600 AD. Ungwana ceased to exist as a community in the last quarter of the 17th century, due to the advancement of the Galla (an Eastern Cushitic-speaking people from south-western Somalia).

The town can be divided into sections based on the spatial organisation of the standing ruins. The standing stone houses at Ungwana are concentrated in the central and eastern parts of the settlement. Most of the houses are known from standing piles of rubble – except for the palace, the mid-west section where there are houses of long rooms and a group of houses on the eastern section.

The divisions of the town are as follows: the palace (central), the central section, the south section, the commercial section, the mid-west section, the western, the northern west section, the south-western section, the wells, the town wall, the mosques 1 to 7 and the burial tombs.

Mwana

Mwana, on the other hand, is comprised of ruins of tombs. The walls and the superstructure of the tombs were well plastered, representing some of the finest architectural monuments of the coast of Kenya – characterised by panelled walls decorated with various combinations of geometric elements, a benchmark of Mwana. The best examples include Omwe, Ishakani and Ungwana – all sites in the same region. Similar to other features of design and construction in Coastal architecture, the site's panel of niches can be most likely traced back to the 16th century.

Shaka

Shaka is located along the edge of the present beach, about 4.5 kilometres from Ungwana. The ruins consist of mosques, numerous houses represented by mounds of rubble, tombs and wells – all surrounded by a wall. This site is smaller relative to sprawling Ungwana and Shaka, standing at between 10 and 12 acres. The only mosque may have been a double mosque, as at Ungwana. The most notable architectural structures of Shaka are tombs. On the rising ground north of the site, within the town wall, are five tombs referred to as tombs A, B, C, D and E.

The General Architectural Description

Mosques, tombs and houses are the most frequent and authentic constructions on site.

The General Mosque Structures

The Mosques were constructed out of lime, manufactured from the burning of coral from the reefs at sea. This formed the building blocks, while the mortar was made out of ground lime mixed with sandy soil and water. When assembled to form a wall, this building-block and mortar construction formed a structurally stable wall – akin to conventional brick and mortar technology.

Great care was taken in the construction of mosques. The north-facing wall was given extra support by the buttressing effect of the walls of the mihrab (the arched apsidal recess in the north-facing wall to point towards Mecca). Low walls and the usual joining of the corners, combined to make the structures generally stable constructions. It was, and still is, a formal requirement of a mosque as a house of worship to conform to the generally stipulated architectural design. In eastern Africa each mosque must have a *mihrab*. A mihrab or pulpit of masonry or wood occurs to the right of the Mihrab, either against the wall or recessed into it. Most mosques have sanitation infrastructure consisting of a well, water conduit and cistern on the eastern or southern side of the mosque, although they may in fact occur at any point of entry. The simplest design plans were those with a single chamber, with elaborations, the addition of side rooms and verandas, and perhaps a southern chamber. In half a dozen mosques, the southern area is further divided and is restricted for use by women, forming a distinctive six-room plan.

The General Tomb Structures

The tombs of the east African coast have long been recognised as among the most interesting architectural features of the area. They occur as walled enclosures or roofed structures, the former dominating the scene. Both structures usually exhibit two discrete vertical sections, a lower wall enclosing a rectangular space, and a roof or other elements of superstructure built on top of the wall. The most impressive are the pillar tombs, the enclosures of which encompass up to 75 square metres, with pillars rising up to 8 metres above the ground and attaining a diameter of 1.25 metres. In section the pillar can be round, rectangular, square, octagonal or polygonal, with some tapering towards the top. The largest pillars always occur on the eastern wall of the tomb, the direction towards which Muslims must be placed when buried.

Houses

Houses were divided into three distinct categories: i) traditional stone, ii) more elaborate and iii) most outstanding in design. In descending order, architectural designs transformed to resemble the more unique mosques and tomb structures.

Description of Threats

The three sites are described as ruins, and exist mostly as fallen walls with sections still standing – mainly due to the reinforce-

ments that were intrinsic designs of the original architecture. Notable examples include the mihrab section of the north-facing walls of mosques, most of which are still standing to date, but are continuously predisposed to threats. Another notable structural type is the tomb pillar, which is intrinsically stable and remains standing at most of the tomb sites in the three ruins.

The most notable threats to the sites include weathering that has assumed and still assumes different forms. Chemical weathering has led to the disintegration of the building blocks of the various architectural structures on site. A characteristic coastal humid and mostly saline environment creates a condition conducive to the decomposition of the coral limestone building blocks. Water from the atmosphere has been known to collect on the blocks, gradually dissolving the grains of limestone; this results in crevices that expand into large cracks, eventually weakening the walls, which finally collapse.

Mechanical weathering has taken the form of plant activity in and around the sites. Creepers and vines loosen the mortar on the walls as they grow. As these plants mature, their roots have been known to penetrate crevices on the walls. These cracks expand as the girth of the roots increases with their annual growth – further weakening the walls. Tree roots, on the other hand, have been known to push against the walls beneath the foundation, further enhancing crack expansion. The final result has been a general weakening of the wall structures, leading to their collapse.

Monsoon rains, a characteristic of the coastal seasonal weather-pattern, have been observed to lash at the mortar and plastered surfaces of the monuments over the years, causing water to enter the tops and sides of the walls and resulting in loosening of the wall stones by expansion or erosion of the mortar.

Another notable threat to the sites is erosion by the river Tana. By virtue of the fact that these ruins are located along the river banks, several metres from the main river, undercutting of the walls by rivulets has caused water to soak underground, leading to wall dislocation. Additional erosion is caused by the effect of wind-blown sand. The soils along the mouth of the Tana and especially the Tana River Delta are silty sands resulting from deposition. As these soils dry up from the frequent changes in the river's water level, aeolian forces resulting from strong wind movements cause transportation of sand to and from the site. The results have been the removal of soil from the foundations of buildings, leading to slumping.

Deposition by the fluvial action of the Tana, together with oceanic erosion and deposition action – including that of the wind – has also led to the burial of sections of the ruined sites, further leading to sedimentation.



Mwana, remains of a residential house

Each site remains an entirely open ground: with no perimeter fence it is difficult to control entry and movement. The result is the uncontrolled movement in and out of these ruins by both people and animals. The latter has taken the form of elephant and monkey activity in and around the sites. Elephants have been known to scratch themselves on the walls, causing sections of the wall to collapse. The ruins are located close to a game reserve leading to frequent wildlife visitation on site. Humans, on the other hand, have taken their toll in various ways. Because of the high fertility and humid content of the soils of the coastal archaeological sites, these areas are desirable for cultivation. The combination with rich alluvial silt that is continuously deposited along the river Tana flood plains, including its adjacent delta, has meant that agriculture has become a major livelihood for local residents. The result has been encroachment of adjacent lands with a view to increasing agricultural production. Settlements have sprawled in the proximity of the ruins and have essentially interfered with their intrinsic nature and value.

Vandalism has been realised on site as another major threat. The local inhabitants have been known to collect stones from fallen walls for purposes of constructing their own dwellings.

The government of the Republic of Kenya gazetted the three sites as national monuments and employed staff to constantly monitor the ruins. The local community has been informed about the significance of the sites and the need to preserve them. However, with only a skeleton staff on site and the absence of a perimeter fence, coupled with policing and legislation that is both bureaucratic and unclear, and with challenges with on-site maintenance and education of the local inhabitants, the Ungwana, Shaka and Mwana monumental sites continue to deteriorate under both natural and anthropological factors.

Actions Necessary to Preserve the Site

It is important to realise that the most ideal method of preserving these ruins is through adopting *in-situ* preservation/conservation. There is very little that can be done through a reconstruction of the fallen walls, as by so doing the intrinsic structural and architectural properties may be interfered with. Preservation is the most ideal method of ensuring that the unique and authentic monuments last for a long time.

An adequate and appropriate number of staff needs to be stationed at the site and a perimeter fence should be erected. In addition, there is a need for the construction of an interpretive centre



Mwana, remains of a scroll mosque

from which information about the site can be obtained and disseminated to the local inhabitants.

The intervention of the international community and the inclusion of the site among the list of monuments at risk will reveal the plight of these ruins to the world at large, further enhancing a realisation of the need for preservation work on site. The government of Kenya is encouraged to enforce laws and carry out the implementation of these policies that are preservation driven.

Ungwana, Shaka, and Mwana are unique artistic achievements and are masterpieces of creative genius – well above similar sites along the eastern African coastal belt and Africa at large. Routine control of vegetation growth, construction of a perimeter fence and the control of wind movement through the establishment of wind-breaks will greatly check further deterioration of these unique coastal ruins. Lastly an interpretive centre will provide adequate information to both local and other visitors about the site and the historical/cultural need for preservation of the ruins.

Mzalendo Kibunjia
ICOMOS Kenya

Ungwana, house wall with niches as evidence of prosperity



LITHUANIA

In Lithuania work towards the conservation of ancient objects started in the 19th century, while restoration programs commenced in 1902. The Temporal Archaeological Commission of Lithuania (in Czarist Russia) was established in 1855 and functioned for 10 years. In 1919 the State Archaeological Commission for protection of cultural heritage was established in Independent Lithuania. The Department of Cultural Heritage Conservation was founded at Vytautas, the Great Culture Museum, in 1936. The statutory regulation of cultural heritage has been in place in Lithuania since 1940, at which time the Law on Cultural Monument Protection was adopted.

However, it was not until 1961 that the first official list of architectural heritage was legally confirmed. The lists of monuments of all other types (archaeology, history and the arts) were confirmed between the years 1963–1972. The organisation for conservation and restoration of cultural monuments was established in 1950, and around 400 objects of cultural heritage were conserved and restored during the period 1950–2000.

After Lithuania regained Independence, the Inspection of Cultural Heritage Protection and Department of Heritage Conservation were founded in 1990. New laws on protection of Cultural Heritage and Protected Areas were adopted in 1993, 1994, and 1996. A new State system of cultural heritage management has been active since 1995. The new Department of Cultural Heritage Protection functions within the Ministry of Culture, and the State Commission of Cultural Heritage is responsible for the Sejm (Parliament).

In the preceding years, Lithuania has registered about 19,000 objects, complexes and sites of cultural heritage value. These existing lists of monuments and properties are currently going through a process of revision. Earlier this year (2001), the Government confirmed a document on the development of cultural heritage management for a ten-year period.

The major threats to cultural heritage in Lithuania arise from processes of development and natural aging.

Development risks

Lithuania is adapting to a changing political-economic system, closely related to which are a number of evolving processes and developments: economic leaps, laws of free market economy, private property, fetishism of building owners' commercial interests, new functional needs, a change in owners or users of a building, the financial capacity of new owners, idiosyncratic priorities of value and taste – all of these can threaten heritage objects and places.

Risks from natural processes

Natural processes that promote decay have become a serious threat to heritage in Lithuania. Due to economic reform, and a delayed process of property restitution, there are many buildings that lack owners and do not receive appropriate maintenance and care – deterioration is unimpeded, and possibly even promoted, through a process of ongoing neglect. The problem becomes even more acute in light of the fact that many wooden buildings and other

objects of heritage significance were erected using relatively ephemeral building materials.

Another major complication is a shortage of financial resources. The Law on Protection of Immovable Cultural Properties fails to include appropriate Regulations to meet the need for financial support of monument conservation (the State allots the equivalent of US \$ 3–4 million in Lithuanian currency per year for cultural heritage conservation).

Most threatened cultural heritage types

We have identified several groups of heritage objects which, in our opinion, are most threatened at present.



Vilnius, historic suburb of Žvėrynas (early 20th century)





Vilnius, historic suburb of Markučiai (late 19th and early 20th century)

Wooden architecture

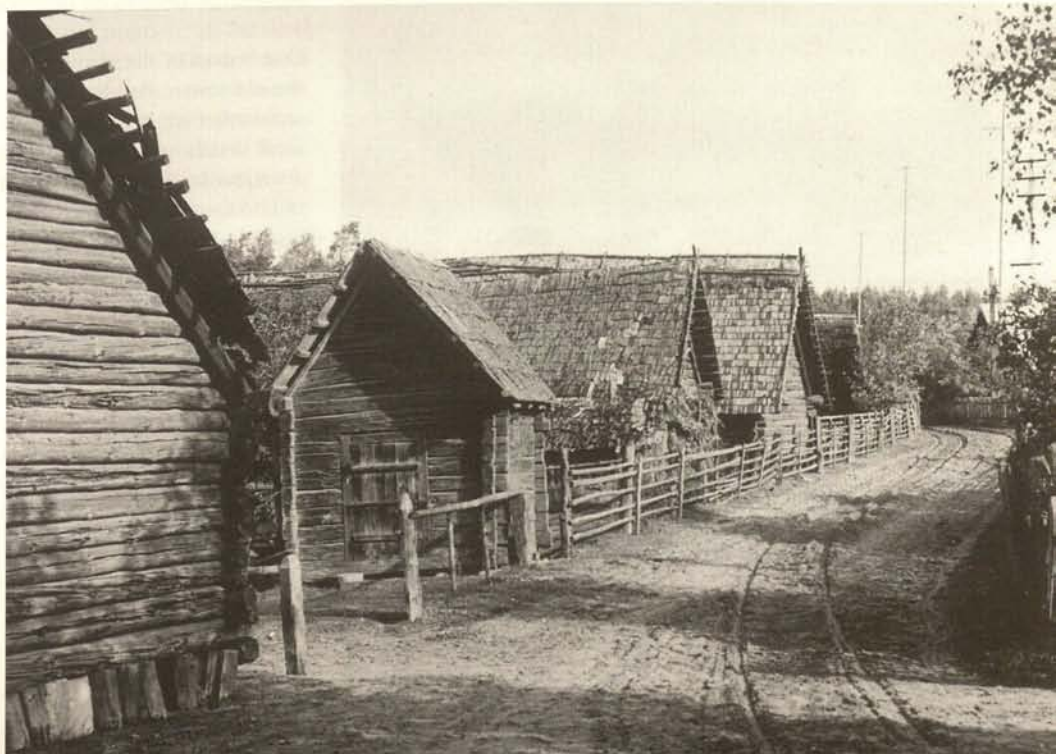
In Lithuania there is an abundant heritage of wooden architecture. The most significant and numerous heritage component of this architecture is represented by vernacular structures: rural settlements, homesteads of peasants and estates, sacred buildings, memorials/monuments and utilitarian structures. There are numerous examples of domestic and professional wooden architecture in small towns and the suburbs of cities. Due to the limited durability of wood, these heritage structures are facing an uncertain future. There were 40 villages on the cultural heritage list in 1970, all of which are today facing a range of conservation and preservation problems. The problem is enhanced in village environments: through neglect, wooden architecture falls into decay as the population decreases, or is otherwise removed in the face of more modern building practices.

About 30% of our structures are wooden. During the Soviet period, estate homesteads fell into rapid decay, having lost both

function and owners. Wooden churches are not only valuable architectural monuments, but also the place of traditional and social focus in many small towns. In comparison to other objects of wooden architecture, their condition is improved because church authorities take care of and protect them. Small wooden memorial architecture—crosses, road shrines, and small chapels are particularly valuable. Rich, diverse and often archaic, their forms reflect the nation's spiritual character. Under the unfavourable official attitude to religious values during the Soviet period, a large number of them have been lost.

The wooden architecture found in small towns is characteristically of two types. In the centre, near the church and market place, houses, commercial structures and public buildings were built that were generally designed by professionals. Homestead buildings, on the other hand, were constructed on the outskirts, carrying on the tradition of vernacular architecture.

The established list of cultural heritage included 62 urban monuments in towns. The most valuable buildings were often part of



Vernacular architecture in Zervynos village, Varena district



Palace of the estate of Zypliai, Šakiai district (late 19th century)



Palace of the estate of Gelgaugiškis, Šakiai district (late 19th century)



Palace of the estate of Vilkenai, Šilutė district (late 19th century)

the historical town centres. Unfortunately, in accordance with earlier regulations, wooden houses were often paid less attention in preservation projects. Wooden buildings also prevailed in the suburbs of cities. They were often designed by professional architects and reflected local stylistic trends of a specific period (for example, Czarist Russia and European stylistic trends). In cities and small towns the main dangers to wooden architectural heritage are ineffective regulations and the impact of development.

Historic centres of small towns

The preservation of wooden architecture in small towns and their historic centres is problematic. The material substance of buildings is lost and urban fabric is destroyed due to development programmes. Frequently, reconstruction in historic town centres results in a changed image and character, particularly seen in the enlargement of structures and changes to the density of building. Historic centres of small towns that are not inscribed on the list of cultural heritage are unprotected: they lose authenticity and individuality, and are faced with the precarious situation of evolving into totally 'new' towns.

Estates

On a larger scale, not only are many estates faced with the problems of preserving wooden structures, but the threats also extend to more extensive buildings and complexes. At the beginning of the 20th century, 3000 estates were recorded – today 300 of these are inscribed on the list of cultural heritage. The process of decay and decline commenced in the Soviet period, encouraged by the negative policy with respect to private property. Nowadays the restoration of estates to their former owners is taking place, but owners are often financially unable to manage such large assets. Privatisation of estates' structures to a range of different owners, without re-establishing the system of land-ownership, does not create a viable economic or functional basis for the preservation of estates as a complex whole.

Authentic details of historic buildings and their interiors

One impact of the change of ownership and function in many of the old towns' buildings was the increase in building repair and reconstruction. It resulted in the disappearance of authentic structural details (for example: window frames, doors, handrails of stairs, roofing). Interiors, including original floor plans, silhouettes of buildings and attics were all altered.

Unfortunately, heritage research work has also decreased, as the State support is too little and less attention is paid by relevant monument protection institutions; as is often the case, owners are reluctant to finance research works. Inadequate investigation and research prior to repainting or repair works have resulted in the loss of polychromatic decors. These losses are compounded by inadequately regulated development, absence of financial interest in heritage preservation, and a lack of proper public understanding and support for the protection of cultural values.

LUXEMBOURG

Cemeteries

As early as the High Middle Ages, the spread of Christianity and the establishment of structures that were determined by the Church led to a change of attitude toward death and burial methods. Christians forsook incineration, as well as the use of cemeteries located far from built-up areas. Instead, cemeteries were installed in churches and in their surroundings, in the heart of cities and villages. This practice was dictated by the presence of relics, that is, the remains of saints kept in consecrated altars. To better insure the joining of the departed in eternal life, they are buried near those who had surely reached heaven (*'ad sanctos'*). From very early on, the holy ground represented by the church and by the cemetery was enclosed so that free incursions of animals were prevented. Numerous rules instituted this usage.

Burial Monuments

A sign that acted as a monument marked the burial place, located inside or outside the sanctuary. If the departed belonged to a high social class, his/her name was written on the tomb. The nobility regarded the cult of ancestors with considerable importance, for it was through their merits that the individual could justify his/her rights and privileges. This mentality was well illustrated by gravestones surrounded with coats of arms and inscriptions.

More popular monuments were clearly less individualised. They usually incorporated only a simple and symbolic representation, a cross for example, and later eventually a date. Collections and museums keep little monoliths of this style that go back to the Frankish period. The examples are not plentiful, because those monuments were often made of wood and were buried when the tombs had to be occupied again. However, they were always modest and made with a local material – sandstone or limestone in southern Luxembourg, slate in the north.

In 1782, the Emperor Joseph II forbade the burying of the dead within built-up areas within all of his lands. This measure, commanded by hygiene and by the evolution of thinking, led to the creation of new cemeteries outside city-walls, notably in great cities. No matter their origin or their social position, all the dead were buried indiscriminately. Because the wealthy classes wanted to keep distinguishing themselves, the cemetery became an ostentatious place: monuments tended to be increasingly voluminous and opulent, until they come to resemble private oratories. If the desire for individualism allowed some remarkable realisations in term of funerary art, it also led the 'fields of dead' to look like monumental masons' quarries or expositions. This tendency was increased by the influence of several factors such as the desire to display one's social position or personal achievement, the need for easy-to-maintain tombs, and the standardisation of everything connected to construction.

Threats to Cemeteries

The results of this evolution are some necropolis completely covered with mass-produced gravestones and monoliths, often made with exotic materials. Marbles and granites from all over the world are represented, and the reference to the environmental landscape is completely lacking. Traditional tombs lined-up by box and adorned with flowering plants that need to be replaced from season to season have disappeared. Even in cemeteries protected as monuments and where all interventions need authorisation from the Culture Minister, this tendency is difficult to control. Ancient monuments, made by local sculptors, are disappearing due to a lack of interest. Of course, the materials that have been used are sometimes non-stable and tend to break down if no appropriate action is taken. As of today, government authorities try to stop the disappearance of traditional funerary heritage by assuming the restoration costs, or by subsidising them. However, the most difficult work is to convince the public of the value of those monuments.

ICOMOS Luxembourg

Gravestone in Septfontaines



LUXEMBOURG

Les Cimetières

La propagation du christianisme et la mise en place de structures déterminées par l'Eglise entraîne un changement d'attitude vis-à-vis de la mort et du mode de sépulture dès le haut Moyen Âge. Les chrétiens abandonnent l'incinération et les cimetières situés loin des agglomérations pour les aménager dans et les églises et leurs alentours en plein coeur des villages et des cités. Cette pratique est dictée par la présence des reliques, c.-à-d. des restes de saints conservés dans les autels consacrés. Afin de mieux garantir la participation des défunts à la vie éternelle, ils sont enterrés auprès de ceux dont on est sûr qu'ils ont gagné le ciel ('ad sanctos'). Très tôt l'espace sacré constitué par l'église et le cimetière est entouré d'une clôture afin d'empêcher les animaux d'y pénétrer d'une manière incontrôlée. De nombreux règlements fixent cette pratique.

Le lieu de sépulture situé à l'intérieur ou à l'extérieur du sanctuaire est marqué par un signe qui fait fonction de monument. Si le défunt appartient à une catégorie sociale élevée, son nom est inscrit sur le tombeau. La noblesse attache une importance considérable au culte des ancêtres, car c'est par leurs mérites que l'individu justifie ses droits et ses privilèges. Les gisants entourés d'armoiries et d'inscriptions illustrent bien cette mentalité.

Les monuments à caractère plus populaire sont nettement moins individualisés. En général ils ne comportent qu'une simple représentation symbolique, par exemple une croix ou une roue solaire, plus tard éventuellement aussi une date. Les collections et les musées conservent de petites stèles de ce genre remontant jusqu'à l'époque franque. Les exemples n'abondent pas, parce que souvent ces monuments étaient en bois et étaient mis en terre lorsqu'il fallait réoccuper la tombe. On constate cependant qu'ils étaient toujours modestes et confectionnés dans un matériau du pays, dans la partie sud du Luxembourg le grès ou le calcaire, dans la partie nord le schiste d'ardoise.

En 1782, l'empereur Joseph II interdit dans tous ses pays d'enterrer les morts à l'intérieur des agglomérations. Cette mesure,

dictée par l'hygiène et l'évolution des mentalités, entraîne la création de nouveaux cimetières hors les murs, notamment dans les grandes villes. Là tous les défunts se côtoient, qu'elle qu'ait été leur origine ou leur position sociale. Comme les classes fortunées tiennent cependant à se distinguer, le cimetière devient un lieu d'ostentation : les monuments deviennent de plus en plus volumineux et opulents jusqu'à prendre la forme d'oratoires privées. S'il faut reconnaître que le désir d'individualisation a permis des réalisations remarquables au niveau de l'art funéraire, force est aussi de constater que les champs des morts ont fini par prendre l'aspect de carrières ou d'expositions de marbriers. Cette tendance s'accroît de plus en plus sous l'influence de nombreux facteurs : volonté de documenter sa position sociale ou réussite personnelle, besoin de tombeaux faciles à entretenir, standardisation de tout ce qui touche à la construction etc..

Le résultat de cette évolution sont des nécropoles complètement recouvertes de dalles et de stèles produites en série réalisées dans les matériaux les plus exotiques. Les marbres et les granits du monde entier sont représentés, la référence au paysage environnant fait totalement défaut. Les tombes traditionnelles bordées de buis et garnies de plantes à fleurs changées au rythme des saisons ont disparu. Même dans les cimetières protégés en tant que monuments où toutes les interventions sont à autoriser par le Ministre de la Culture, cette tendance est difficile à contrôler. Les monuments anciens, réalisés par des sculpteurs de la région, disparaissent faute d'intérêt. Certes, les matériaux utilisés sont parfois friables et se décomposent quand il n'y a pas d'intervention appropriée. Actuellement les autorités gouvernementales essaient d'enrayer la disparition du patrimoine funéraire traditionnel en prenant en charge les frais de restauration ou en les subventionnant. Le travail le plus difficile consiste cependant à persuader le public de la valeur des monuments en cause.

ICOMOS Luxembourg



General view of cemetery in Septfontaines



Cemetery in Esch-sur-Sûre

MACEDONIA

Matejce Mission Provisional Report

Introduction

Armed conflict in the Republic of Macedonia commenced at the beginning of February 2001; 9 months later, we still have a fragile situation in the country and do not have complete sovereignty of all territory of the Republic of Macedonia. More than 15% of the territory is still not freely accessible.

During this period, Albanian terrorist groups started to fight for the so-called 'more human rights for Macedonian citizens of Albanian origin' and in opposition to the legal forces of the Republic of Macedonia occupied parts of the territory of the country using action that is against international laws.

Many human victims are witness to the unprovoked armed conflict. However, not only human life was and still is in danger – in this tragic event, the cultural heritage of the Republic of Macedonia has been subject to damage and demolition as well. Many elements of this heritage have been used for war purposes, and today remain so used and occupied.

The Macedonian National Committee of ICOMOS has been involved in national and international efforts to prevent further use and damage of cultural heritage in Macedonia for war purposes. The activities undertaken and still planned for the future by ICOMOS Macedonia are the subject of this report.

Appeal

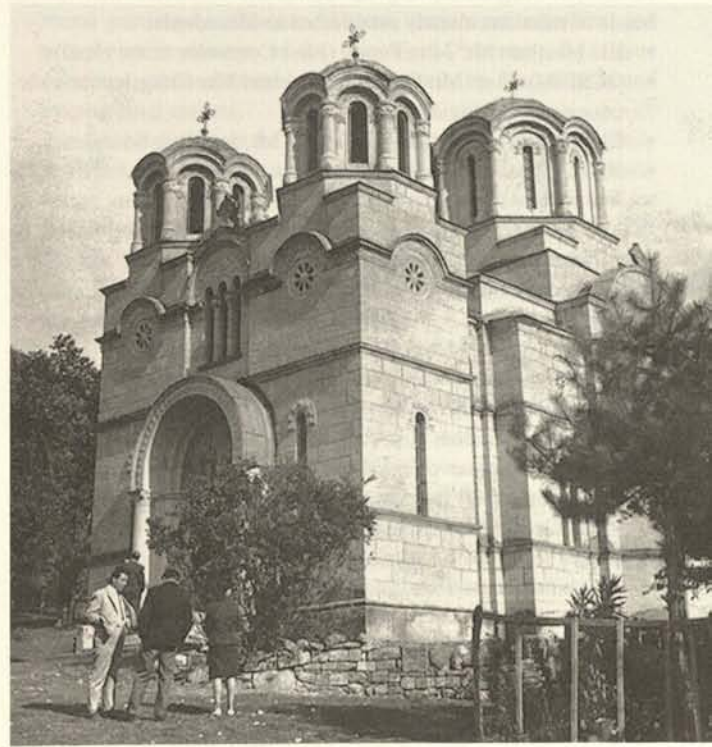
After the destruction by terrorist groups of the archaeological sites of Kale Tetovo and the church of St. Atanasie and the occupation of part of the Macedonian territory that contains rich cultural heritage, and particularly after the occupation of the St. Bogorodica Monastery near the village of Matejce, the Minister of Culture, Mrs Ganka Samoilovska-Cvetanova, sent an appeal to the UNESCO Director General concerning the use of cultural heritage in Macedonia for war purposes.

In June 2001, the ICOMOS Macedonia Executive Board decided to initiate a campaign to save cultural heritage endangered by armed conflict. It was proposed to ask the President of ICOMOS, Mr. Michael Petzet, to launch an appeal to save the Monastery at Matejce as one of the most valuable examples of 14th-century Byzantine architecture and mural paintings – the Monastery was being used as the headquarters, fire place and arsenal of the so-called 'UCK' terrorist group.

National and International Contacts

Immediately after the Appeal by Mr. Petzet, an urgent reply was received from the UNESCO Authorities, indicating the possibility of a Mission to Matejce but only after the armed conflict had ceased. The President of ICOMOS Macedonia subsequently sent an urgent message to Mr. Petzet, requesting prompt and vital action to prevent the use and destruction of cultural heritage for war purposes and urging the organisation of an immediate monitoring mission to Matejce Monastery.

Following frequent consultations with Mrs Ganka Samoilovska-Cvetanova, the Minister of Culture, and Mr Jovan Kondijanov, the Acting Director of the State Institute for the protection of cultural Monuments (RZZSK), ICOMOS Macedonia was given approval to use all international contacts and its capacity as an



Cathedral Church of St Atanasie, Lesok village, before destruction

Cathedral Church of St Atanasie, Lesok village, after damage



international NGO in the field of cultural heritage protection to achieve success in the effort to organize a Mission.

Mr. Petzet gave approval for the Mission, and the President of ICOMOS Macedonia, Dr. L. Sumanov, contacted the various heads of missions already established in Macedonia:

- EU Mission: Mr. John Penny (First Counselor to the Head);
- OCSE Mission: Mr. Carlo Ungaro, and Mr. Craig Jenness, successor of Mr. Ungaro;
- EU Monitoring Mission (EUMM): Mr. Jon Roar Strandenes;
- NATO Mission: Mr. Hansjorg Eiff.

ICOMOS Macedonia proposed that a co-ordinating body be immediately established, containing representatives of each of the established Missions, as well as individuals from the Ministry of Culture (Mr. Oliver Sambevski), RZZSK (Mr. Jovan Kondijanov), and ICOMOS Macedonia (Dr. Lazar Sumanov).

The list of Monuments for the urgent Monitoring mission was enlarged and included:

1. Matejce, Kumanovo region:
 - Monastery St. Bogorodica Matejce, near village Matejce;
 - St. Georgi Church, in the village of Matejce.
2. Tetovo region:
 - Arabati Baba Teke, Islamic Monastery of Ottoman architecture, Tetovo;
 - Aladja (Sarena) Mosque, Tetovo;
 - Archaeological site Kale, Tetovo;
 - St. Atanasie Monastery, village Lesok;
 - St. Atanasie Church, near the village Lesok.

Of the two regions, the monitoring mission to Matejce was the most urgent. During July and the beginning of August, Macedonia ICOMOS organised various press conferences, leading to a number of interviews and newspaper articles on Cultural Heritage at Risk. It was proposed that Mr. Leo van Nispen (representing the Blue Shield) visit Macedonia as a member of the expert Monitoring team to visit Matejce Monastery, which was still occupied by an armed terrorist group.

At the time, the situation at Monastery Matejce was monitored only by members of the EU Monitoring Mission (Mr. J. Roar Strandenes) and by Mr. Hansjorg Eiff from the NATO Mission. Their initial report of the state of the Monuments was very short (one phrase) for each, but prepared with no input from cultural heritage professionals.

It was this that led Dr. Sumanov to propose to all Heads of Missions the possibility of establishing special Cultural Heritage Expert teams, units, departments or networks within their organisations as permanent structural bodies. This recommendation was extended to include all countries that have signed the Hague Convention and its 2nd Protocol, with the suggestion that such bodies be established in all international contacts in situations of armed conflict – before, during and after such events.

In the initial report (6–7 July 2001) for the Monastery in Matejce, one monitor from EUMM made a colour record of the Church of St. Bogorodica (elevation and interior). These pictures indicated damage to the roof and graffiti of UCK words on some of the church walls, but not on the fresco paintings. Dr. Sumanov requested that these pictures be provided to UNESCO, ICOMOS, the Ministry of Culture, RZZSK and Macedonia ICOMOS, however we have been told that they are private property and not available for official purposes. However, through Mr. Eiff we have been provided with the photos taken by the NATO Monitors, copies of which have been sent to the ICOMOS secretariat in Paris, to Mr. J.L. Luxen, and to the Ministry of Culture and RZZSK.



Church of St. Bogorodica, Matejce Monastery – burnt iconostasis

Church of St. Bogorodica, Matejce Monastery – graffiti on wall painting



Two disastrous incidents have occurred since the aforementioned events. Following the killing of ten soldiers of the Macedonian Army in a terrorist ambush, the citizens of the City of Prilep reacted to the murder of their countrymen in a riot that resulted in the burning of the Charsi Mosque. The Mosque is a cultural monument from the 15th century, and an example of Ottoman sacred architecture. Then, on 21 August, terrorists blew up the cathedral Church of the Lesok Monastery. Both events have been condemned by ICOMOS Macedonia and by Macedonian public opinion. One of the results of these events was to put a stop to the progress of the Matejce Monitoring Mission, including the inspection by Mr. Leo van Nispen on behalf of ICOMOS and the Blue Shield. The report prepared by Mr. van Nispen following his visit to Macedonia included among its recommendations that a fact finding mission was still most urgently needed.

Matejce Mission: Monitoring and Fact-Finding Elements – 19 September 2001

By the beginning of September, the situation had changed and a Mission in Matejce became possible – this was to some extent due to an attempt at ‘good will’ by those who had inflicted the damage on the cultural heritage. There was also a strong indication of intent by the Macedonian Orthodox Church to make a Pilgrim visit to Matejce Monastery on 21 September, the holy day of St. Bogorodica, by the Macedonian citizens of the Christian Orthodox Faith.

Because of the latter decision, a somewhat surprising proposal was presented. Knowing that considerable damage had taken place at the Monastery, including graffiti on the mural paintings, Dr. Sumanov and Mr. Jovan Kondijanov were invited through the Netherlands Embassy authorities (and according to a message from relevant international and national bodies) to engage the efforts of their two organisations in urgent cleaning of the church and the repair of damaged mural paintings, over the three days before the proposed Pilgrim mission. Dr. Sumanov and Mr. Kondijanov responded on behalf of their organisations with a number of proposals, including:

- their readiness to make an expert monitoring/survey mission of the St. Bogorodica Monastery, including international experts, to be used as a base for preparing a prioritised plan for emergency repair and conservation/restoration measures for all structures of the Monastery complex;
- the need for urgent temporary repair of the damaged roof (south-eastern corner) by sheltering it to prevent further damage of the interior (including the valuable 14th-century mural paintings) from the approaching rainy season;
- the need to initiate a large-scale Repair/Conservation/Restoration project that met current international conservation standards, accepted in Europe and in Macedonia;
- that garbage be removed from the floor of the church only and that removal of the imported furniture from the interior (tables

and beds used for resting and sleeping) as well as debris caused by the fire, be done by those who caused the damage, as a gesture of good will and to reduce the extent of the damage;

- no-one to be allowed to touch and remove the graffiti from the mural paintings as that would cause even more extensive and non-reparable damage of the valuable 14th-century Byzantine paintings – this work to be undertaken only by Macedonian and international experts.
- that financial support be provided, not only for the emergency work but also for study and investigation to prepare the conservation and restoration plan for the Monastery complex and for its implementation;
- that the occupiers of the monastery be requested to leave the St. Bogorodica monastery complex, near Matejce village, by their good will.

A Mission by experts was undertaken on 19 September 2001, and for the first time during the armed conflict a cultural monument was visited and monitored by the ‘opposite side’. The Commander of the site said, when he saw the Mission team, that they were making a gesture of ‘good will’ by allowing the Monastery to be monitored.

Unfortunately, the fact-finding mission discovered that more damage had been inflicted on the mural paintings, due to ‘cleaning’ work being undertaken in total contradiction to the earlier recommendations.

Currently, urgent action is being undertaken to repair the damaged roof and mural paintings, planned and executed by the RZZSK. Macedonia ICOMOS is also organising an urgent Regional Workshop: ‘Cultural Heritage at Risk in the Event of Armed Conflicts – the Macedonia Case’. All these activities are financially supported by the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Skopje.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Lessons have been learnt. Damage and destruction is sadly evident. And the future is in a font of us. So what are the urgent actions that need to be taken? We suggest the following:

- assessment of the state of the cultural heritage in the area of conflict;
- planning and design of urgent, mid-term and long-term activities to repair and strengthen the damaged cultural heritage by all those involved in the protection of cultural heritage (both government and non-government organisations);
- dissemination of lessons learnt in the Macedonia case – Cultural Heritage in the Event of Armed Conflicts;
- assessment of the legal, organisational, and educational state of cultural heritage in the Republic of Macedonia (theoretical treatment of the cultural heritage);
- design of a National Disaster Plan to include cultural heritage;
- action for ratification of the 2nd Protocol of the Hague convention by the Macedonian Parliament.

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MALAWI

Zomba – Turning The Clock

The cultural landscape of Zomba town in Malawi is of great value and needs definition and protection as a unique cultural landscape. Zomba is a district lying at the foot of the Zomba Mountain plateau (2085 metres at its summit), 69 kilometres from Blantyre on the old MI road in the southern region of Malawi. Zomba is a major town, with a rich political history because of its role as the former administrative capital for the British colony of Njasaland and slave trade along the shore of Lake Malawi.

The Old Residency and State House

The town boasts some of the more-impressive old British colonial type of buildings in the country. The 'Old Residency' was built for Consul Hawes in 1886 (known as Masongola or The Points), and afterwards used by his successors and as government offices, and as the Government Hostel, hosting the nation's representatives during National Assembly. 'State House' is also one of several old-style architectural examples which have become obsolete in modern times. It was originally built as a six-roomed bungalow in 1898, on the slopes of the plateau in a beautiful surrounding boasting a temperate climate (it was enlarged in 1902). It was used as the official residence of a succession of governors during the colonial era. After Malawi gained independence in 1964, State House remained one of the official residences of the self-styled Life President of the country, Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda. It was closed to the public and any form of photography in the immediate vicinity was not allowed. It has a unique architecture with an octagonal tower that forms its central feature. Its appearance is informal because of the various renovations undertaken by a variety of its occupants over a number of years. State House used to host a number of important diplomatic functions and State activities. It has a stadium lying in the vast, well-manicured terraced gardens – reminiscent of the sprawling English landscapes of the Capability Brown era. Today, with the building of Sanjika Palace in Blantyre and the New State House in Lilongwe, the Zomba State House no longer hosts significant State activities. In fact, until recently, the Zomba State House has been used as the official residence of the second wife of the current President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Bakili Muluzi. It is still not freely accessible to the public and an opportunity to admire, study and compare its unique architecture and its beautifully landscaped English gardens is lost.

The Secretariat and Parliament Buildings

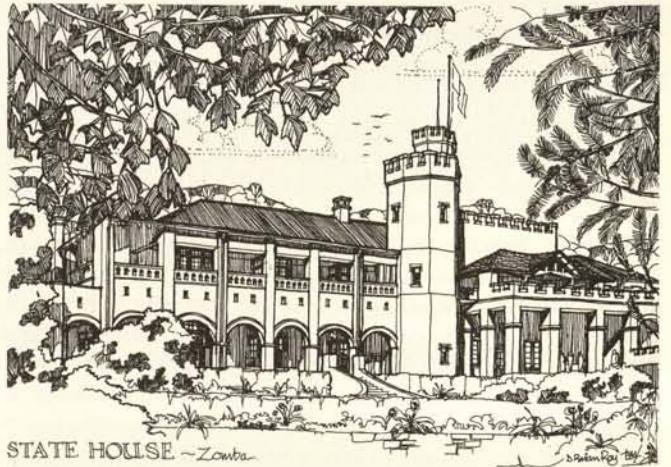
Nearby are the Secretariat and Parliament Buildings where members of Parliament meet for their annual deliberations, alternating with the modern new State House in Lilongwe. The Government Press, next to the Parliament buildings, was conveniently situated to provide a daily Hansard to the Assembly, as well as to produce all government printing and publications throughout the year.

The Traditional Courthouse

Down the road, behind the Regional Police Headquarters, is the Traditional Courthouse. It has earned a special mention as one of the few colonial attempts to use traditional African 'round house' design, rather than to impose a European plan for an essentially traditional function.



THE OLD RESIDENCY - ZOMBA



STATE HOUSE - Zomba



TRADITIONAL COURTHOUSE - Zomba

Gymkhana Club, War Memorial and University

Below the State House is the famous Gymkhana Club established in 1896. It has lush green fairways with 'sand' greens. The field in front of the clubhouse was used for sports, and socialising. The King's African Rifles (KAR) also conducted their parades on the British Monarch's birthday on the field. These activities have since ceased, and today the field is mostly used for sporting activities such as soccer, rugby and hockey.

As you enter the heart of the city on the main road from Blantyre, there is the War Memorial to the fallen heroes of the two World Wars. It is visible from the main road. A memorial function is held annually on Remembrance Day at 11:00 hours. The Armed Forces and the Commonwealth ex-Service League of Malawi take centre-stage to lead the nation in remembering the fallen heroes.

The town of Zomba is also famous as a University centre. The main campus of the University of Malawi, Chancellor College, was opened in 1973. The Great Hall, a Post-Modern building where degrees and diplomas are conferred, was completed in 1982. In 1975 the capital was moved from Zomba to Lilongwe as a political move to meet the increased government demands and the expanding bureaucracy.



ZOMBA GYMKHANA CLUB

Zomba, examples of colonial heritage

Commercial Precinct

At the heart of Zomba is a commercial precinct with 19th and early 20th-century veranda-style shops and the Mosque and madrasah (of the Yao Malawians) surrounding the busy agricultural market complex. This mix in architecture of the buildings in Zomba makes the city unique and rich and provides an excellent memory of the Colonial period as well as the slave history. As new and modern buildings are erected in the town, there is need to preserve the old architecture, landscapes and spatial experience for historical and educational purposes to benefit the new generation of Malawians and visitors. Zomba has the potential to be declared a Heritage and Tourist Attraction District, and desperately requires an integrated heritage conservation policy.

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(edited by K.A. Bakker)
 ICOMOS South Africa

MALTA

Legislative and Administrative Parameters

The earliest form of legislation for Heritage conservation goes back to 1925 with the Antiquities (Protection) Act. A list of protected sites was formulated in 1932 and it was intended that the list be amended from time to time. This failed to materialise. The Museums Department is responsible for the Antiquities list. Currently the whole administrative body and the act are being revised. Listed sites (in terms of the act) are now also being protected and monitored systematically by the Planning Authority.

The problem of protecting significant local heritage was again

tackled in 1991 with the promulgation of the Environment Protection Act (Act V of 1991). Through this act the Minister responsible for the Environment has the power to declare any natural or cultural site as protected. The Environment Protection Department is responsible for parks protected under the EPA. A good proportion of the sites protected under this act have now also been scheduled by the Planning Authority.

The Development Planning Act, 1992 (amended in 1997) is the latest example in local legislation geared to protect the local heritage. Under the Development Planning Act the Authority is obliged to prepare and from time to time review a list of areas, build-



Casa Ippolito (1664), abandoned and severe structural damage in parts

ings, structures or remains of geological, palaeontological, archaeological, architectural, historical, antiquarian or artistic importance, as well as of natural beauty, ecological or scientific value that are to be scheduled for conservation. The scheduling exercise also provides for the designation of buffer areas, which enable the conservation of sites within a context. The act also provides for the designation of Urban Conservation Areas and, therefore, for the protection of the Maltese village cores.

The legislative framework and administration of conservation areas is, therefore, a fairly recent development in the Maltese Islands. This is partially a socio-political problem, because the State has been independent for only four decades. The Maltese have inherited extensive heritages assets but also the administration and management of them! Whereas maintenance works of extensive government property were possible with Imperial or European based financing, how is the national government expected to maintain this patrimony – which survived through 500 years of history? Does the Maltese Government have too much heritage to handle?

However, using the processes already in place, much has been achieved in the field of protection. It is calculated that during the last decade the percentage area that has been designated for conservation has doubled. It has increased from 10% to 20% of the whole land area of the Maltese Islands. Still, the establishment of scheduling and the safety network is not enough. Management and monitoring of sites is vital for the survival of heritage for future generations. Aspects of Maltese heritage are still at extreme risk and the terrorist act committed on the Mnajdra (one of the most important monuments of World Heritage status) shows the extreme conditions under which heritage is managed or mismanaged.

Survey and Methodology

A survey that took into account heritage assets at risk was developed in two parts. The first part of the survey included ten candidate sites termed 'endangered sites'. In 1999 ICOMOS (Malta) had organised a competition for the nomination of endangered sites: the competition was open to local councils, non-government organisations and government agencies. The survey considered these endangered sites (six cultural and four archaeological) and their assessment, and extended it to twelve archaeological sites (mostly Class A) and another twelve included in the architectural category. The survey also included the monitoring of three urban conservation areas.

The aspects taken into account in the assessment of the various properties were the following:

1. Maintenance Deficiency,
2. Risks from Social and Collective Behaviour,
3. Insufficient Conservation Standards,
4. Development-Related Risks,
5. Compromised Values.

These were in turn subdivided and given values from LEVEL 1 to 5, with the latter being the worst factor. The results of the assessment under these sections provided a level of risk graded with the following system:

NOT AT RISK	no significant risk	LEVEL 1
VULNERABLE	early signs of risk without tangible effects	LEVEL 2
AT RISK	early signs of risk with tangible effects	LEVEL 3
GRAVE RISK	severe signs of risk- reversibility still possible	LEVEL 4
EXTREME RISK	intense signs of risk without possible reversibility	LEVEL 5

All the sites were therefore gauged in a holistic and standard format to provide an as objective as possible picture of the situation. The highest graded assets were chosen because these should provide an example for other assets of lesser importance. These are also the critical assets and therefore should be prioritised with rehabilitation, restoration, maintenance and monitoring programmes. Some of these sites are not only of national significance, but also have universal value, and therefore should be specially managed under the parameters of international conventions and charters.

Archaeological Sites

The twelve candidate sites that were chosen include four of World Heritage status, five Class A sites and one Class B site.¹ Two of the sites are not scheduled but listed as part of the Archaeological National Protective Inventory.

SITE NAME	CLASS	RISK FACTOR
1 Tarxien Temples	A (WHS)	LEVEL 3
2 Tal-Bistra Paleochristian Hypogea	A	LEVEL 2
3 Ta' Gawhar Roman Tower	A (un-scheduled)	LEVEL 5
4 Ggantija Temples	A (WHS)	LEVEL 5
5 Ghajn Dwieli Tombs	B	LEVEL 3
6 Kercem Punic Sanctuary	A	LEVEL 4
7 Kordin Iii Temples	A (WHS)	LEVEL 4
8 Mnajdra Temples	A (WHS)	LEVEL 5
9 Ta' Kaccatura Punico-Roman Villa	A	LEVEL 4
10 San Pawl Milqi Punico-Roman Villa	A	LEVEL 3
11 Ghajn Tuffieha Roman Baths	A	LEVEL 4
12 It-Torrijiet Roman Tower	A (un-scheduled)	LEVEL 4

Out of the twelve sites, the greatest percentage was at level 4 (five sites) followed by an equal number of (three) sites at a risk factor of 3 and 5. Two sites out of four that have World Heritage status – that is Mnajdra and Ggantija – were calculated to be at extreme risk. The other site at extreme risk is the Ta' Gawhar Roman tower, which has not as yet been scheduled, but has been incorporated in the Archaeological National Protective Inventory.

Insufficient Conservation Standards

All the sites in the list indicated a lack in this section. Even though archaeologists and conservators/restorers are on the increase, there has not been sufficient interventionism or a policy framework for guidance. Although interventions have been less frequent or non-existent in the past 20–30 years, the archaeological fabric has also suffered from past practice and disuse or misuse of conservation ethics. The Roman Baths at Ghajn Tuffieha, Tarxien Temples and Ggantija are typical examples. At Ghajn Tuffieha the rooms built in the 1960s to protect the mosaic were constructed directly onto the original walls. Under this pressure, the frescoed plaster crumbled. The reinforced concrete slabs used to carry mosaic floors (dating to 1934) split, creating further damage. In Tarxien and Ggantija past practices included the use of metal dowels to repair broken stones and the use of portland cement for reconstruction.

Most of the sites were given the appropriate scheduling with significant buffers, but as in the case of most heritage assets, this came as a passive reaction rather than an active one. Even though buffer areas control development and encroachment, there are still problems with illegality in these archaeological sites because of various engineering works. The absence of networking between entities, and of management plans or strategies have affected the sites significantly. The new Heritage Bill, which is to be promulgated later this year, substituting the Antiquities (Protection) Act (1925), is tackling this problem – together with other government agencies involved in heritage protection. Most lacking is management guidance in the conservation field and sufficient human resources to staff the number of sites that are government owned. In fact, half of the sites selected for this list are government-owned sites and accessible to the public. The worst-off in management and policy terms are Mnajdra Temples and Ghajn Tuffieha Roman Baths. Following the recent terrorist attacks, a management plan for Mnajdra is being prepared, whereas a joint venture is being launched for Ghajn Tuffieha. None of the sites have interpretation panels, or interpretation that would meet recognised international standards. Security of the sites is non-existent and some are open to abuse, including vandalism and pillaging.

Maintenance Deficiency

Natural conditions and processes of deterioration have had significant effects on the surveyed sites. Ggantija, Mnajdra and Ta' Gawhar tower are examples of how these assets have succumbed to serious decay. Ggantija is a text-book case on the various results

of decay of Globigerina and Coralline limestone. Whereas the Coralline blocks are breaking up into sizeable fragments, Globigerina is undergoing surface losses through flaking, powdering and honeycomb weathering. The damage is being caused by severe humidity, dampness, wind action, air-borne salts and drastic changes in temperature. Water seepage and removal of infill are also significant causes of structural damage. At Mnajdra the lithic structures have been undergoing a high rate of erosion, directly affecting the structural stability. The remains at Ta' Gawhar are in imminent danger of collapse. A mature carob that sank its roots in the structure is only part of the cause of disintegration. Cracks and fissures have also resulted from rising damp and salts and spray attack of sea and sand. Ta' Gawhar is also surrounded by establishments that emit airborne pollutants, including the airport, Hal Far and Luqa industrial estates and the dump at Tal-Mara where coal ash used to be deposited. Pollution does not only dirty and stain the stone but creates chemical reactions that will bring about deterioration.

Risks from Social and Collective Behaviour

The rurality of certain archaeological sites has been a distinct disadvantage compared with other heritage assets, because of inaccessibility. However, in the list of risk-prone sites there is a mix of two contrasting situations. Some sites have been completely engulfed by urban sprawl, as in the case of Kordin III and the Tarxien Temples, whereas others are left secluded because of farmers who determinedly defend their property or adjacent property. Human migration and occupancy are high on the list as main causes of damage. The socio-political dimension has also contributed considerably to the lack of protection of these sites in the last decades. The political decisions – supposedly geared towards public interest – were never directed into conservation for posterity. Education has generally failed to breed a 'culture conscious' citizen. The regular tipping of garbage at San Pawl Milqi complex confirms the lack of interest and of national pride. In the archaeological arena, the world lately witnessed the worst-case scenario where social conflict led to terrorism at Mnajdra. The temples suffered severe consequences that are irreversible. The damage at Mnajdra shows lack of conflict management in an area that throughout history has been mismanaged. The area was fragmented into zones for uses that are in direct conflict with the conservation of the asset, including: quarrying, bird-trapping, agriculture and a commercial outlet. This is a confirmation of the prevalence of short-term views and lack of political commitment to strategically protect the site.

Coastal tower (c. 1658/59), damaged by natural processes



Fort Ricasoli (1670–1900), severely damaged magazines





Ggantija Temples (Neolithic), structural instability and collapsing in parts

Development-Related Risks

Land-use issues also score high in the list of negative effects and the depletion of sites. Most of the sites have either been encroached by extensive development projects or engineering works, engulfed by urban development or restricted or constricted by agricultural use. The latter, although the least intensive, is still damaging: Ta' Gawhar and It-Torrijiet towers are typical examples. The worst cases, however, are at:

1. Mnajdra – where the archaeological landscape has been marred by two extensive quarries.
2. Tarxien Temples and Ghajn Dwieli tombs have been encroached by housing development in the post-war period.
3. Kordin III is now secluded and limited by a school, a church on either side, and an ever-expanding industrial estate.
4. The paleo-Christian hypogea at Tal-Bistra have been surrounded in the past two decades by a villa complex. One of the villas cuts through the complex, partially compromising the site.

However, the economic pressure that the Island faced in the post-Independence epoch to sustain the building industry is only partial. The tourism industry also had an impact, especially on the most significant sites. Visitor activity at Tarxien, Mnajdra and Ggantija, which take the bulk of local tourism, is unmanaged. Visitor access is uncontrolled and the assets have been eroded with a resulting physical abuse and mass consumption. Moreover, the exploitation of these sites is so intense that the entrance fees are not significant or sufficient to make up for maintenance programmes, rehabilitation and restoration plans.

Compromised Values

The huge impact on these sites has resulted in a depletion of the effective values of the site, in terms of both the use and non-use values. With regard to non-use values, all sites have been compromised at varying degrees in their aesthetic and cultural composition. All the sites have lost aesthetic significance because of natural and human-induced erosion; however, some cases are more serious than others. The compromised landscape or context could have been avoided if the appropriate political decisions had been taken. Heritage value could have been exploited for long-term projects in the tourist sector and tied into academic and educational activity. The universal importance of the megalithic sites should have been carefully tackled, but land-use mismanagement opted for intensive industry related to mineral extraction. Other sites succumbed to extensive social housing projects that were high on the political agenda, but did not channel the resources for social welfare in the right dimension. The population would have gained more from significant educational and cultural programmes tied to local culture, than with property or social house ownership. As a result, the extensive building programmes of the 1960s boom-period and the following decades have significantly depleted archaeological assets. This has also had a long term effect on the tourism industry, which is only now changing in culture from one based on sun, sea and sand to one with a heritage orientation. Unfortunately, this comes too late for certain sites that have lost both their heritage potential and their market value.

Architectural Properties

The twelve candidate architectural sites chosen are a cross-section of the various types: military, industrial, maritime and rural. The selected sites also include an aqueduct from the period of the Order, which is a hydraulic engineering asset. The two most extensive assets are the Harbour Fortifications and the Victoria Lines, both military ensembles of great relevance. The former has been submitted for listing as a World Heritage Site.

SITE NAME	GRADE	RISK FACTOR
1 Australia Hall	2	LEVEL 5
2 Fort Ricasoli	1	LEVEL 4
3 Garrison Church	1 (not scheduled)	LEVEL 5
4 Casa Ippolito	1	LEVEL 4
5 Scamp's Palace	1 (not scheduled)	LEVEL 4
6 Umberto Colosso	2 (not scheduled)	LEVEL 4
7 Victoria Lines	1	LEVEL 4
8 Vilhena Palace	1	LEVEL 3
9 Torri Ta' Triq Il-Wieghsa	1	LEVEL 4
10 Wignacourt Aqueduct	1	LEVEL 4
11 St. Anthony's Battery	1	LEVEL 4
12 Harbour Fortifications	1 (tentative list WH)	LEVEL 5

With regard to grading and protection, ten sites are of Grade 1 importance and two are Grade 2 properties.² Out of the list, three sites are not yet scheduled but form part of the National Protective Inventory. With regard to risk factors, the sites under study predominantly show a high risk with 67% (8) of the sites at level 4, 25% (3) of the sites are at level 5 and only one is at level 3.

Maintenance Deficiency

Generally this is the section where the assets were worse off. Most of the buildings were left to deteriorate for decades and were completely abandoned. Therefore, the effects from natural processes were drastic – most assets have structural or aesthetic problems that are irreversible. Some sites are suffering severe structural deficiencies through natural deterioration, including: Fort Ricasoli, parts of the Harbour Fortifications, Vilhena Palace and Wignacourt Aqueduct. Fort Ricasoli and Torri at Triq il-Wieghsa, being both coastal and in contact with the sea, have suffered great damage from sea and wave action. In Fort Ricasoli, No. 3 Curtain was destroyed. The ditch and the landward section of the fort are overgrown by a thick Mediterranean maquis. At the coastal tower known as Ta' Triq il-Wieghsa, the lower corners have collapsed because the rock platform on which it rests succumbed to wave action. Although the impact from pollution was not monitored at the site, there has generally been a drastic impact in the last decade because of the traffic congestion on the island.

Insufficient Conservation Standards

This is the second section that was also found to be deficient. The safety net was not effective, mainly because of a defective policy and legislative and administrative problems. The survey recorded a mismanagement of assets, lack of monitoring, interventionism and the misuse or disuse of conservation ethics. Although the protection framework had been set-up and was working as scheduled,

problems emerged with applying and enforcing conservation parameters. It was noticed that although the context and landscape were protected with significant buffers, management plans or policies were lacking. This possibly arose as a result of flaws in networking and integrated heritage management. The other element that is even more alarming is that of conservation 'mercenaries' and a neglect of ethics. These are unfortunately difficult to control.

There have been recent debates on the type of rehabilitation and restoration standards involving the Garrison church, Scamp's Palace and St James Cavalier (an element in the Harbour Fortifications ensemble) where redevelopment projects severely jeopardised the fabric of the properties. Therefore, an assessment of conservation standards reveals that although professionals in the field of conservation are on the increase, there seems to be a lack of networking between entities, even though this has significantly improved in the recent years. Another problem is the lack of specialised labour in the field of conservation. It is hoped that the new structures set up at the Restoration Centre in Bighi and the Restoration Unit at the Works Department will train and accredit staff who will fill this gap. The protection framework has to a certain extent been passively imposed over the last decade through the assignation of protection areas. Active restoration of the scheduled properties is recent, with the Planning Authority issuing three Conservation Orders on scheduled buildings and sites in the last two years: the Citadel (Gozo), the Buskett Gardens and Villa Alhambra. Significant work has been commissioned by the Valletta, Cottonera and Mdina Rehabilitation Projects. The newly established Restoration Unit is tackling the fortifications and government owned properties.

Risks from Social and Collective Behaviour

The socio-political dimension was also a factor that put certain sites at risk. Poor political decisions in the past have put at risk the management of government-owned estates because of incorrect use and brutal adaptations. Public interests were to a great extent neglected and the decisions on land-use were based on short-term considerations. This is an unfortunate scenario, where forts were leased as farms for 99 years. Both the Victoria Lines and the Harbour Fortifications system suffered because of this regime. Other abuse and crime is connected with vandalism. Australia Hall is a case in point where suspected arson has completely destroyed the timber roofing of the building, which was a unique example of building technology imported during British colonial times. Apart from the mismanagement of estates, the social dimension is also problematic with no significant development of national pride or a connection to local heritage. This could be the result of two elements: a relatively recent Independence; or a very high number of heritage assets were built during the various periods of colonisation and therefore have not engendered a sense of belonging.

Development-Related Risks

This risk factor was connected to economic and land-use issues. The effect on context through new construction or of environmental impact through urban transformation and encroachments is most evident. The Victoria Lines, the Harbour Fortifications and the Wignacourt aqueduct suffered from segmentation as a result of extensive building or infrastructural development (building of hotels or roads in close proximity or over the site). In the former example, the Area of High Landscape Value, although still significant is marred by quarrying activity. It must be said that quarrying

had occurred prior to the scheduling of the sites and bond funds tied to developmental infringements are now being used for restoration projects. Another negative effect arises from unmanaged tourism or visitor impact on sites. Because tourism and access is usual uncontrolled, there is an accelerated physical erosion of assets without the necessary generation of funds for restoration, upkeep and maintenance.

Compromised Values

The survey also assessed how non-use and use values have been affected by negative and adverse impacts. At all the sites the cultural and aesthetic values of assets are either vulnerable or partially compromised by intrusive works. The values at Scamp's Palace were completely compromised in terms of the complex in general, detail and context. A wing of the palace was rebuilt in concrete brick without any connection to the ensemble, grit-blasting was used internally, significant parts and elements were removed from the building and an extensive attic compromising the Vittoriosa townscape was added to the building. Although not all sites were monitored vis-a-vis the intangible heritage aspects, some new uses have indeed compromised the legibility of the properties and their character: this was perceived in the conversion of Scamp's Palace into a casino and of the garrison church, first, to a main post office and then to a stock-exchange. The Umberto Colosso complex also lost its industrial dimension, as for a time it was used as a technical school and is now partially abandoned. Use values such as resource and property/market value in general have suffered because of erosion of the asset and the possibility to re-present for tourism purposes can be difficult. The properties have also been negatively affected because of their dilapidated state. The lack of knowledge and experience in marketing heritage assets is evident in the uninspiring possibilities presented in the exploitation and use of such sites. One cause may be that local market forces concentrate on hotel-building and new development, rather than a thorough assessment of extant resources. In addition, a tourist industry based on the sun, sea and sand culture of the post-colonial days has had a negative impact. For years the tourist potential of heritage has been neglected, misunderstood and underestimated.

Urban Conservation Areas

The Planning Authority recently commissioned a pilot survey for the Structure Plan Review of policies related to urban conservation. The survey studied three urban conservation areas, and revealed that the urban fabric is at risk from various threats.

The survey of the three urban conservation areas included an assessment of:

- population
- vacant dwellings
- type of assets
- commercial distribution
- visitor impact
- quality of fabric.

Social and Collective Behaviour

The impacts from human migration and occupancy are considerable on urban conservation areas. During the past three decades there has been marked urban sprawl, with local populations mov-

ing from the cores to new housing estates or to new extensions outside the villages (filling-in schemed areas). The population in the urban or village cores of the Maltese Islands has been undergoing significant and consecutive drops in levels. Vacant dwellings constitute a major threat to Urban Conservation Areas in all Local Plan Areas. Although population densities are relatively high, Mdina the old capital has 8% vacant dwellings (equal to the national average), whereas Pieta' and Safi are below the average with 1%. The worst scenario is found at Valletta and statistics show that the tendency is worsening.

UCA name	Population	Vacant Dwellings	% Vacant
Mdina	235	9	8
Safi	410	14	7
Pieta'	981	37	7
Valletta	6,787	309	9

Insufficient Conservation Standards and Development Pressure

It is only recently that the UCA/village cores of Mdina, Safi and Pieta' have been surveyed and monitored completely. The project (1998-2000) included the compilation of a heritage system for all the cores. There is, therefore, a mechanism in place for the protection of properties. However, only in Mdina is there an active and on-going restoration-rehabilitation project. The Mdina Rehabilitation Committee has been at work on the development of a Master Plan and the Restoration Unit is concentrating on the Vilhena Palace area, which is in a most critical state. The Planning Authority has published the Local Plan for Mdina, which is based on a Character Appraisal and Conservation Area Strategy and Guidelines. Even though the conservation and protection parameters for Mdina have been set-up, until recently infringements and illegal interventions have been recorded. Enforcement and monitoring still remain problematic. Comparatively, out of the three, Mdina has been subjected to the worst abuse and damage to fabric. The damage has been both disastrous and extensive.

The hacking of façades is one of the most pressing problems. Apart from weathering and dampness, which are natural causes of deterioration and which are significantly present in most buildings, the worst and most adverse deterioration has been caused by insensitive scraping, hacking, re-pointing and cladding. Some hacking has been so damaging that more than 5 centimetres of extant stonework have been destroyed. In some parts, details and architectural elements have disappeared altogether. Other interventions include removal of existing plastering over mediaeval rubble walling, plastering and cladding or re-pointing with cement. The following is a list of graded deterioration following insensitive intervention:

- X1 Scraping off patina and mild hacking.
- X2 Scraping off patina, mild hacking and removal of extant pointing.
- X3 Scraping off patina, heavy hacking, removal of extant pointing and masonry.
- X4 Scraping off patina, heavy hacking, removal of extant pointing and masonry and re-pointing with cement grey or coloured (plastered or cladded facade).
- X5 Scraping off patina and heavy hacking, removal of extant pointing and masonry and re-pointing with cement grey or coloured. Complete disfigurement of architectural elements and decoration.

The results show patterns of intense intervention in the residential quarter. A continuous stretch of Triq Inguanez has been severely damaged. Of all the listed and scheduled assets, the highest percentage is at X2 (9%) and the lowest at X1 and X5 (4%). Two palazzi have been severely mutilated, affecting significant areas of the town. The highest percentage of substantially damaged assets is within the X2–X4 band. Therefore, when taking these results into consideration, the damage is both extensive and intensive. Unfortunately this sort of intervention is fashionable. Hacking of town houses and palazzi to obtain a so-called ‘rustic look’ is widespread. This is, however, an imported idea and not historically accurate. Traditionally, in fact, rural buildings usually had smooth and well-dressed ashlar walls.

The survey also showed that the more economically affluent areas – such as Mdina – seem to have suffered more damage due to unguided and overzealous renovations, followed by Pieta’ and Safi. Safi, characterised by a less vibrant economy, seems to have retained the original fabric, complemented by the ‘intangible heritage’ of social fabric.

Architectural elements

Vacant dwellings and deficiencies in the protection network also affected architectural elements in conservation areas and scheduled buildings. In the last two decades, the introduction of aluminium as a timber substitute put much pressure on the timber balcony – a typical and characteristic architectural element in the local vernacular. The change of timber balconies to aluminium ones in Urban Conservation Areas has been widespread. The effects have been tremendous on the aesthetic values of the buildings and also the values connected to context and townscape. The negative visual impact of this phenomenon has raised much criticism. Although aluminium balconies are illegal, the activity persists. The initiatives taken by the Planning Authority in this regard have, to a certain extent, revived a trade that had been nearly lost. During the past 5–6 years, a timber balcony scheme was launched covering the Cottonera area. Now it is also being applied to Valletta as a joint venture with the Valletta Rehabilitation Project. The grant scheme covers the carpenters and small and medium enterprises involved in the fabrication of timber balconies, the numbers of which have mushroomed in the recent years.

Other elements, especially parts of vernacular rural buildings, are also at risk. The pillaging of timber rafters, typical roofing cor-

bels (kileb), and roofing (slabs) is a recent phenomenon. These are usually re-utilised in other so-called ‘rustic’ renovations or as features in modern buildings. Stone artefacts in public places are also at risk and it seems that there is a local black market concentrated on religious stone statues, niches, stone markers, stone balconies and interesting architectural elements. The worst recorded cases include the complete dismantling of a stone balcony in Gozo and a unique 17th-century cross in Tarxien. Investigations to date have not led to the retrieval of the stolen artefacts. The new Heritage Bill has a section dedicated to stolen heritage property, including penalties. Hopefully this will act as a deterrent and will also control the exportation of local artefacts, which have unique values arising from their limited quantities and their expression of the local vernacular in style and fabrication.

An architectural element that is at the level of extreme risk is the ‘*muxrabija*’, which is nearing extinction. This Islamic-type window, usually found in mediaeval and rural buildings, requires immediate recording and listing. The window style is highly valued because of its aesthetic, cultural and historic elements and it has become a rare feature. The conservation of the remaining few is sought for two reasons:

1. the lack of data available on Mediaeval structures because of their rarity – therefore, the feature is important for academic and educational purposes;
2. strengthening of the historical connection with the roots of Islamic culture and early architecture in the Maltese Islands.

Networking the Cultural Heritage Sector

Integrated conservation is about sharing resources. Although the current legislative framework may have anachronisms and incongruence, it is not the major problem facing heritage conservation and protection. The problem lies in the lack of funds, communication skills and empire-building notions. This situation has been delineated clearly in the Council of Europe survey, which states that ‘joint action by the monuments department and the planning authorities is neither sufficient nor satisfactory’. A more coercive atmosphere is solicited whereby tools, mechanisms, policies and human resources are shared. Therefore, it is best to delineate the resources available and propose solutions. This exercise has already been undertaken through the Council of Europe survey



Mnajdra Temples (Neolithic), recently damaged by acts of vandalism

quoted above. It is not the best guideline because it lacks certain detail; however, it is still a very good document and suggests and lists priorities:

1. renewal of existing heritage protection legislation
2. increased penalties for infringements of the law
3. increased funding of heritage
4. more effective action to develop public awareness
5. closer co-operation between ministries and departments responsible for the architectural heritage.

Throughout this year matters have been developing quickly and the proposed new structures and new legislative and administrative mechanisms will hopefully give positive results.

ICOMOS Malta

¹ POLICY ARC 2: In making the designations referred to in Policy ARC 1, the Planning Authority will give protection ratings as appropriate to local circumstances as follows:

- Class A: Top priority conservation. No development to be allowed which would adversely affect the natural setting of these monuments or sites. A minimum buffer zone of at least 100 metres around the periphery of the site will be established in which no development will be allowed.

- Class B: Very important to be preserved at all costs. Adequate measures to be taken to preclude any damage from immediate development.
- Class C: Every effort must be made for preservation, but may be covered up after proper investigation, documentation and cataloguing. Provision for subsequent access shall be provided.
- Class D: Belonging to a type known from numerous other examples. To be properly recorded and catalogued before covering or destroying.

² POLICY UCO 7: Listed buildings in Urban Conservation Areas will be graded as Grades 1, 2, or 3 as follows:

- Grade 1: Buildings of outstanding architectural or historical interest that shall be preserved in their entirety. Demolition or alterations which impair the setting or change the external or internal appearance, including anything contained within the curtilage of the building, will not be allowed. Any interventions allowed must be directed to their scientific restoration and rehabilitation. Internal structural alterations will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances where this is paramount for reasons of keeping the building in active use.
- Grade 2: Buildings of some architectural or historical interest or which contribute to the visual image of an Urban Conservation Area. Permission to demolish such buildings will not normally be given. Alterations to the interior will be allowed if proposed to be carried out sensitively and causing the least detriment to the character and architectural homogeneity of the building.
- Grade 3: Buildings which have no historical importance and are of relatively minor architectural interest. Demolition may be permitted provided the replacement building is in harmony with its surroundings.

MEXICO

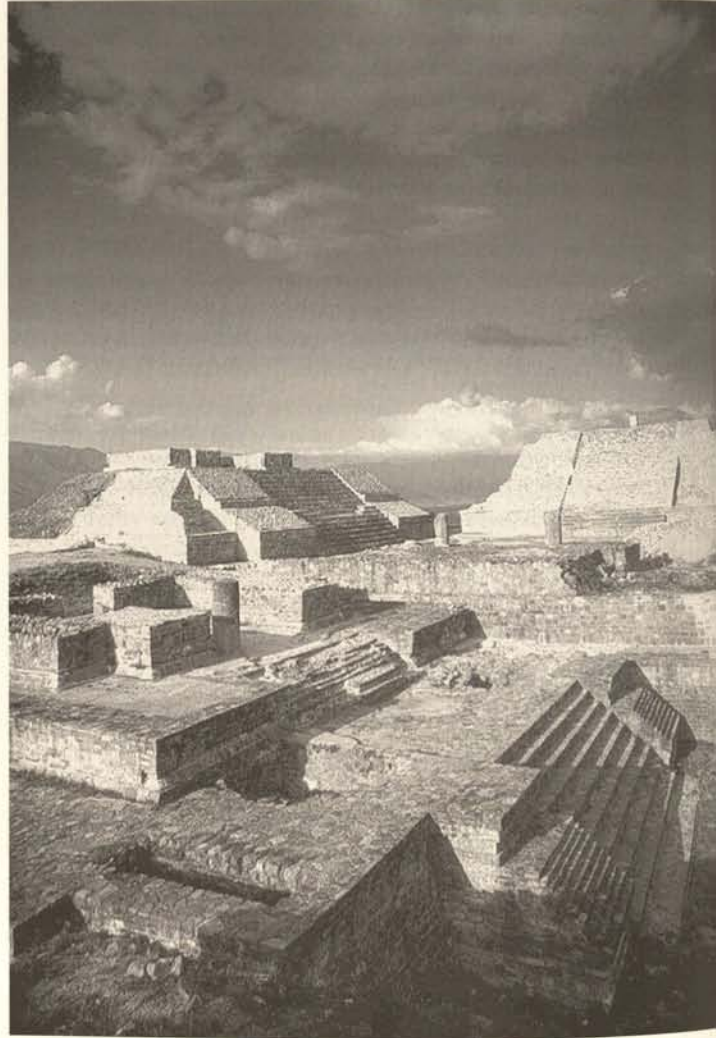
World Heritage at Risk within Mexico

Historic Centre of Mexico City and Xochimilco

This World Heritage property was inscribed on the World Heritage List on 11 December 1987. It is found at the 'heart' of Mexico City, one of the largest and most populated cities in the world. These characteristics contribute to a number of problems that are threatening the conservation of monuments and buildings in the historic centre. The main concerns are commercial activities and the lack of tenants for many of the buildings, compounded by the subsidence of the old lakebed on which the city is built.

One of the most remarkable monuments in the historic centre is the Catedral Metropolitana. The construction of this important building commenced in the 16th century and continued through to the 19th century. It has suffered severe damage due to the subsidence of the subsoil of the city, but works are currently being undertaken to remedy this problem. The project 'Corrección Geométrica de la Catedral', which commenced 10 years ago, has achieved impressive success and we now consider that the structural stability of the building has been dramatically improved. The risk, however, has not been removed and the significant cultural value of the building is threatened due to technical difficulties in the restoration work, and the ongoing threat from seismic activity in the area.

Xochimilco lies 28 kilometres to the south and is the only remaining reminder of the lacustrine landscape of the Aztec capital. On the edge of the residual lake, and among a network of small canals, can still be found some 'chinampas' – the floating gardens so admired by the Spanish. This half-natural, half-artificial landscape is today an ecological reserve, which includes a 500-hectare heritage reserve. This area is threatened by its proximity to a large urban centre, which is expanding out of its existing boundaries. In addition, the landscape is being degraded by polluting material that originates in other parts of the city, threatening fauna and the delicate ecological balance. Efforts are currently being expended to prevent both urban expansion and pollution of the area, and to control development at a level more appropriate to the heritage value of Xochimilco.



Archaeological site of Monte Albán



Mexico City, Catedral Metropolitana

The Earliest 16th-century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepétl

The site was inscribed on the World Heritage List on 17 December 1994. It encompasses fourteen monasteries. Although a greater number of buildings survive intact, these examples were included in the listing for their representative character. Of the listed structures, the Franciscan monastery of Tochimilco lies the nearest to a volcanic crater that has recently become active. Although not in the area of greatest danger (within a radius of 5 kilometres) it lies within an area nominated as being of medium danger, and identified as Risk Type 2 in CENAPRED (more than 15 kilometres from the crater). Its situation is clearly critical, not only because of the potential of lava impact, but also due to the ongoing earth tremors associated with seismic activity. Financial assistance has already been provided through the World Heritage Fund, and this has been applied to improving the conditions of this important monument. The conservation work has been included in the Program for the Rehabilitation of Historic Monuments damaged by the 1999 earthquakes, sponsored through the resources of the FONDEN Natural Disaster Fund.

The Historic Centre of Oaxaca and the Archaeological Site of Monte Albán

The archaeological site of Monte Albán, inscribed on the World Heritage List on 11 December 1987, is built over a mountain system near the city of Oaxaca de Juárez. Due to the proximity of the city, the site is being encroached by urban growth that is threatening to expand into territories that have potential archaeological value. At this time, ICOMOS is endeavouring to co-ordinate agreement for appropriate action and control across federal, State and municipal authorities – a particularly complex task as the archaeological area comes under the administration of four separate municipalities.

ICOMOS Mexico



Tower of San Augustin in Puebla after the earthquake of 1999 (see also *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*)

The same tower during its repair in 2001



MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique Island

Mozambique Island is presently the only World Heritage city in Mozambique, declared by UNESCO in 1991. The island is located in the Indian Ocean, in the northern region of the country. Mozambique Island is a melting pot, where different civilisations have mixed together since the time of the Chinese, Arab and Indian traders of the 7th century, and later of the 15th-century Portuguese traders 'discovering' the maritime spice route to India. The representatives of different cultures mixed with local African Bantu people who lived on the Island, to form part of the distinct *kiswahili* culture, typical of East African coastal people. Mozambique Island, a unique place in Mozambique, combined the peculiar cultural features of the lime and stone city, with the *macuti* (straw) city. The former is mostly made-up of Indo-Portuguese style buildings, most of them in ruins. The macuti city is found on the main (and livelier) side of the Island and shows the characteristic cultural diversity of that insular territory.

Mozambique Island was the first capital of colonial Mozambique, set-up in the 19th century, before the Portuguese settlement was established in the south, where the present capital Maputo is now located (the former colonial Lourenço Marques). The status of the first capital was lost due to the strategic need for Portugal to control the former De Lagoa Bay (now Maputo Bay) in the south, where maritime trade was being threatened by Dutch interests. This would have led to a reduction or even loss of the Portuguese influence on British interests in De Lagoa Bay as a preferential port.

Due to this Portuguese option, the administrative apparatus was transferred from Mozambique Island to Lourenço Marques and the majority of lime and stone buildings were abandoned and started to collapse. This is the reason why most of these buildings are in ruins, although some of them are now being rehabilitated, particularly through private-sector interests, which give them a functional purpose.

Government Action

Since Mozambique Island was declared a World Heritage site, the government has undertaken some steps. Responsibility is assigned to the Ministry of Culture through the National Directorate for Cultural Heritage. The Mozambican Government is committed to doing its best to honour the status of World Heritage site given to Mozambique Island. This is why, in 1998, an international conference of donors for the Island was organised, and in co-ordination with UNESCO, UNDP and Habitat, the Programme of Human Sustainable Development and Integral Rehabilitation of Mozambique Island was set-up with a cost estimated at US \$7million.

This was followed by a number of other actions by the Government, although not taken at the desirable speed, due to a number of unavoidable factors. In this context:

- The Ministry of Culture is preparing Specific Legislation for Mozambique Island, which will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval during the current year. This document aims to bring an added value to the Island, due to its status as a World Heritage city.
- With the assistance of Habitat, the Government has set-up the Projects Committee of Mozambique Island, in order to periodically revisit the Rehabilitation Programme of the Island. This Committee, chaired by representatives of Mozambique Island Council and Cupertino partners for the Programme, will pro-

vide the Government and bilateral and multilateral co-operation partners with a clear and real appraisal of the rehabilitation scope of Mozambique Island.

- With UNESCO's support, the Government is going to develop the Management Plan for Mozambique Island, the research for which will start in January 2002. The Plan will provide the Rehabilitation Programme with special guidelines, including a strategy for sustainable tourism on the Island.
- The Government is cherishing and supporting the twinning plan of action between the City of Bergen and Mozambique Island City, as it provides some strong leading principles for the council's building capacity, based in an urban vision of rehabilitation and development.

The Future

The main disaster that presently affects Mozambique Island is not of natural origin. The principal threat that endangers our national World Heritage site in Mozambique is the notorious shortage of funds to rehabilitate monuments, buildings and streets in Mozambique Island.

The Mozambican Government is under IMF and World Bank structural adjustment programmes and recently, in 2000 and 2001, faced the significant impact of floods in the southern and central regions of the country, the consequences of which can still be seen. The country's annual budget is the result of international contributions, which are not enough to solve the social and economic problems of the population and, of course, do not include the rehabilitation and preservation of monuments. For this reason, Mozambique Island's rehabilitation cannot be only a government task, as there are no specific funds in the budget assigned to the government by the international financial system.

We are confronted with the following dilemma: how to fulfil the government's task of rehabilitation, preservation and conservation of Mozambique Island and other national monuments, taking into account that there is no special budget for that? Should the government, due to lack of appropriate means, take part in the collapse of its cultural heritage?

It is urgent that a suitable answer to this question is found, because among many situations that threaten Mozambican cultural heritage is one that arises from the situation of extreme poverty of the country: some foreign citizens living in Mozambique want to buy – not rent for cultural purposes – some of our monuments, with the excuse that they would otherwise fall into ruins, because the government has no funds to take care of them. These foreign citizens are even forcing us to change our cultural heritage legislation in order to fit their interests.

It is our hope that a regional and international network concerning rehabilitation and preservation of endangered monuments will help the Mozambican Government to seek solutions against situations like this, as a means for preserving and protecting our common cultural heritage.

Maria Angela Penicela Nhambiu Kane
National Director for Cultural Heritage

MYANMAR

Case Study: Bagan (Pagan)

Situated 550 kilometres northwest of Yangon (former Rangoon) capital of Myanmar, Bagan (Pagan) was the first unified Burmese dynasty from the 11th to 13th centuries. Nearly 3000 temples, stupas, monasteries, and other structures still remain – stretching over more than 100 square kilometres of land on the east bank of the Ayeyarwaddy (Irrawaddy) River. Bagan (Pagan) is on the national tentative list of World Heritage sites and one of the most important archaeological sites in Southeast Asia.

The Archaeological Department of the Myanmar Ministry of Culture is conducting a series of preservation and restoration projects in Bagan. However, due to the vast number of monuments that need immediate restoration work, some of the monuments have been suffering from severe damage caused by harsh weather and erosion of soil, let alone the impact of earthquake activity.

Located at the edge of the sand bank of the Ayeyarwaddy River, without any protection measures, Temple No. 136 lies to the northeast of Nyang Oo Town and has been damaged by severe erosion of the foundation soil. This has been caused mainly by the effect of rain and river impact. It is at risk of collapsing in the near future. Three other stupas, including Temple No. 1339 close to the massive Mingala-zedi Stupa, are said to be in the same critical situation.

Some of the structures near Temple No. 136 are also heavily damaged by a long neglect that has allowed bushes to grow over the top of half collapsing structures.

Some of the wooden monasteries of later periods are also suffering from devastating damage. Pakang gye and Pankang gyi are both located on the other side of the Ayeyarwaddy River, some 20 kilometres northeast of Bagan, and are examples of these critically endangered monuments. Pakang gye, the larger monastery consisting of 332 massive teak columns, stands with tilted columns and no roof or floor. Pakang gyi, the smaller monastery consisting of 156 huge columns, is barely standing.

According the Archaeological Department, these two monuments are now in a relatively better situation, with upright columns at Pakang gye and a restored roof and floor at Pakang gyi. However, lack of the proper maintenance and skilled carpenters may result in possible future risks to both monasteries and to similar structures.



Bagan, Pakang gyi monastery

Yukio Nishimura
ICOMOS Japan



Bagan, Pakang gye monastery

NEPAL

Situation

2001 has not been an easy year for Nepal. The country has witnessed much turmoil, suffering from a royal tragedy and also from enormous political problems. It seems not only the Nepalese people but also the country's cultural heritage is suffering in these times. The monuments and the ancient sites naturally remain silent – but if they could speak the valleys and hillsides would be full of their lamentations. Every year Nepal is losing a significant portion of its incredibly rich and diverse cultural heritage. The alarming condition of the most important sites – and countless equally precious sites that are afforded far less protection – give cause for serious concern. The dismantling and scarring of historic buildings is regrettably common. Several important buildings and monuments that were not under the protection of the UNESCO World Heritage list have been dismantled, or collapsed through lack of maintenance. In their place the desire to build quickly and above all cheaply is producing a modern architecture that is ad hoc and chaotic, characterised by the poorly constructed concrete pillar buildings that are so detrimental to the fabric of the historic areas – and an increasing blot upon the beautiful Nepalese landscape.

Although these threats to the country's cultural heritage are largely confined to private property, many of the more prestigious national sites and monuments are also in danger. Uncontrolled new buildings and roads at many historic sites – even in the midst of some of the most important ancient sites – are springing up quickly. Nor are some UNESCO listed sites left untouched by such developments.

Community and Management Approaches

Of course, there are a few notable examples of communities beginning to take an active part in the conservation of their heritage. This cultural awareness is most obvious where particular sites are used directly to generate income. But even the financial incentives of tourism cannot totally relieve the pressures on a great many monuments. Ironically these are sometimes threatened by the very attempts to save them. Many of the so-called conservation and restoration projects in Nepal are, in reality, often large-scale renovations, or complete reconstructions. These can damage or obliterate the original fabric that they set out to preserve. Perhaps this is due in part to wider international uncertainties over definitions of conservation. But greater sensitivity is undoubtedly called for. Even if the most sophisticated and cutting edge conservation techniques, pioneered in Europe and elsewhere, might not always be transferable to Nepal, a minimum care of authenticity should be expected after all the national and international efforts in the country.

While we should acknowledge that there will always be conflicting pressures between preserving the ancient and yet creating an environment suitable for modern life, greater efforts need to be made to avoid the many wrong turnings. In Kathmandu, for instance, the proliferation of slavish modern copies of ancient design in new buildings, such as hotels and shopping malls – yet in a totally different context, use and scale – is not conducive to a living, vibrant architecture. There are young architects of vision and talent in Nepal, but they are not being given the opportunity to express themselves. Instead, there is a very real danger that new urban development will come to resemble an idealised, sterile Dis-

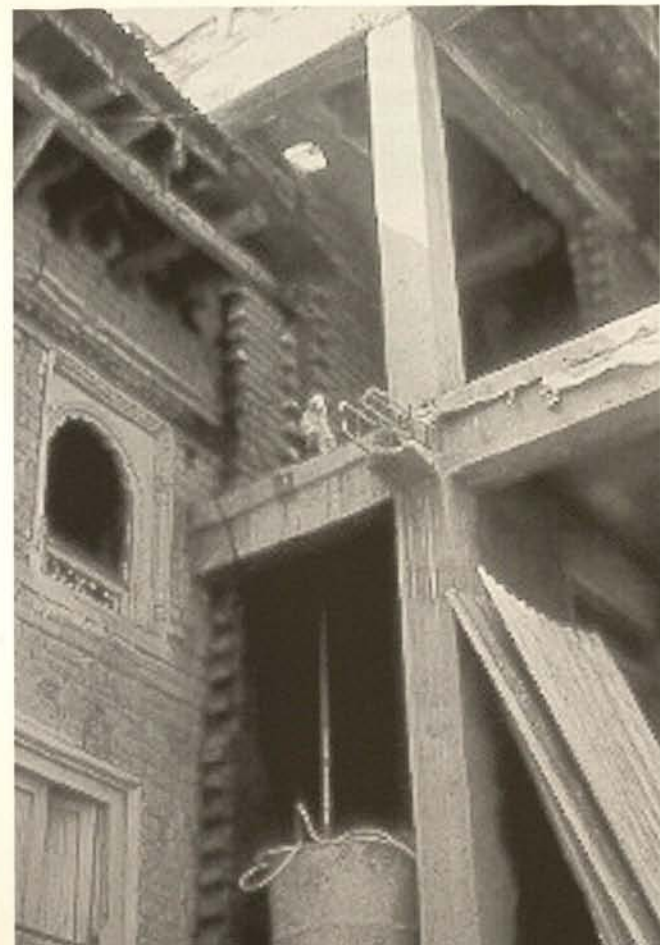
neyland that fails to reflect the society that surrounds it. This is scarcely in harmony with the officially adopted slogan: 'Nepal, a land with living cultural heritage'. It is a tragic irony that this should be happening just as many 'genuine' examples of remaining architectural heritage are collapsing into rubble.

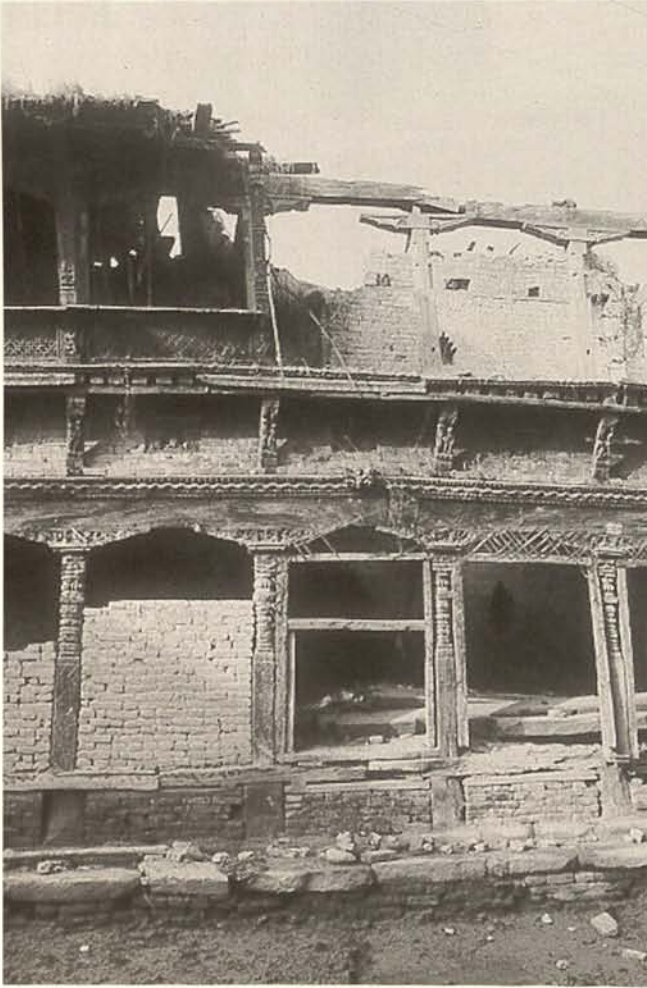
Why is it that the responsible departments and organisations are not able to change this depressing situation? A lack of financial resources and investments? This can hardly be deemed the case, given the huge amount of aid pumped into Nepal on a yearly basis. The necessary skills can still be found, labour costs remain (by Western standards) low and materials are available at a reasonable price. Under these conditions, conservation and preservation work should not be difficult to undertake. So why is this not happening on a more significant scale, and in a more sympathetic way? Consider the various strategies that have thus far sought to defend a fragile and fast-shrinking heritage. Workshops, symposiums, training initiatives, awareness campaigns – Nepal has seen many of these. But an honest evaluation of their results would have to conclude that talking has not always led to action. Rules and regulations, government legislation – there is no shortage of these. It is the implementation that is lacking. The enforcement of necessary conservation measures, often unpopular with owners, seldom takes place. At present it seems there are many higher priorities than heritage conservation.

Among the wider population, the prevailing indifference and disregard for the country's physical heritage suggests that only a minority is interested in its preservation. This can be attributed, in part, to a lack of popular awareness concerning the importance of many aspects of the country's heritage. This, in turn, stems from a failure to provide education on this subject for school children and students. Although there are some welcome education initiatives now taking place, the official support for them remains fragmented and weak. At present there is a clear shortage of 'home-grown' skills in the field of cultural heritage in Nepal – whether in teachers, lecturers or technical experts. At an academic level, there is an obvious dearth of scientific studies, inventories and documentation. Where these have been carried out, it has often been at the instigation of foreign organisations. The responsible government departments have not created a public documentation centre, or developed user-friendly systems that might enable municipalities to support the urgent tasks of surveying and documentation at a non-academic level. Rectifying this will need to be a dedicated and long-term strategy. But the time for commencing these actions must be now. Traditional buildings, temples and monuments are disappearing daily. The living witnesses of the country's past heritage are also dying out. And the absence of documentation makes it almost impossible to help preserve the immeasurable value of both – for the next generation of Nepalese, as well as the world at large.

Foreign Aid Organisations

Any examination of the mixed success of heritage conservation initiatives in Nepal should also consider the role of foreign organisations. Without their huge injection of development aid – financial and technical – there would be even less of the country's heritage to enjoy in 2001. Whether their involvement will lead to a sustainable impetus for heritage conservation within the country itself is less certain. There is still a clear lack of co-operation and





co-ordination between the Nepalese area of responsibilities and foreign aid organisations. For example, the majority of project documents and studies are written in the English language, yet little if any provision has been made for their translation into Nepalese. In many instances foreign organisations have also been culpable of 're-inventing the wheel', ignoring the lessons learned by other projects, and replicating one another's initiatives. Too often the response to a problem in the field is to throw more money at it. Too seldom do the interested parties sit down together to consider alternative approaches. Community involvement is usually token. Is it any wonder that some Nepalis now consider foreign aid a bountiful cash cow, to be milked as heavily as possible before the udders run dry?

Towards a Positive Future

In spite of everything, Nepal shows a few encouraging signs of a more positive approach to dealing with its heritage. There are some notable examples of valuable and effective co-operation between the Nepalese government, a donor country and the local community. Hopefully these success stories will prove sustainable, marking the way for other large-scale projects. Some municipalities are increasingly active in implementing building codes for their historic centres. There are heartening cases where illegal buildings have been dismantled, proving that the local government is beginning to view transgressions in a more serious light. It is even more pleasant to see that not only in famous tourist places are the locals starting to preserve their ancient sites. But these rare advances need to become the norm.

In conclusion, it is clear that it is high time to act. If the Nepalese really want to keep their rich cultural heritage they have to work hard for that objective, and also to fight against fatalism. Aid organisations can provide many valuable tools and resources, but it cannot be their responsibility to create an impetus for heritage conservation among the Nepalis themselves. Hopefully for the remaining heritage of Nepal, there will be a positive ending – just as there is in a fine story about a difficult and much-discussed restoration of a holy idol, which concludes with the happy sentiments of an old man from the mountains: 'Now, the gods can smile again'.

Nepalese architectural heritage in various states of decay and threatened by modern constructions

NETHERLANDS

The registration, protection and preservation of monuments and historic sites in the Netherlands are in accordance with international standards. There are no serious shortcomings with these procedures, although there are many aspects for which special attention should be requested. These concern the backlog in maintenance and management and the protection of complex structures – such as lines of fortifications and historic parks – in urban and rural areas. Problems of this kind arise even at large-scale World Heritage sites, such as the Defensive Line of Amsterdam and the New Dutch Waterline (tentative list). In addition, the legal frameworks are an area of concern. The high degree of urbanisation requires an effective legislation. In this respect the Dutch legislation does not reach far enough, especially in the protection of areas whose significance is based on combined cultural and natural values.

Especially alarming is the situation of monument conservation on Curaçao, the main island of the Netherlands Antilles, which is a self governed part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Due to the economic crisis on Curaçao, the restoration of historic buildings has practically stopped. We fear that essential parts of the World Heritage in Willemstad, especially the areas containing public housing and some large stately homes, will continue to decay (see also *H@R Report 2000*, p. 138/139).

In the field of archaeological heritage management, the Netherlands is about to adopt a law ratifying the Valetta Treaty. Procedures in this country are already adapted to these new regulations, but in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba the laws still have to be adapted.

Conservation Policy

The Dutch conservation policy consists of several aspects, such as the selection and listing of monuments, townscapes, rural sites and historic gardens, legislation and financing for restoration and maintenance, historic urbanism, town and country planning and international affairs. The Historic Buildings and Monuments Act (Monumentenwet) of 1988 forms the framework for further legislation. The Netherlands Department for Conservation (Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg, abbr. RDMZ) is the main actor in the field, responsible for upholding these laws. As many of the monuments are privately owned, private initiative is indispensable. Nationwide, some 1000 private organisations (NGOs) deal with monuments, or with special categories of monuments. The overall policy is no longer focused on restoration, but on upkeep and avoiding neglect.

In the Netherlands there are more than 47,000 monuments listed by the State, of which the major part dates from before 1850, and more than 300 protected townscapes and rural sites. In addition to this, many monuments profit from municipal (30,000) or provincial protection. After 15 years of work, we expect to conclude a survey in 2001 concerning the selection and registration of examples of modern town planning and architecture of the period 1850–1940. The result will be an extension of the national list, which will increase to more than 50,000 monuments.

During the last few years, strategies have been developed to preserve the whole context of a monument, both in space and time. This particularly applies to the valuable structures such as rural estates, fortifications, lines of defence, canal zones and post-war reconstruction architecture in their context of urban planning. A number of Dutch World Heritage Sites, such as The Defence Line of Amsterdam and the Mill Network at Kinderdijk, Schokland and



Museum Paul Tétar van Elven in Delft; not all historic interiors are in such a good condition.

the Beemster Polder can be rated among these complex structures. Protection and dynamic development of these large-scale sites is a severe challenge. Their size and complexity require an integrated approach for maintaining the whole area, with respect to content and financial aspects. This way of conservation, related to urban and landscape planning, is a new challenge that has to find its place in the ongoing process of spatial planning.

Private housing initiatives

2001 is the centennial year of the first Housing-Act of the Netherlands. This law improved the quality of public housing, both in the quality of living circumstances and in the architecture. Several initiatives have dealt with the same theme of housing: a symposium entitled 'The Historic Interior' and the Dutch Heritage Day-theme 'At Home'. As stated above, Holland is not a country renowned for its palaces and large stately homes; the majority of Dutch listed monuments consist of private houses, determining the character of Dutch towns and villages. Many private houses dating from the early 20th century have recently been added to the official list of monuments. Out of 47,000 listed monuments, 31,000 belong to the category of private housing. However, many houses and especially the interiors are at risk. Most private monuments are listed for their exterior, while insufficient information on the interiors is available. This creates problems with the execution of the monument act. The State has started a large-scale project to improve the description of all monuments, including the interior. A second problem is the lack of motivation of owners to restore or even to maintain their monument. The system of subvention does not stimulate this sufficiently. Subvention is generally granted for the restoration of the construction, not for the interior, which is therefore largely neglected. The redefinition of the rules for subvention is currently in discussion.

Shared Heritage

In the scope of international affairs, special attention has to be drawn to the mutual heritage from the time of the West Indian Company, which is in an alarming position, especially on the island of Curaçao as stated above. A restoration plan is in progress on the island of St. Eustatius. Following the work done for the VOC (Dutch East-India Company) Heritage, additional efforts are a prerequisite.

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand's contribution to the *Heritage at Risk 2000* report highlighted a number of issues of concern to our heritage industry. They included specific places at risk, including the Auckland volcanic landscape and the Cook Landing Site National Historic Reserve. As well, we considered types of heritage or themes at risk in New Zealand including:

- archaeological heritage and associated cultural landscapes affected by urbanisation and subdivision in the northern North Island
- the earliest colonial heritage and associated cultural landscapes affected by encroaching incompatible development
- modern (post-1940s) buildings
- maritime heritage
- historic heritage in conflict with natural heritage values
- 'humble' heritage.

Sadly we can report that little has changed. There has been a significant improvement in the status of part of the Auckland volcanic landscape in the designation and declaration of the Otutaua stonefield in South Auckland as a historic reserve.

Apart from this major gain, the status of the other places and issues noted has not changed or improved. Perceptions of heritage remain fixed on concepts of age or visual appeal. However, changed sector arrangements, including the establishment of a new national ministry and appointment of key staff, have the potential to produce greater clarity of vision and purpose for the sector and co-ordinated programmes of education, policy and protection strategies.

ICOMOS New Zealand

NICARAGUA

Cailagua, El Muerto and Montelimar: Nicaraguan Millenary Rock Art at Risk

Among the numerous features that distinguish present day Nicaragua is an abundance of pre-Columbian rock art, or petroglyphs. Petroglyphs are often associated with ancient sites all over the country. Rock art pervades settings as diverse as the volcanic tuff walls of Cailagua in Masaya, basaltic rock engravings along riversides in Matagalpa and the Segovias and crosses and spiral forms more characteristic of Chontales and parts of the Atlantic and central regions. As yet there is no organised catalogue of known petroglyphs, making it harder to protect, preserve and study these unique forms of expression.

While the majority of petroglyphs are not near highly active or populated areas, there are three very important sites that are in urgent need of attention; this is due to anthropogenic activity combined with disturbances in their setting. The sites especially at risk are the Montelimar Cave near the Pacific coast in the department of Managua, Cailagua in Masaya and Isla del Muerto in the Zapatera Archipelago in Granada. On two prior occasions, unsuccessful rescue and protection project requests were submitted to international organisations. The petroglyphs at all three sites were engraved upon volcanic tuff: consolidated ash that solidified as it cooled. Consolidated volcanic tuff is quite susceptible to the ravages of hydrologic and erosive processes, unless the surface has the time to stabilise with time. Tuff is intensively quarried in the Pacific region, because it is a readily found and workable material appropriate for construction; there are at least two petroglyph sites that recently disappeared because of quarrying activity.

Over time, many petroglyphs have developed a protective patina that often stabilises the engraved surface. The patina can be organic, mineral or a combination. Because Montelimar, Cailagua and El Muerto are in readily accessible areas, near significant populations, and because they cover large areas with intricate designs, chalk is constantly used to make the forms more readily visible to the casual visitor. Needless to say, the repetitive use of chalk abrades the protective and stable surface, allowing moisture to infiltrate the tuff matrix. The petroglyphs undergo numerous swelling and contraction cycles that eventually result in spalling and destruction of the original engraved surfaces.

Montelimar Cave

The Montelimar Cave is located along the central Pacific coast, in the department of Managua, nearly 60 kilometres from the capital city and very close to one of the most-developed tourist attractions in the region. The petroglyphs are routinely part of guided tours for guests of the Montelimar Beach Resort. The cave itself measures about 3 metres in depth by less than 2 metres in height and 10 metres in width. The petroglyphs are found along the wall and ceiling. Of the three sites this is the only one that is characterised by remnants of red and blue pigments overlying the engravings. The small cave formed as a result of numerous flooding episodes when the nearby river (currently about 35 metres away) swelled and the currents gradually eroded the area differentially. As well as the constant unrestricted visits to the cave, with the concomitant addition of new engravings (vandalism), there are two other insidious threats: there are substantial lime deposits in the vicinity of the cave, which cement producers procure using heavy machinery within less than 100 metres; also, water is seeping through the ceiling area (evidenced in petroglyph spalling calcareous deposits in fissures).



One of the Montelimar petroglyphs, with chalk

Isla del Muerto

El Muerto Island is part of the Zapatera Archipelago near Granada. The island is located in Lake Nicaragua and is part of the Zapatera National Park. Ideally, national parks should be allocated the highest level of protection available. In reality, there are not enough resources available to closely supervise and protect the site, as the designation would require. The petroglyphs extend over a volcanic-tuff shelf that measures slightly more than 350 square metres (35 metres wide by 10 metres high). In the last few years, tourist traffic has increased substantially. As a result, the numerous visitors that walk on the petroglyph surface and trace the contours with chalk are adding to their degradation. In recent years the Pacific region of Nicaragua has experienced episodes of above-average precipitation. Because the tuff was deposited as ash atop a hill, differential erosion of the underlying soil matrix is undermining the integrity of the tuff layer, by allowing the more easily displaced organic soil to evacuate the area immediately underneath the tuff. The process results in the fracture and detachment of large blocks of tuff. Although the known petroglyphs have not yet been affected by the erosion of the underlying soil, within the next three to five seasons it is very likely that we would be witness to the irreversible destruction of these ancient wonders.

Evidence of vandalism and spalling on the Cailagua petroglyphs.





Blocks of tuffaceous layer breaking off as a result of erosion in the underlying soil layer at El Muerto

Cailagua

As early as 1852, Ephraim G. Squier, then United States of America's Chargé de Affaires for Central America, documented the Cailagua petroglyphs. They are distributed over more than 100 metres of tuff wall surfaces and are located along the Cailagua drainage creek. The designs are thought to have been made in several episodes, and may have served to record, commemorate or depict actual or mythical events. Sadly, there are two instances where modern day names have been carved alongside ancient petroglyphs.

Cailagua ends in a spectacular fall of 65 metres. It is widely known that the rainy season currents can be strong enough to drag oxcarts, livestock and people to their precipitous demise. The waters that collect from a drainage basin of more than 400 square kilometres end at the escarpment wall on the edge of the Masaya Lagoon, a crescent-shaped, water-filled extinct volcanic crater

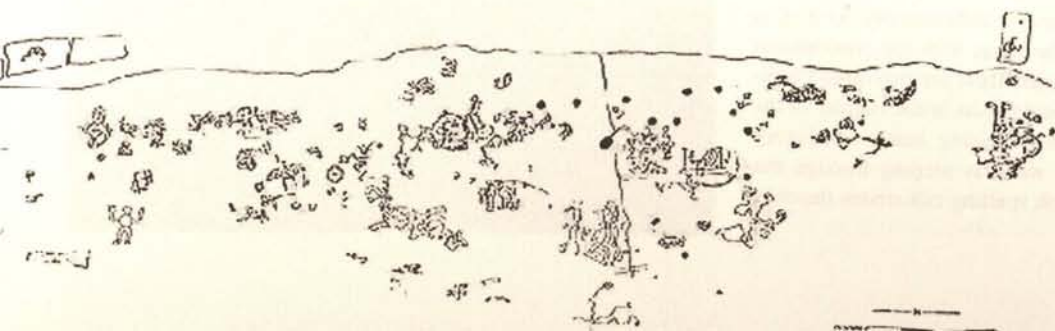
measuring 5 kilometres across. However, because the city of Masaya has no organised underground drainage system, whatever lies on the street surface ends up in the lagoon – via Cailagua. Needless to say, the immense volume of water and materials that flow through Cailagua in the six-month long rainy season further erode and abrade the walls, impacting the petroglyphs. Also, much of the neighbourhood refuse, including metal, construction disposal and plastic packaging is routinely dumped into the canals that feed Cailagua, further complicating the situation. The recent earthquake in Masaya has resulted in increased construction and demolition activity, thus intensifying the threat of destructive erosion.

Action Needed

Because of the dearth of funding available, some of the more important base studies by experts such as hydrological engineers and geologists have not been undertaken. Thus, management proposals for all three sites rely heavily on the assessment and evaluation of interested parties whose expertise is in other fields. The first necessary step would be the regulation of access to prevent further vandalism and damage by visitors. In the case of Montelimar, a buffer zone where heavy equipment is not to be used must be negotiated with the cement producers. Next, a plan to stabilise the petroglyphs and attenuate erosive processes is of the utmost importance. The third phase would be to develop a plan that promotes the sites and limits access, thus protecting the petroglyphs. After an initial investment it is very likely that all three sites could become self-sustaining because of their location near areas normally visited by tourists.

In spite of the numerous instances of rock art in the territory that is now Nicaragua, with a few exceptions (such as Suzanne Baker's work in the Ometepe Island Petroglyph Project), little energy has been devoted to the serious study and interpretation of petroglyphs. Those found on tuff are certainly among the most vulnerable. However, in the present situation it is very likely that some of the best-known ones may disappear before anyone takes up such an initiative.

ICOMOS Nicaragua



Isla El Muerto petroglyph ensemble. The engravings are all on the surface shown in the figure above.

NORWAY

Cultural heritage places, monuments and sites of national importance in Norway can be protected under national legislation (The Cultural Heritage Act). Cultural heritage of regional and local importance is given protection under The Building and Planning Act.

The Directorate for Cultural Heritage is a body under the Ministry of the Environment. The Directorate is responsible for the management of all archaeological and architectural monuments and sites and cultural environments. The following agencies are responsible for the day-to-day management:

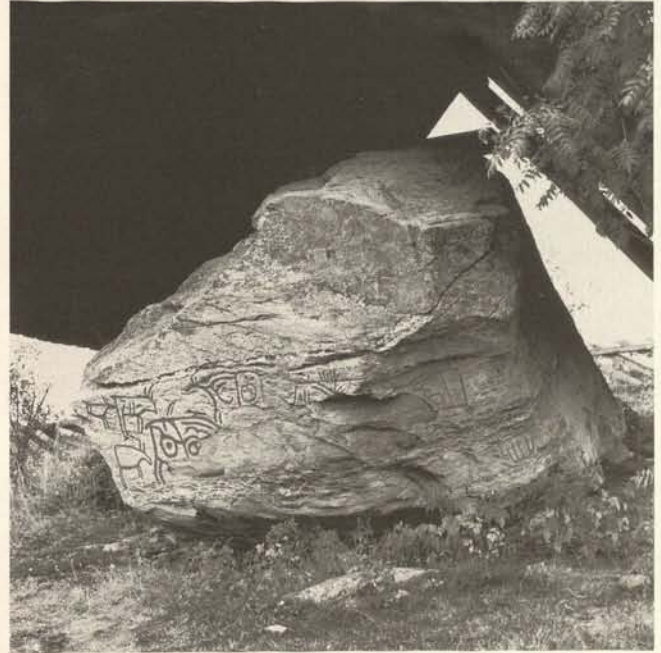
- County level Cultural Heritage Management exists in all 18 counties. This service advises the county administration on questions of conservation and protection of cultural heritage and environment in the planning process at county and municipal level.
- Local Council Cultural Heritage Management exists in some towns and under the management of some local councils. This service advises the municipal council on questions of conservation and protection of cultural heritage and environment in the planning process.
- The Archaeological Museums in Oslo, Stavanger, Bergen, Trondheim and Tromsø administer excavation and investigation of archaeological monuments and sites.
- The Maritime Museums in Oslo, Stavanger and Bergen, the Museum of Natural History, Archaeology and Social History in Trondheim, and Tromsø Museum are responsible for the underwater archaeological sites on the sea bed.
- The Sámediggi administration has a Department of Environment and Cultural Heritage, with the same tasks as the county cultural heritage management.
- Cultural heritage conservation of Svalbard is administered by the Governor, in accordance with the cultural heritage regulations for Svalbard.

The Cultural Heritage

Archaeological sites have been protected since 1905, and today 300,000 automatically protected objects on 70,400 sites have been recorded. Archaeological sites have been inventoried for the Economic Map since the early 1960s, but some municipalities have still not completed this work. In addition, large forest and mountainous areas have not yet been investigated. The average loss of archaeological sites is estimated to be about 0.7% each year, mostly resulting from agricultural work.

Rock art in Norway dates back more than 7000 years, numbering at least 1100 sites with more than 32,000 motifs. Observations and research during the past 25 years show that 94% of the sites are more or less damaged. The sites are endangered for a number of reasons, most often in different combinations: climatic influence, wet and dry depositions, macro- and microbiological growth, and human impact. The results are weathering, mineral loss, development of cracks, crevices and exfoliation, and general mechanical, chemical and biological deterioration. In 1996, a national 10-year multi- and cross-scientific project for the management, conservation and protection of rock art was initiated by the Directorate for Cultural Heritage.

We do not have an exact number of the underwater archaeological sites, but we have estimated it to be about 3500 locations with thousands of objects. Priority is given to 400 sites. The pressure of



Stone-age rock carvings damaged by frost erosion in Moelv, County of Hedmark

Fire is one of the greatest threats to wooden buildings. Arson destroyed the 19th-century church at Saner near Oslo.





The sad remains of the mediaeval stave church of Fantoft near Bergen, burnt down by a man with Satanist motives.

development of the coastline, harbours, offshore activities, and shell sand-digging is threatening the underwater sites.

Norway still has some one hundred unique mediaeval houses in wood. Of these, 255 have been restored during the last 8 years. Out of 2000 mediaeval wood churches, 28 stave churches are left, and some are in a poor condition. Stave churches are particularly threatened by the dangers of fire, as well as by human wear and tear. This year (2001) plans are being created for a major project for the protection and safeguarding of these wooden churches. There are still 160 mediaeval stone churches left in Norway and more than 70 mediaeval ruins of churches, monasteries and castles. The ruins are generally in a bad condition and are seriously endangered. The reasons why they are threatened include previous conservation using inappropriate techniques and materials, lack of proper maintenance and monitoring routines, plant growth, damage from frost, mechanical wear and tear, and wanton destruction.

There are eight mediaeval towns in Norway, and their still-intact cultural layers are important, though seriously endangered sources of information. The sites are under strong pressure from modern urban development. Efforts are made to gain more knowledge about which conditions favour protection and which lead to deterioration. Through the systematisation of previous inventories, combined with ongoing studies, we are in the process of defining possible variable solutions, contingent upon the context and the local conditions: for example – uncompromised preservation, archaeological excavations, protection *in situ* combined with building on the cultural layers.

There are 1230 enlisted and protected building groups incorporating 2950 buildings in Norway. Of these buildings, 85% are in rural areas and connected to agriculture.

17th and 18th century wooden churches

There are 185 wooden churches dated from the 17th or 18th century, typical in style for the northern European region. There are still 130 churches from the period 1800–1850, and approximately 900 that were built after 1850; 50% of these are of historical interest. The damage to these churches is mainly the result of overheating and cracking of the wooden and painted decorations. We must also mention that the introduction of new material, especially plastic wall paintings, since the 1970s has caused great damage.

Industrial and technical heritage

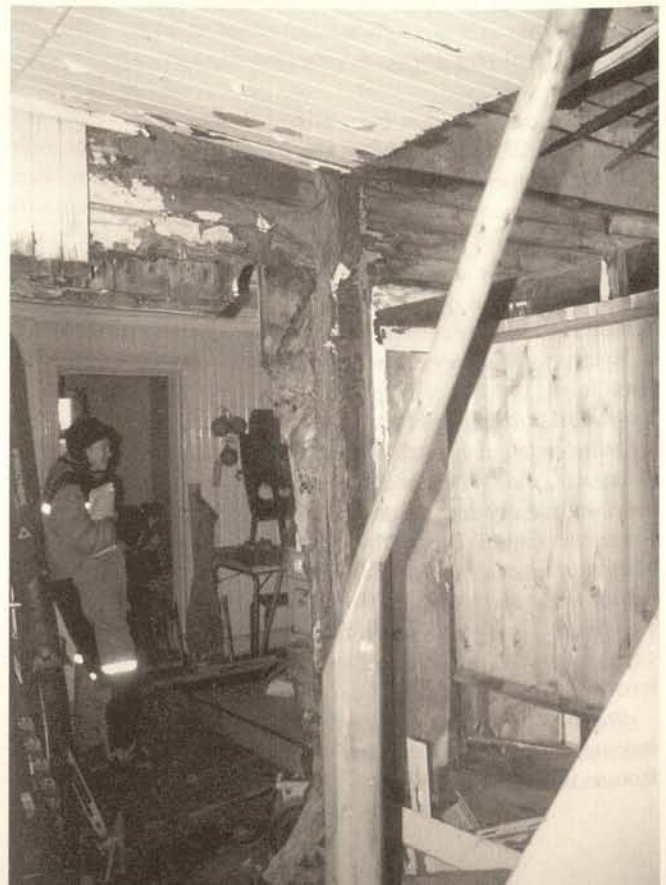
The protection of 31 technical monuments receives priority in Norway. In addition there are many others that are not protected and which are of great historical value. The complexity of these monuments, their size and lack of knowledge of the correct maintenance procedures increase the danger of losing this industrial heritage.

Buildings owned by the State

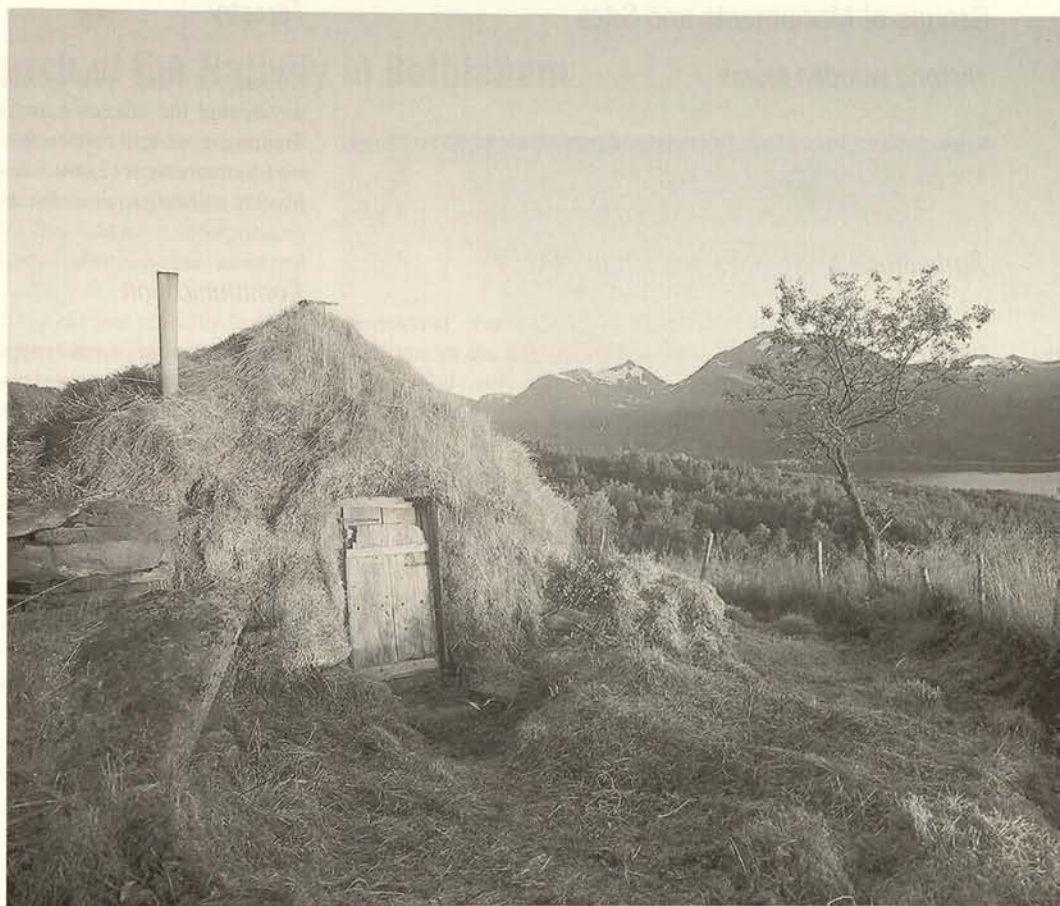
Historic buildings owned by the State are recorded, but not protected by law. During the last several years, the Directorate of Cultural Heritage and the different ministries have worked out conservation plans for:

- Coastal administration: Historic lighthouses;
- Railroad company (NSB): Stations, bridges, water towers, etc.;
- Military defence: including fortifications, airports and barracks (1300 objects are proposed for protection).

Wooden buildings are vulnerable to invasion by various types of fungi. In spite of this serious damage, this house in Bietilae, County of Finnmark, is now restored.



Sami cultural monuments and sites over 100 years old are automatically protected by the Norwegian Cultural Heritage Act. Even so, the still incomplete register and mapping of Sami cultural monuments leaves them vulnerable to destruction by the effects of modern civilisation. However, this traditional Sami turf house, a *goahtti*, in Gratangen, County of Troms, has been restored and will survive.



Ship Preservation

The major task concerning ship preservation is to preserve a representative selection of vessels of great historical value. The term 'ship preservation' has been used in Norway as synonymous with preserving vessels longer than 30–35 feet in a floating condition. In addition to this fleet there are many objects preserved inside museum-buildings, but these are mainly small open boats.

Ship preservation in Norway has always been based on voluntary efforts. This activity started in the 1960s, and the Norwegian Council of Cultural Affairs started to support some of these projects financially. Today the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, which is under the Ministry of the Environment, has the public responsibility for ship preservation. To date, 172 vessels have received economic support or been declared 'worth preserving ship'. According to the Cultural Heritage Act §14a, it is now also possible to protect boats that are of particular historical value.

In 1996 three national ship preservation centres were established. These centres have collected valuable knowledge concerning old shipbuilding skills and they are able to restore and maintain old vessels in accordance with relevant traditions. The restoration work done at the three centres is based on historical and technical documentation.

Recorded and not protected buildings

Across Norway, 540,000 buildings built before 1900 have been recorded during the years 1973–1998. These buildings have no

legal protection and most of them are part of farm complexes. The structures are of great historical value as they represent an enormous source of knowledge of former craftsmanship, use of materials and ways of life.

Research in some communities has given the depressing result that 15% of the buildings have disappeared within 20–25 years, while 20% have been hardly damaged. Without a large-scale repair and maintenance program, 35% of the buildings will be lost within 10 years. If these buildings are not taken care of, there will be virtually none left in 80 years time.

Museum buildings

In all, 329 Norwegian museums own 4700 historic buildings, mainly as part of open-air museum facilities. A long period without maintenance has led to a considerable exchange of authentic building materials.

Historic Sami Sites

Many cultural Sami sites have been recorded during the last years in connection with different projects. The very important Sami cultural environment, Skoltebyen in South Varanger (Finmark), has been listed; this site is the traditional summer camp (settlement) of the Eastern Sami People. A 4000 year-old rock painting in Finmark has also been discovered. However, many Sami sites are still threatened by the building of hydroelectric power stations with dams and military training fields.

Groups of Monuments and Sites

Historic wooden towns

Norway has 54 wooden towns and villages with 13,000 buildings. The greatest risk to these structures is fire.

Agricultural landscapes and farmsteads

Priority is given to the protection of 104 cultural landscapes. Reports for these areas have been prepared, but we do not have any surveys for the condition of these landscapes. Every year, 5000 acres of land go under urban development. Most of this area is within the suburban rural landscape.

The Arctic area

Half of the archipelagos of Svalbard has been recorded, and sites have been found from walling to hunting dating to the 16th century and mining industry from the 20th century. The tough climate, erosion and increasing tourism are today the greatest threats to the cultural heritage of the islands.

General Threats

Agricultural development

Norway has 180,000 agricultural properties; in connection with these, farm buildings represent the largest numbers of cultural heritage items. Every year for the past 15 years, 2% of the total number of farms has been closed down and partly abandoned. Out-houses are losing function and are no longer maintained. Deep ploughing destroys archaeological sites and cultural layers.

Forestry

Building of roads, heavy forestry machinery and gravel pits are threatening the unknown archaeological sites in the outer areas. Training courses in cultural heritage in the forest have been organised for more than 12,000 forest owners and workers. Forest certification will help to diminish the loss of this cultural heritage.

Communication

The development of road and railway networks, harbours and airports are claiming huge areas in Norway, posing great threats to all cultural landscapes and archaeological sites. One percent of all loss can be traced back to communication and infrastructure projects.

Military

The military forces are in a process of reorganisation and rationalisation. Many old camps and some training fields have been abandoned, but also new training fields are being planned. The largest interference in nature, an area of 226 square kilometres that includes a large number of archaeological sites, is now under planning in eastern Norway, under the name of regional training fields for eastern Norway. Forty-six percent of the area has been recorded this year (2001). Last year nearly 500 legally protected sites were found dating to Stone Age, Iron Age and mediaeval times.

Hydro electric power

Still more new hydro dams are being planned. The lakes will cover enormous areas and inundate many historical sites.

PALESTINE

Case Study: The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem

Among the early Christian basilicas, the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem is one of the oldest in the world. It was built at the beginning of the 6th century at the place of an earlier church, slightly different in plan, again with a five-fold nave, incorporating parts of the old structure. Its basic substance has remained unchanged until today.

In the 15th century, timber for the repair and probably lead for covering the roof structure were shipped from Venice to the Holy Land. In the course of time the lead plates were covered with bituminous felt and recently with a white plastic coating.

Today the Church of the Nativity still suffers from penetrating rainwater and from condensation caused by the interior humidity. The timber construction is partially rotten; some of the structural members are about to collapse. The rainwater flows down from the roof, washes out the walls, disfigures their mosaics and loosens the tesserae. It also detaches large areas of the wall plaster. Rain puddles on the floor damage remains of mosaics even here.

In February 1997 we carried out extensive examinations of both the roof and the walls. We used a moveable scaffolding and temporarily inserted wooden planks into the timber construction of the roof, which is open downwards. In this way we were able to map the damage systematically and to gain an almost complete overview of the state of the roof and its covering. For laboratory analysis we took samples of the joint mortar, wall plaster, roof covering and construction wood. We also drew up a report on the physical and climatic conditions of the building's interior.

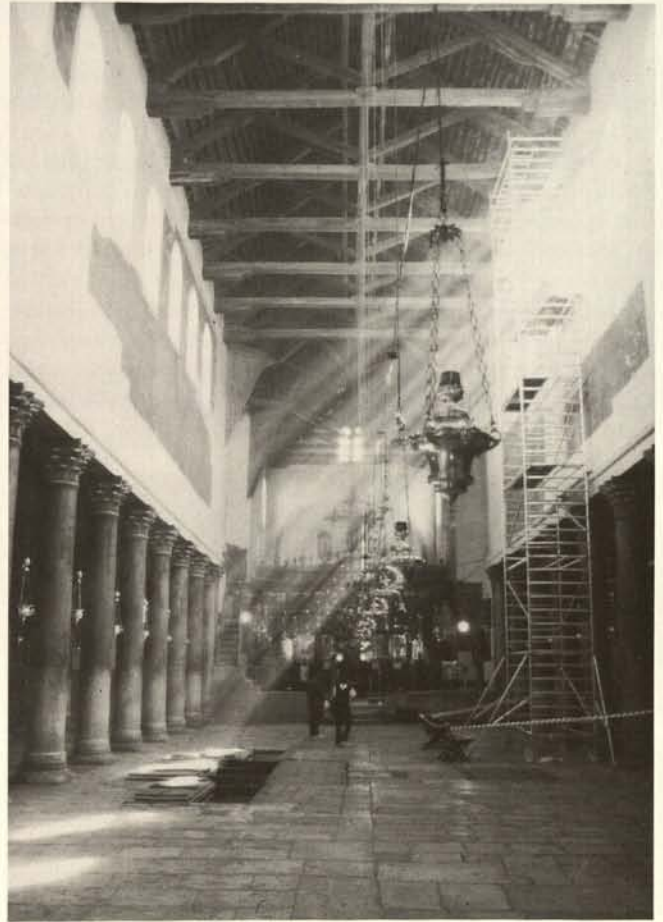
Our recommendations follow the principle to repair as much as necessary, but as little as possible. We worked out plans for a careful and cautious improvement and repair of the timber roof. We provided an adequate number of ventilation holes in the roof sheeting.

We recommended removing and cleaning the old lead plates, after which they be melted and, in a sand bed, new ones be re-cast out of the melted lead. We found out that parts of the loosened plaster can be fixed back to the walls and other parts are to be replaced. Further recommendations concern a roof and ground drainage system, lightning protection and the repair of the windows.

It is high time but not too late for the repair of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Unfortunately, not only the present political situation impedes further activities. The fear of the owners, three Christian Churches, that the repair measures will infringe on their particular rights and undermine their finely balanced control of the church, is the greatest obstacle to the necessary repair work.

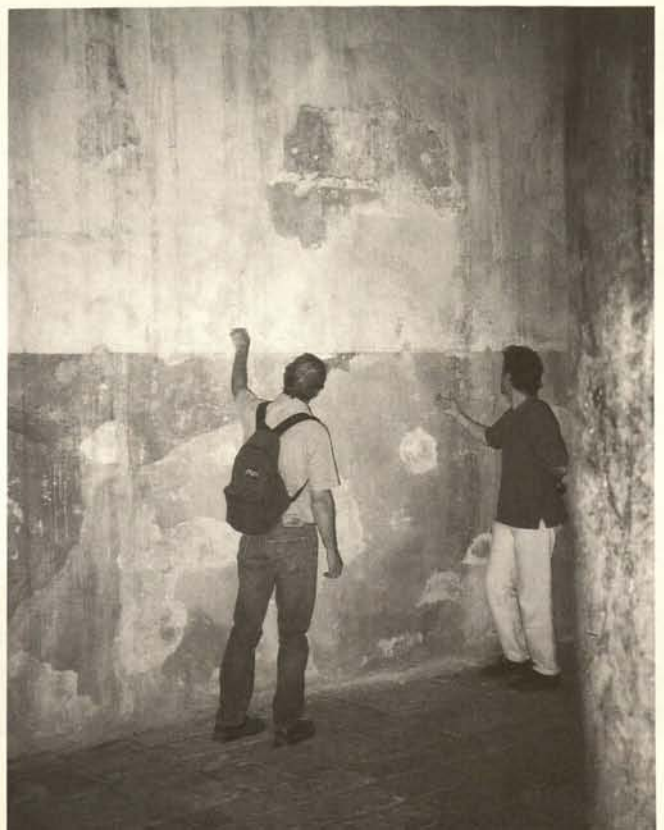
Fritz Wenzel

Lead plates covered with bituminous felt



Bethlehem, The Church of the Nativity, interior

Wall plaster damaged by penetrating rainwater and condensation



POLAND

Industrial Heritage in Danger

(Before discussing the situation with respect to industrial heritage in Poland, it must be noted that there are still concerns about the preservation of wooden churches in the country. The threats that these structures face are well illustrated in the accompanying illustrations).

Poland and the other countries of Central and Eastern Europe are undergoing a process of industrial modernisation and adaptation to contemporary world standards. One of the most complicated and important tasks of industrial restructuring is the selection of unprofitable economic entities by means of their liquidation or bankruptcy. Restructuring includes ownership transformations, property privatisation and measures designed to increase efficiency, such as the exchange of machine parks and the implementation of modern technologies. Therefore, old machines are in many cases treated as scrap metal, and the historical machinery, left unat-

tended, is devastated. In many industrial facilities, machines and equipment over 100 years old still exist. There is a serious threat that some of this historical technical equipment or architecture will be considered worthless. This includes even valuable items, which would normally be preserved in local museum collections, as for example in the Victoria Mine in Walbrzych.

When production ceases in historical industrial buildings and there is no new user or investor, the process of building degradation is accelerated, leading to the devastation or even the destruction of a historical object. Lack of funds impedes even the maintenance of buildings listed as heritage objects, not to mention other historical sites. Due to the current economic circumstances, it is absolutely necessary to transform entire industries using the methods mentioned above, but we must also find effective ways to conserve and promote industrial heritage during this process.

Meeting Challenges

In recent years, special problems were posed by above-ground historical objects situated on the premises of liquidated coal mines, such as hoist towers, engine rooms with winding engines, ventilation buildings, boiler houses, coal sorting and washing plants or cokery complexes. The adaptation of these types of historical objects for other functions is a difficult task. Nonetheless, a number of positive examples exist in Upper Silesia. They include the adaptation of the former boiler house in the 'Kleofas' mine into a swimming pool and recreation complex, and the adaptation of former mine baths in the 'Murcki' mine (1908) into an office building. The tower of the 'Bartosz' drift in the 'Katowice' mine, along with an engine house and a winding steam engine from 1892, were adapted to form a small local museum. An excellent example of adaptation of industrial architecture into office space is the modernisation of the former boiler house from 1886 in the complex of the so-called slow filters in the Warsaw water main. Offices and a conference hall were created there, and the old iron-roof construction has been retained.

It must be said, however, that despite considerable progress in the revitalisation of historical objects and even complexes of substantial industrial heritage value, many sites still await their chance for re-use. Historical post-industrial sites or abandoned local railway lines could become important components of sustainable regional and local development programmes. Because the scale of the problem exceeds the capabilities of institutions established for the preservation of industrial heritage, the issue should be included in regional development programmes.

Industry in Poland must be totally restructured in order to function correctly in market economy conditions and fulfil contemporary quality standards – while at the same time preserving employment. State budget participation, not only in the industrial but also in the cultural sector, has fallen to extremely low levels. Efforts are concentrating primarily on the economic development necessary to make up for many years of stagnation.

It is possible to indicate several categories of objects that seem especially threatened. These include industrial objects where production has completely ceased and which have been deserted during recent years. In such cases, the preservation of the object requires immediate adaptation for useful temporary functions, which will assure the financial means for object maintenance.



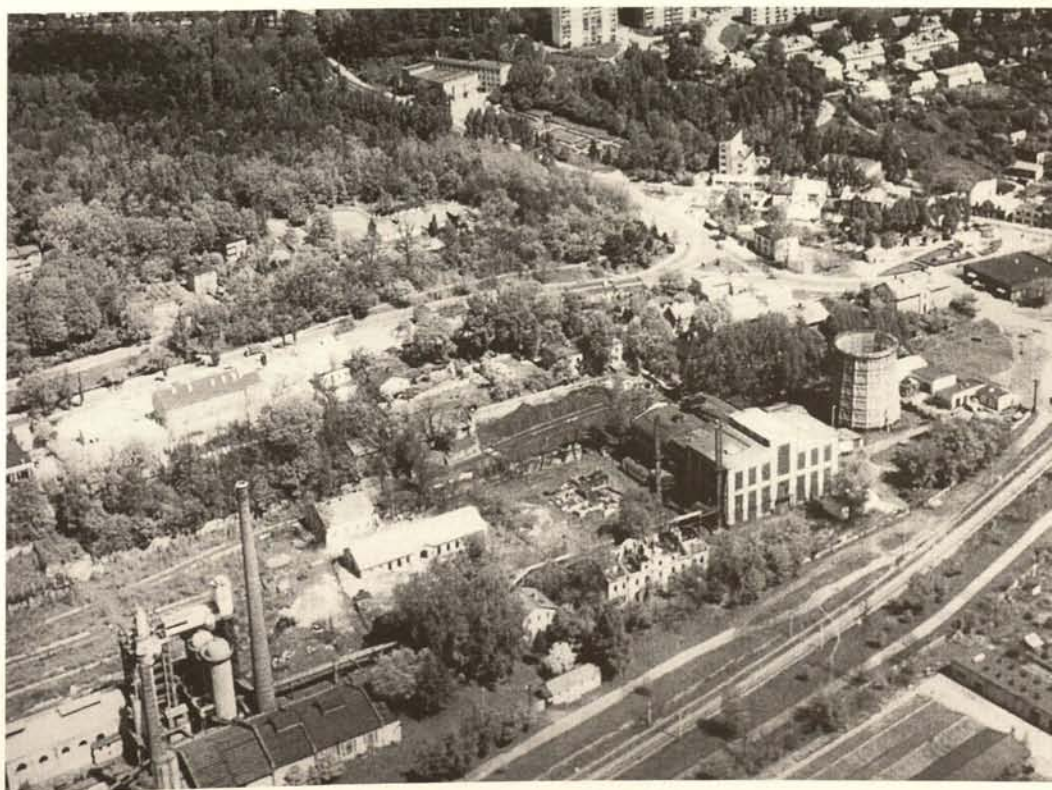
Among the principal dangers mentioned in last year's report (see *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*, p. 155) is fire hazard threatening wooden buildings. A sad example is the recently burnt down wooden church of St Anne (17th century) in Długa Koscielna (Halinow); here the state before and after the fire.



ROMANIA

and the loss of its original character. The complex is a valuable example of the industrial and residential settlement of the 19th century. The complex is a valuable example of the industrial and residential settlement of the 19th century. The complex is a valuable example of the industrial and residential settlement of the 19th century.

Zyrardów, listed industrial and residential settlement, one of the biggest flax mills in Europe in the 19th century. The bankrupt enterprise was divided among different owners, thus lowering the value of the complex as a closed compositional and spatial entity.



Starachowice, listed blast furnace works and industrial settlement in a region of 2000 years of mining tradition. Production ended when the firm was closed in 1968. The huge permanent palaeontological exhibition will be in the empty casting hall. Long-term absence of maintenance accelerates the devastation of the objects.

Examples of Industrial Heritage at Risk

The blast furnace complex in Starachowice is a good example of the situation outlined above. The Starachowice blast-furnace works and industrial settlements are located in a region with mining-foundry traditions that date back to the beginning of the Christian era (earth smelting) and lasted without a break up to the 19th century. It is a very early example of mechanised metallurgy.

Old technological installations are prone to corrosion. Stopping or even slowing this process is extremely expensive. The technological problems associated with the maintenance of the blast furnace buildings, damaged by years of exposure to high temperatures, remain unsolved. At the present, the old factory halls are the site of an exposition of geological specimens unearthed during construction works. The presence of this geological museum, although unrelated to industrial heritage, assures that the buildings are properly maintained. The creation of a museum of the Starachowice blast furnace complex is planned in the future, based on the existing exposition facilities.

Another example of this problem is the old bridge over the Vistula River, located in the town of Tczew (Dirschau). The Tczew-Bridge, built between 1851 and 1857, is composed of six spans of about 130 metres each. They were connected by twos to continuous beams, a very innovative construction method in those early times. Today, three of the original spans of the old bridge still exist, along with segments added at a later date. They form a unique and important monument of the European history of structural engineering.

At present, the old 830-metre long bridge is only used by a small amount of local traffic. The local authorities that administer this heritage object are finding it increasingly difficult to finance its maintenance, due to the very high conservation costs of the huge object. A bridge is an object designed with a very particular purpose in mind and it is impossible to find alternative functions. An important question arises: how can we effectively protect and conserve technical heritage when the financial means provided by the national budget are so low?

A New Initiative

The Foundation of the Open Museum of Technology and the Polish Committee TICCIH (The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage) are beginning a campaign under the name 'Europe over rivers – integration – heritage of the commonwealth'. It includes the cruise of the old steam-engine tugboat 'Nadbór' from Wroclaw to Rotterdam via the Oder, Elbe and Rhine rivers and the canals of Germany and Holland, planned in May and June of the year 2002. It would promote industrial and technical heritage in Central Europe in relation to industrial-tourism. During the cruise, consideration would be given to what role the protection of such heritage can play in the creation of new bonds in the United Europe.

The Polish initiative has met with the interest of local authorities, NGOs and people connected with sailing in Germany and Holland. During the cruise a number of performances (fests, multi-media presentations, seminars, panel discussions, press conferences, shanty music concerts, exhibitions etc.) will be held. The events will take place in the harbours of places such as Wroclaw, Berlin, Dorsten, Nijmegen, Arnhem, Rotterdam and Gorinchem.

On a wider scale, much could be undertaken without financial resources. In Poland several technical associations, local hobby groups and foundations have achieved great successes. Support and encouragement are essential for these groups. It is necessary to break the established approach and monopoly of large State and private companies. With this aim, it is extremely important for the future to popularise possible solutions and increase the activity of interest groups. A start would be to undertake to distribute information on the activities of similar groups in other countries.

Poland still lacks an unambiguous legal framework and institutional conceptions for solving the problem of how industrial heritage conservation should be carried out. We sincerely hope that the proposed activities will be our contribution to the preservation of our heritage for the future.

Polish Committee TICCIH
(The International Committee for the Conservation of the
Industrial Heritage)

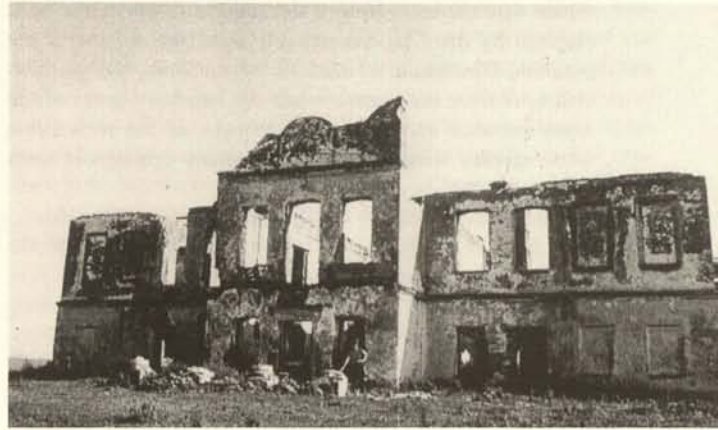
ROMANIA

The state of Romanian heritage since Dr. Machat's report in *Heritage at Risk 2000* has remained the same, which is quite worrying. Indeed, the law #422 on the protection of historic monuments was only passed on 17 July 2001, after 11 years of discussion. In the following text, we shall expose the different destructive trends, many of which have led to irreversible damage.

Disused Monuments and Sites

Disused historic monuments and sites are no longer under the guardianship of municipalities and local police, as was the case with the law 661/1955, which was abolished in 1990 along with the 'socialist' legislation of 1974 to which Dr. Machat referred in the 2000 report. Without guardians or administrative supervision, this category of heritage property is now the prey of thieves who enrich themselves by selling-off materials taken from abandoned buildings or wood from rare or special trees that have fallen, without any recognition of their heritage value. Examples of such monuments in danger include:

- Abandoned villages whose inhabitants have left; in particular the Saxon villages in Transylvania but also remote Romanian villages in the hilly parts of the country.
- Antique or mediaeval ruins situated near villages or motorways – the destruction of the rural fortress of Saschiz, begun in the 1950s, to extract stones for the walls, is still going on. Even worse is the case of the quarrying of the Feldioara fortress, in the district of Brasov, built by the Teutonic Knights in 1225, now overlooking one of the main international roads in Romania. Only those forts situated in remote locations are spared from this destruction (such as the nobleman's citadel of Cande or Kendeffi, built on a rock near the Rau de Mori-Suseni hamlet, in the district of Hunedoara).
- Castles and manor houses all over the country, which were nationalised by the communist regime in 1948. As well as the main residence, most of these composed campuses of various buildings such as family chapels, gardens, orchards or other secondary buildings. After the moveable objects were looted, the lands and buildings were given to kolkhozes or co-operative collective farms, which destroyed the parks and gardens and used the buildings, without any maintenance, until they wore into ruins. The only ones to survive this process, although deprived of their decorative works, were those properties given to the Ministries of Health and Forest, which were particularly sensitive to the preservation of parks and gardens.
- After 1990, the abolition of co-operative farms led to the total abandonment of those nationalised buildings that had survived. They were exposed to looting and rapidly declined into a state of ruin, due to the quarrying of their material under the careless eyes of local authorities and police. Although there is no global statistic for such losses over the last 11 years, we can give a few examples observed recently:
 1. the castle of the Cantacuzino family in Cepelnita (district of Iasi), which had remained in good state until 1989 and of which only the rubbish-filled caves now remain;
 2. the manor of the Buzesti family in the village of Strejesti (district of Olt), built around 1600, which is the last remaining manor of the many owned by this family of landlords of the 15th and 16th centuries, and for which a restoration project has to be redone every 6 months to take into account the



Cepelnita, district of Iasi, the mansion of the Cantacuzino, state of 1998, destruction began in 1990



Strejesti, district of Olt, the Buzescu-Darvari mansion, side façade, state of 1999

Bontida, district of Cluj, castle of the Banffy family with Neo-Gothic additions, present state



progressive disappearance of the roods, beams and brick-work;

3. the Banffi castle in Bontida (district of Cluj), burnt in 1944, whose ruins were more or less protected until 1990, after which date the main roof of the residence, which had been restored by the Cluj municipality upon the request of the National Directorate of Historic Monuments, was dismantled to remove the beams, while the baroque figures of the main entrance and the marble troughs of the remarkable horse stables were mutilated, and many century-old trees were wounded.

Post-1990 Legislation

After 1990, the new agency responsible for the protection of historic monuments decided that the new list of monuments, prepared by regional staff and accepted without review by the Commission of Historic Monuments and Sites, should be promulgated at the same time as the new legislation regarding historic monuments. The repeated postponement of the adoption of the law resulted in the absence, over the last 11 years, of any legal means to sanction the demolition of a building listed by the Ministry of Culture. At long last, the law was promulgated on 17 July 2001 and published in the official Gazette on 24 July 2001 under #422 'Law regarding the Protection of Historic Monuments'. As an example, we will mention the house of the Cerkez family in Botosani, built in the 18th century and researched by E. Greceanu, author of this report, in the publication *L'ensemble historique de Botosani* (1981, p. 108–115). The house had retained all its original structure and features but it was acquired by a new owner – the rich son of a municipal councillor – who demolished it totally, despite the protest of the regional inspector of the Ministry of Culture, who had also informed national media and the ministries of Culture and of Public Works. The court action taken by the two ministries has been dragging on since 1997, without much success.

In addition to such an action on a former nationalised property – listed by the Commission of Historic Monuments – much more damage occurs within reserved areas where individual or corporate nouveaux riches are involved. Banks are building new facili-

ties without concern for the architecture or character of the surroundings. The most aggressive example is certainly that of Bancorex, built in the middle of the historic centre of Bucharest, on the site of an old hotel demolished after the 1977 earthquake. It is located in one of the most interesting streetscapes; built around 1900 on Calea Victoriei, a historic way in the city whose ground conceals considerable archaeological resources (for example, the foundations of the 18th-century St. John Monastery were found under the hotel).

Decentralisation

Unclear responsibilities, divided across too many administrative instances, have led to the absence of controls and sanctions. At the same time, we must take into account the high cost of projects, materials and work, as well as the excessive number of necessary authorisations, which make it impossible for owners on a low income or a pension, who are willing to maintain their older house in a respectful manner, to carry on maintenance, repair or conservation work. For lack of financial help, now hopefully provided by the recently adopted law, the cities' architectural landscapes are slowly eroding or disappearing. Under Communist Rule, peasants in the villages were forced to replace traditional materials by industrial substitutes; from the 1960s, they started to refuse to keep their traditional decorated wooden houses with their typical roofs and materials. After 1990 and the dissolution of controlling authority, the loss of vernacular architecture increased at an accelerated pace across the country. This provides some explanation for the absence of vernacular architecture from the new register of listed monuments (as mentioned last year by Dr. Machat), as those who produced the lists anticipated that such properties would have disappeared or lost their heritage value by the time the list became official.

We must hope that this long expected legislation, now in place, will provide the necessary response to the forces of destruction. The Romanian National Committee of ICOMOS is always willing to join forces with those institutions mentioned in the 2000 Report by Dr. Machat, having always appreciated the support given generously by the German National Committee of ICOMOS.

Eugenia Greceanu
ICOMOS Romania

Dwelling-type workers' houses in Resita and Anina, Caras Severin county (1864–1900). Deserted after 1989 by the former German inhabitants, they are now either abandoned or badly modified by the new owners.



Ironworks and thermo-electrical plant of Anina, Caraş Severin county (late 19th century), exceptional site of which only the energy transforming system is still working.





Bucharest's merchandise control point, built in 1900 by the Italian architect Giulio Magni, has been abandoned since the fire that seriously damaged it in 1992.

Case Study 1: Romanian Industrial Archaeology Heritage

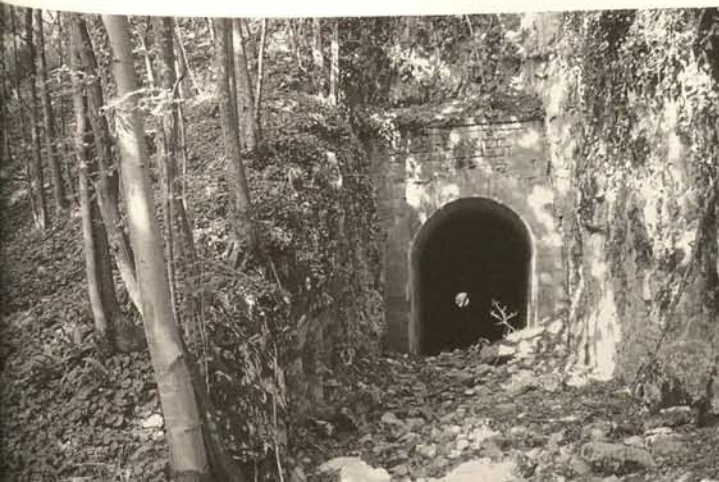
Romania still preserves important industrial heritage objects from the 17th–18th centuries. Some of the 19th-century examples can even operate today. After World War II, the communist regime confiscated but didn't destroy these assets, with the intention of using them for as long as possible, often with less than the minimum necessary maintenance works. Unfortunately, today also, there is no interest in preserving this type of heritage.

The poor economic situation of many industrial-building owners leads them to either abandon the heritage as being too expensive to maintain, or to 'renovate' it using low-cost destructive methods in order to make an immediate profit. Due to ignorance, inertia or lack of strategy, new buildings are preferred to old ones that are in need of more delicate restoration works, and old machines are destroyed in the name of renewing the production process. This attitude is even more dangerous for the big industrial sites divided by the rushed privatisation process from the beginning of the 1990s – the initial complexity of these sites will soon be impossible to read. Representing important areas in our cities and now being rather close to the city centres, these huge sites are seen as immense empty areas for urban development. Investors are attracted by the good location of the property, but are not willing to invest in reconvertng the old buildings, considering this a too complicated and uncomfortable process.

Beside all this, it is very difficult to get public support in fighting for these industrial objects. People are still not receptive to this subject: rather, they consider 'the factory' as a place of exploitation and they would find it difficult to accept these complexes as 'postcard' subjects, for example, in the same way as famous medieval churches...

There is also a lack of efficient legal protection. The official historical monuments list has important inaccuracies regarding the industrial heritage. The information is often limited to the denomination and address; so, for some lost objects, there is no inventory, no image and no survey. The most endangered sites and objects are the ones that are not listed, unprotected by the law. In addition, the law has not previously permitted adequate legal sanctions in the case of intentional destruction – generally there was a moderate fine representing a somewhat small expense to the investor involved.

Former forestry railway between Anina and Reșita, Caraș Severin county (1910), in continuous ruin (one of the last iron bridges was stolen last year) although it could be a beautiful tourist route in Anina Mountains.



Typical 18th-century house in Roșia Montana, on the demolishing list.



Today, the new heritage protection law (July 2001) allows the possibility of immediately listing a building, without any approval from its owner. The law sets both responsibilities and important facilities for the heritage owners and for those willing to invest in restoration works. It also sanctions severe punishment for intentionally damaging or destroying heritage (including imprisonment).

There is no national co-ordination of the concerns associated with the protection of industrial heritage, so there is a lack of a regular exchange of specific information, and of a clear national strategy; a Romanian TICCIH committee will start to operate only this autumn. However, the Romanian Ministry of Culture has started a program for the 'Salvation of the national industrial archaeology heritage'. The aims of the program are to begin a specific inventory, to identify the most endangered sites, to find viable solutions and partners in saving them, and to launch a press campaign to increase public understanding of these values.

Case Study 2: The Cultural Landscape of Roşia Montana village

The village of Roşia Montana is well known in Romanian and European history, because of the discovery of Roman mines containing important epigraphic and original mining material. The intensive exploitation of the gold mines, which was for centuries the only engine for the village economic and urban development, also influenced the evolution of the surrounding geographic area in creating a particular image of the landscape. Forty-two buildings,

including two churches, dated from the 18th-19th centuries are listed as historical monuments and the main square and a few streets as protected areas. The village, obviously very rich in the past, is a charming combination of town feature architecture, vernacular houses, and a natural and human-made landscape.

Unfortunately, the 'golden' years of the village are now over. After World War II, Romanian law didn't permit private exploitation of the underground. The gold became a State business and all the small family workshops disappeared (some traces can still be seen: artificial lakes, stone roads and walls, traces of some water canals...). The State Mining Company exploited the gold in surface works – destroying an entire hill, regardless of the archaeological value of the area. After 1989, the economic situation of the Mining Company and also of the inhabitants became worse. They are now either working for the State or unemployed. Many are leaving the village for towns where they can more easily earn a living.

The rich heritage and cultural landscape of Roşia Montana is endangered by both the lack of a program for its economic revitalisation (through cultural tourism or through developing other small production activities) and by the business plans of a powerful investor who wants, again, to exploit the gold resources. This last option will certainly improve the economy of the settlement in creating well-paid jobs for the inhabitants (at least for the next 20 years), but it will also destroy a very important part of the village and its landscape. The main square, one of the most important streets and one of the Roman mines will be preserved, a few buildings, including one church, will be relocated and the rest of the village will be demolished. Important archaeological research works are now in process, as well as an urban development project attempting to find some compromise solutions.

ICOMOS Romania



The main square of Roşia Montana - some of the buildings are abandoned.

RUSSIA

Case Study 1: Peter and Pavel Church on Silnishe (Novgorod)

The Peter and Pavel Church on Silnishe was built in the 12th century by residents of Lukinskaja Street – it was affiliated with the Petropavlovsky Convent. It was burnt out in 1386, during the Dmitriy Donskoy's march. In 1611, during the Swedish invasion, the convent was wasted. In 1691 it was attached to the Resurrection Convent (Mjatchino) but it was soon discarded and left to its former position. In 1764, the Petropavlovsky Convent was abolished and the church was converted to the Sophia Side and attached again to the Resurrection Church of Mjatchino.

The Peter and Pavel Church on Silnishe is the only monument of Novgorod's architecture with its authentic form in a good state of conservation. A noticeable feature of the church is the masonry of thin brick without stone rows. The brick rows placed in the plane of the façade are alternated with rows drowned into grout, the surface of which is floated – an influence of Polotsk-Smolensk building engineering.

In the years of the Great Patriotic War, 1941–1945, the church was severely damaged. In 1957, Novgorod's research-restoration and production workshop undertook a conservation project for the monument: the drum and domes were mended, the roof was created, and breaches in the walls were filled in (under the direction of L.E. Krasnorechiev). In 1993, due to frequent unauthorised visitors inside the church, the window openings and the western portal were bricked.

At present the roof is completely damaged, and the sodden domes are in a ruinous state. All the façades at the upper parts of walls have large areas with destroyed masonry.



Peter and Pavel Church on Silnishe (Novgorod)



Aerial view of Joann-Theologian Kripetsky monastery in Pskov

Case Study 2: Refectory Building with Joann Listvennik Columnar Church

The Refectory building with Joann Listvennik Columnar Church (mid-16th century) and an overbuilt belltower (18th–19th centuries) belong to the ensemble of the Joann-Theologian Kripetsky monastery in Pskov – a monument of the architectural and spiritual culture of Russia. Now the refectory building and the church are under threat. The monastery-hermitage was established in the middle of the 15th century by reverend Savva Kripetsky, an adherent of non-acquisitiveness – one of the most ascetic developments in Russian-Byzantine monasticism. Originally from Athos (or from Serbia?), he chose an islet among the wild Kripetsky swamps for

his prayers. After his death in 1495, and the subsequent connection of Pskov to the united Old Russian State, adherents of a new State tradition built a new stone monastery ensemble, under the guidance of patriarch Makariy. Remaining from this structure today is the two-storied refectory building, made of local limestone-plate and bricks with the columnar church, which was overbuilt and converted into a belltower afterwards, and also with a stone belfry. The ensemble, which is a symbol of revival since the 1991 coenobium (the monastery was closed in 1923), is severely damaged. The famous Kripetsky church belltower threatens to collapse. The vault structures of the refectory building are swiftly tumbling into ruins. One of the most original conventual monuments of the world-famous Pskov's school of architecture threatens to collapse and perish.

ICOMOS Russia



Joann-Theologian Kripetsky monastery in Pskov, refectory with Joann Listvennik columnar church and belltower

SLOVAKIA

Viktor Miškovský, one of the personalities involved with heritage preservation in Slovakia, in his Memorandum for Rescue of the National Cultural Heritage in 1898, defined the reasons why heritage buildings were being threatened and destroyed. Today, over 100 years later, we can list the same reasons:

- indolence and ignorance;
- greed, egoism and decadent tastes;
- false understanding of the aims of the modern era;
- efforts towards unsuitable innovations and 'beautifying' – in this case, heritage buildings sometimes end up with a more 'beautiful' presentation, but at the expense of their original shape and their authenticity – the end result is ultimately one of destruction.

To this list from the previous millennium we can today add:

- lack of cultural awareness;
- unsettled ownership, mostly caused by restitution, speculative businesses involving cultural heritage assets, together with inappropriate use and the absence of maintenance;
- absence of a motivational system with regard to investment in heritage buildings through the reduction of taxes – forcing owners to search for other resources outside of government assistance.

Due to the above-mentioned problems, many heritage buildings are in such a poor state that the real hope to safeguard them is slowly disappearing. The fault, however, is not only a lack of finances.

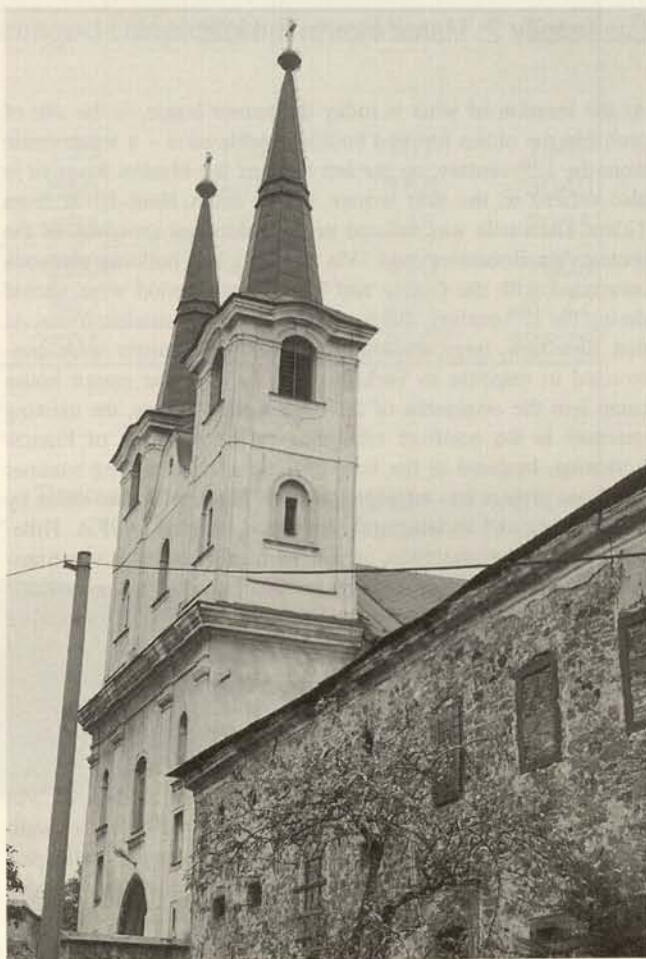
Case Study 1: Monastery of Premonstratensian in Šahy

The former Monastery of the Premonstratensian Order in Šahy is one of the oldest places in the history of the ancient region of Hont. Dating from the 13th century, it is represented today by both the Church of Assumption and the so-called 'corn-loft' – the other parts of the fortified complex have been destroyed during the last centuries, as a result of years of misusing the former monastery for other purposes.

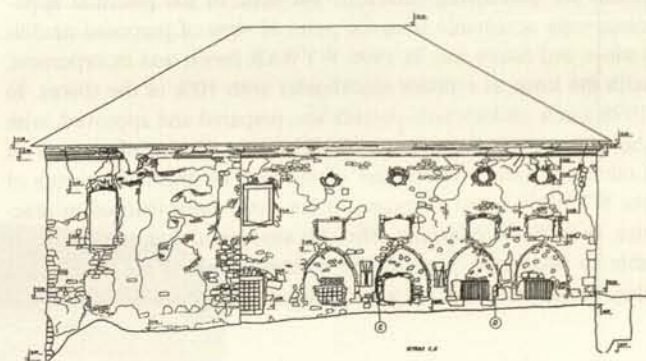
Since 1993 there has been a serious concern to protect and safeguard the corn-loft. A complex research project by the Institute for Monuments Preservation documented the present corn-loft. It was created in the 17th–18th century, probably by Jesuits, and during the mediaeval period was part of the inner yard of the Premonstratensians' monastery. Even earlier material has been excavated by archaeologists, documenting a more ancient history for this important place.

In 1236–38, the Monastery became the base of Ban Martin of Hont-Poznan. In 1443 it was fortified. The monastery was situated above the ford on a well-used merchant route, running from the south to the mining towns in central Slovakia. In 1546 the king ordered that it be strengthened (at the cost of the State) into a fortified castle, in response to the march of Turkish troops from the south-east. It is important to highlight that the monastery was part of a small group of places called 'Locus Credibili', and thus it was also an important archive.

There is a serious danger of the deterioration of this historical architecture, especially the roofing; stabilisation is the most important work to be done, due to the threat of structural collapse. The



Premonstratensian monastery in Šahy



Premonstratensian monastery in Šahy, corn-loft, documentation of the damages

poor technical state is partly caused by long neglect by the owner. During the period of planned economy, a part of the original structure was replaced by new buildings. The last authentic building of the ensemble, the corn-loft, together with the whole complex, was returned to the possession of the Roman Catholic Church at the start of 1990. The owner has no interest in maintaining or using the building, as it is without any practical advantage. Without a change of ownership, the safeguarding of the most valuable architectural element in the town is virtually impossible. On the other hand, according to recent Church internal rules on built properties, they cannot sell it.

This is a case that illustrates many similar situations, where due to a change of ownership there is a problem in finding any use for the monument.

Case study 2: Manor House in Holíč

At the location of what is today the manor house, is the site of probably the oldest fortified building in Slovakia – a water castle from the 12th century, on the left bank of the Morava River (it is also related to the first written notice about Holíč-Ujvár from 1256). The castle was situated near a mediaeval crossway of the routes 'Via Bohemica' and 'Via Amber'. The building elements connected with the Gothic and Renaissance period were altered during the 17th century, due to extensive building modifications. At that time new, huge star-shape bastion fortifications were constructed in response to Turkish raids. In 1736 the manor house came into the ownership of the royal family. Today, the existing structure is the result of rebuilding at the direction of Francis Lotharing, husband of the Empress Maria Theresa. The summer residence project was originated by J.N. Jadot, with decoration by J. Chamanti, and architectural innovation attributed to F.A. Hillebrandt. After the year 1918, as with all manor houses, it was transferred to the ownership of the State. Dealing with this remarkable complication of use is one of the basic challenges facing its rescue today. The manor house incorporates typical features of the start of the Theresian building epoch, and belongs to the most important works of Baroque architecture in Slovakia.

The whole building suffers from neglect and lack of maintenance – it is empty and without use. Commenced but never-finished restoration works are causing their own challenges. For example, the Chinese Hall was originally covered in leather wall-papering from the 18th century. The badly damaged wallpapers have been removed and today are carefully stored on wooden drums in the room itself. Their destiny is uncertain, as is the future of the whole building.

In 1992 the building was one of the first to be transferred to the ownership of the town administration. They received several proposals for purchasing contracts, but none of the potential applicants were acceptable from the point of view of proposed modifications and future use. In 1996 WYWAR Invest was incorporated, with the town as a minor stockholder with 10% of the shares. In 1998 a new architectural project was prepared and approved, with the idea to use the estate as a 'Congress Centre of Francis of Lotharing'; however, because of the lack of financial sources of the WYWAR Invest Company, it has never been realised in practice. In 2000 the company officially announced that was no longer able to financially support the reconstruction of the castle, and they decided to sell it. As a result, the plan to revitalise and protect

the manor house has been changed to another one: to sell. At present, the last applicant was a Swiss citizen. There is currently no possibility of finding any help, because the owner is now insolvent and has been declared bankrupt.

Case Study 3: Folk Architecture Conservation Area in Osturňa

In 1977, under decree of the Slovak Socialist Republic, a Folk Architecture Conservation Area was declared in Osturňa, in the district of Poprad. This decision was focused on securing the measures for State protection of unique, well-preserved rural areas with important urban structures, characterised by valuable architectural and constructional features. The aim was to protect the original character and traditional expression of settlements. Over time, ten such conservation areas were declared in Slovakia, representing various types of folk architecture. Osturňa is characterised by a typical concatenation of rural and domestic structures. Houses and farm buildings form one unit, with a 4-cornered/squared yard. They are constructed using a wooden log-cabin framework, with the result being one of beautiful simplicity. The houses have cellars and lofts, and are covered by pitched roofs. The village is today inhabited by ethnic Gorals, who are a mixture of Polish and Slovak inhabitants – their culture, language and architecture are also typical for other villages in this area.

Today this area – as well as other villages – is at risk. The dwellings and farm houses are mostly empty, unoccupied, without use, or are inhabited by elderly people. The younger generation is leaving for job opportunities in the towns. In particular, the country areas and east part of Slovakia are under the pressure of permanent unemployment, combined with economically weakened inhabitants. On the other hand, for those people who are in an economically better situation, there is a typical ignorance and lack of goodwill, shown in efforts to convert the originally small buildings to pensions with numerous apartments. This attitude is also found in relation to the protected cultural heritage. The Law on State Protection of Cultural Heritage, with its origins in the socialist era, is insufficient to deal with the current market-based economy – its sanctions are symbolic and the community control is minimal.

This situation illustrates the lack of awareness about many cultural values. This is particularly the case in rural areas, partly due to the earlier socialist approach that has now been officially proclaimed as reactionary and recognised as the uncomfortable witness of the sad destiny of Slovak peasants. The possibilities in this particular case include the slow but successful development of tourism in this area. The village itself is situated in beautiful natural surroundings, close to the High Tatras Mountains, but without a direct contact to bigger towns.

ICOMOS Slovakia

Manor house in Holíč

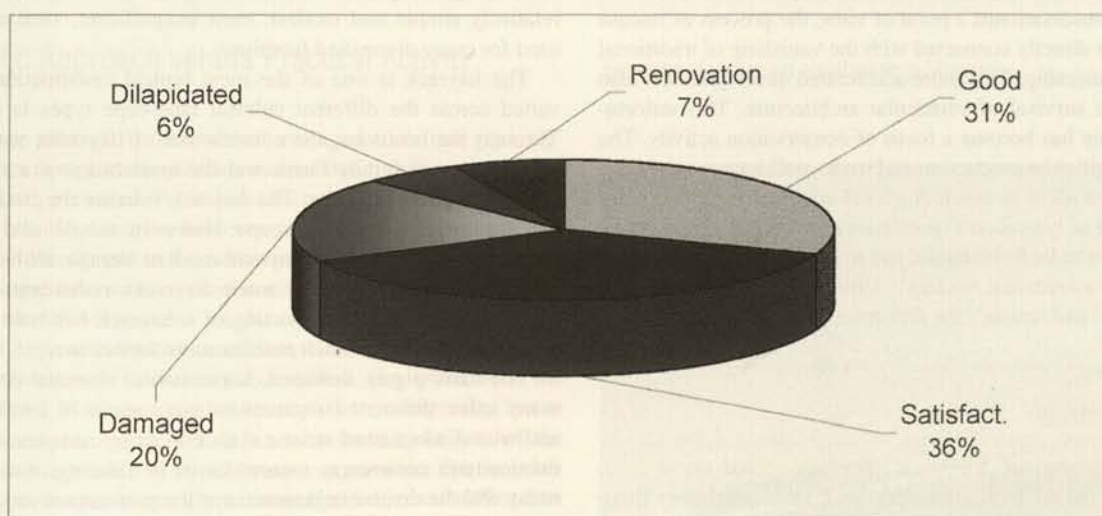


Folk architecture in Osturňa

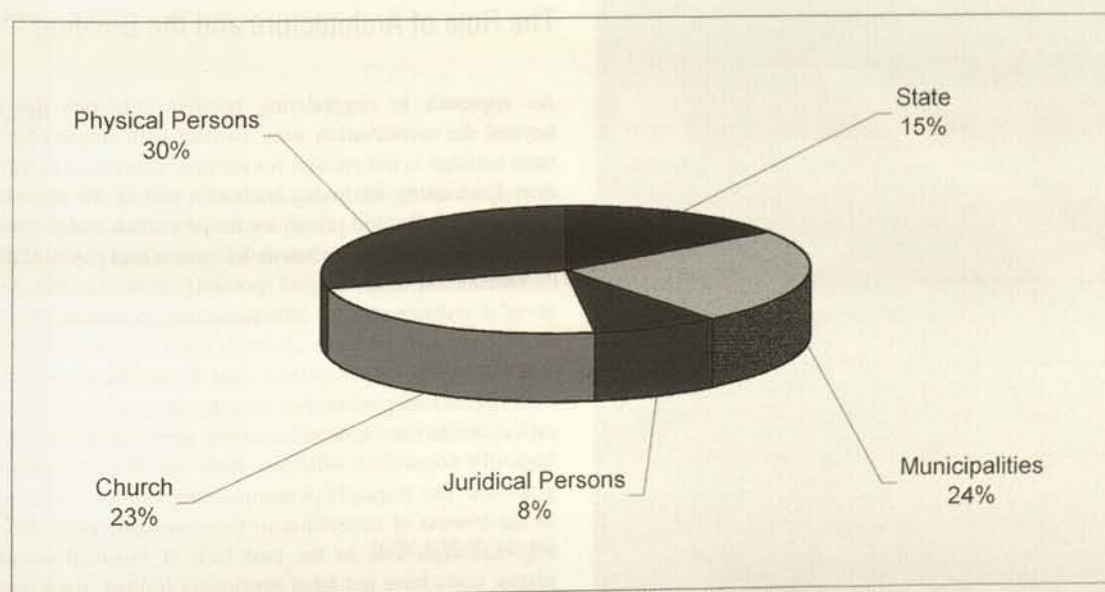


Immovable Cultural Monuments in Slovakia
Technical Condition and Form of Proprietorship to January 1, 2001

Techn. Condition	Good	Satisfact.	Damaged	Dilapidated	Renovation	Total
Form of Proprietorship						
State	732	612	333	125	167	1969
Municipalities	1055	968	655	207	155	3040
Church	1001	1271	451	77	135	2935
Juridical Persons	294	307	220	58	130	1009
Physical Persons	851	1531	842	275	223	3722
Total	3933	4689	2501	742	810	12675



Technical condition



Form of proprietorship

SLOVENIA

Introduction

The Republic of Slovenia is generally quoted among the list of relatively developed countries. The average GDP per capita is more than US\$10,000 (2000). Bordering with Italy and Austria and with strong economic relations with Germany, it seems to be an example of a 'promising eastern state' to enter into the European Community. The political and economic reasons seem to urge such a solution, but public opinion is still insufficient to support this step.

The country, with a mere 2 million inhabitants, is spread over a surface of 24,000 square kilometres that incorporates at least five different types of cultural landscape, from the shores of the Adriatic Sea to the Julian Alps and Pannonian lowlands. Almost half the area is covered with timber suitable for further economic use.

From the conservationist's point of view, the process of intense development is directly connected with the vanishing of traditional arts and craftsmanship. This more-accelerated development is also threatening the survival of vernacular architecture. This unfortunate relationship has become a focus of conservation activity. The urge of competition in production and trade, well known as globalisation, does not allow as much of a local approach as is necessary for the survival of typical and specific local cultural patterns. To be 'modern' means to be fashionable, and to accept forms and materials from 'the advertising society'. Ultimately, in the desire to replace 'the old and simple', the differences start to disappear.

Local Diversities

Three basic types of built structures have been used over thousands of years: stone, wood and adobe architecture. Stone – as the most affordable local material – was a very common, locally pro-

The richly decorated, wooden structure of a traditional hayrack is not enough to support the future use of the object endangered by new ways of hay collecting.



vided building material on the coast, in Karsic middle-Slovenia and in parts of the Alps. Wood was widely spread over the central part of the country and in the hills, and in the lowlands of eastern and southern Slovenia where wood for structure and straw for roofing prevailed. Adobe structures completed the spectrum of innovative constructions and differences in local vernacular architecture.

The important qualities of earlier local traditions included the large number of self-made and self-managed functions within family farms. This resulted in a number of specific and very functional buildings. Such constructions were made of stone and/or wood, easy to repair and able to accept further adaptations. These relatively simple and modest, even insignificant, structures were used for many diversified functions.

The hayrack is one of the most typical constructions, richly varied across the different cultural landscape types in Slovenia. Through the centuries, the construction of hayracks was closely bound to small family farms and the availability of a significant amount of manual labour. The hayrack became the trademark of the Slovenian cultural landscape. However, mechanised haymaking, baling of fresh or dry hay and modern storage, all have different requirements and have made hayracks redundant. In some instances, the vertical supporting of a hayrack has been made of reinforced concrete, which enables some further use.

The barn, pigsty, cowshed, horse stable, vineyard cottage and many other different constructions were made of local material and with distinguished artistic skill. Forced by competition in production and commerce, monocultures in farming are necessary today and the diverse organisation of the past cannot survive. Simplification in production, urged by economic pressure, results directly in the disappearance of building types.

The Role of Architecture and the Building Industry

An approach to engendering positive solutions has to spread beyond the conservation area. To deal with single objects of cultural heritage is not enough for successful protection and preservation. Each entity has today become a part of the historic environment as a whole, and principles for protection and preservation are indispensable parts of urban development and physical planning.

One of the undeveloped, possibly even missing, professional areas is undoubtedly the effective study of historic building types and the cultural patterns related to them. Young architects are neither advised nor urged to deal with thorough analyses of tradition. The elegance of post-modernism, deconstructivism and other theoretical definitions and architectural approaches have to be more logically connected with the study of tradition and traditional practices. The principle of minimal intervention is rarely promoted in the context of renovation or reconstruction procedure on existing buildings. Due to the past lack of financial control-mechanisms, costs have not been previously limited. As a consequence, more and more costs have become controlled and, therefore, favour building entrepreneurs. They use continually more 'up to date' materials and techniques, and no training in traditional approaches can be found. The building industry is evidently responsible for the disappearance of traditional constructions.

The Role of Commerce, Market and Trade

We cannot escape consumer society. 'The blind eyes' of isolated conservationists can do much harm to the heritage. Vast spectrums of decorative articles and materials on the market have considerable influence on vernacular architecture. The aggressive and not at all selective advertising of products, with an absence of professional evaluation, is embraced by the owners of cultural heritage objects and ensembles. Significant indifference towards conservation makes the situation even worse.

Unfortunately, the greater number of everyday constructions are made without architects, a large percentage is even built without administrative permission. Escape from traditional forms and materials is deemed to be the act of 'modernisation', even 'Europe-isation'. Owners use a whole spectrum of odd details and import many strange forms and materials. They in fact transform the cultural landscape into a chaos of private aesthetics.



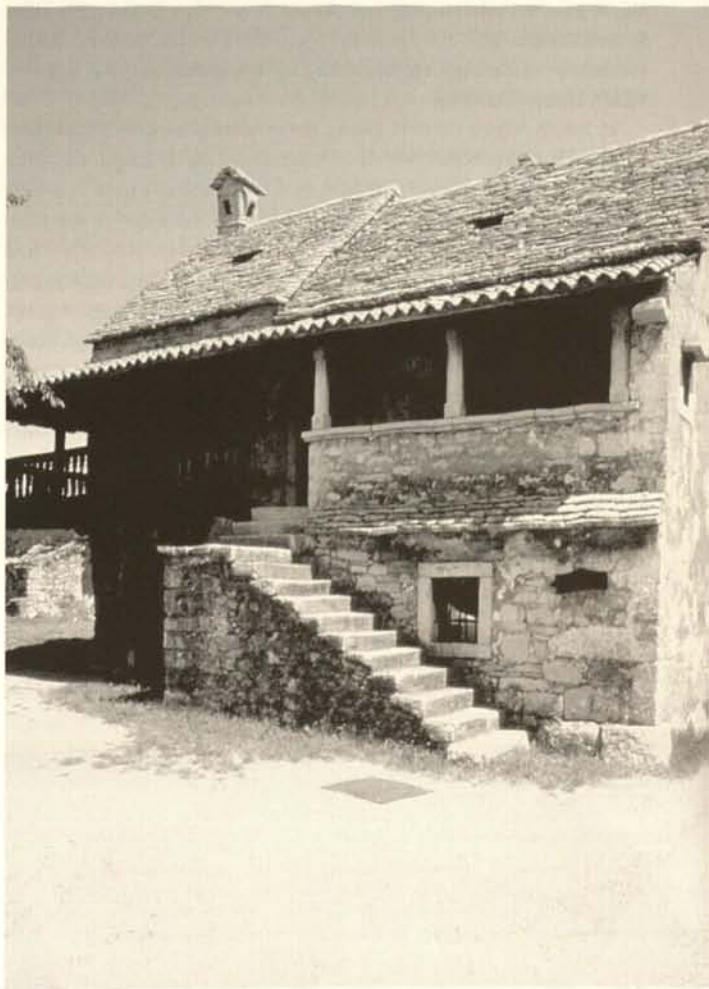
Scientific Approach versus Practical Activity

The former political system of self-managed socialism gave significant power to conservationists and, at that time, an administrative approach prevailed. Professionals could deal with isolated scientific work. The results, however, were generally not put into practice. Professionals in the conservation field even today would rather escape into science than confront changes in society. To advise with valid arguments can be much more effective than to forbid the expected negative result, but to act in this way is not yet common practice. It is not easy to establish new relations in the circumstances of an open market society where competition has to be active and innovative. Conservationists have to be part of the focus of this new life and be as creative as possible. On the other hand, it does not mean that more research and directed studies into effective contemporary methods and tools are not helpful. On the contrary, the more that heritage is endangered, more innovative and effective approaches have to be discovered to help preservation. From fieldwork to the laboratory is one direct action – no more, no less.

Conclusion

Serious changes due to the development of the political system and economy bring many challenges in the field of heritage protection. The active involvement of conservationists on the side of owners and users of the heritage can bring a much-needed mutual confidence. Private and well-advocated public interests have to meet in a fruitful compromise. New financial sources have to be found to complement the money provided by the State budget. Again, civil society, in the form of non-governmental organisations, can be effective and stipulate appropriate actions. This active public support brings more result than administrative prescriptions.

Examples of vernacular architecture in Slovenia



SOUTH AFRICA

Report 1: South African Traditional Architecture at Risk

The architectural traditions of the many Indigenous cultures of Southern Africa may not be regarded by many around the world as worthy of conservation, due to the fact that they are not spectacular or ostentatious in the fashion of the traditions of Europe and the Orient. Nevertheless, in a unique way, they represent the ingenuity of mankind. The adaptation of materials and development of specific technologies created unique forms of shelter, well suited to the traditional institutions and practices of the peoples of the region.

These architectural traditions also present a unique set of conservation problems. The structures, generally built of mud and/or grass over a light wooden frame, are frail and have a transitory nature, rarely surviving longer than 10 years. Building methods are passed from generation to generation via word of mouth and are hence perpetuated only by the existence of a methodology in the minds of the people, that is, as a manifestation of intangible heritage. If the chain of continuity from one generation to another is disrupted by the intrusion of other building methods and materials, it goes without saying that within a very few years a tradition in architecture will disappear very rapidly. This has been occurring for many years and certain building traditions survive only in small, isolated pockets.

In South Africa there is a long documentary record of traditional African architecture, which commenced with descriptions of the houses of the Khoekhoe, the first detailed commentaries of which date from shortly before the Dutch settled at the Cape in the mid-17th century. Today the Khoekhoe *maatjieshut* (literally 'mat hut'), once found over the entire western half of the country, survives in a small desert pocket in the north-western coastal region. Here, the Nama people still use the structures on a limited basis, more often than not as storage spaces rather than as homes in which to live. Only a few elderly women retain the knowledge of how they should be constructed and few of the younger generation regard them as fitting habitation.

Matjieshut, Khubus, Northern Cape, South Africa: Illustrates the use of shade-cloth, black plastic sheeting, hessian and woven plastic meal sacks in place of the traditional rush mats.



Threats

In the case of most other cultures the situation is not quite as dire, but it is probably true to say that all traditional building forms and technologies are under threat. The threat comes from many sources, among which are the following:

- changing values and lifestyle;
- a perception that modern technology (e.g. a steel roof) is by definition better;
- intrusion of urban and global values that demand that housing be square, rather than round, and that a house consist of inter-leading rooms, rather than each household function being allocated to a separate, freestanding structure;
- shortage and/or high cost of, or degree of effort required in collecting and/or processing traditional building materials;
- adaptation of traditions to suit modern materials (e.g. rush-mat roofing replaced by black plastic sheets);
- government commitment to improved standards of living, in particular the bringing of technology into the home (i.e. few traditional buildings are suited to servicing with running water, electricity and the fixtures and appliances that go with them).

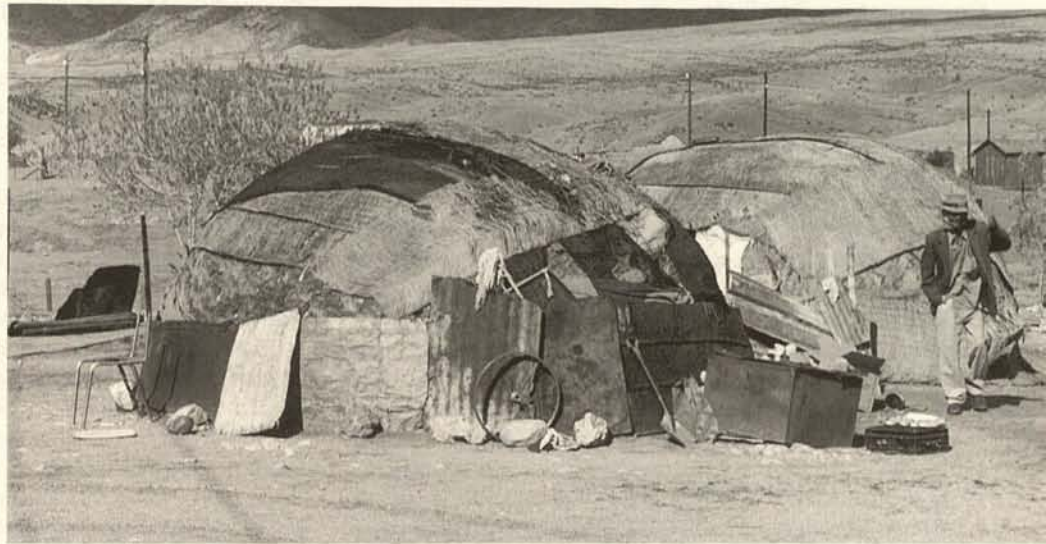
It is not the intention of this article to advocate a return to traditional lifestyles. However, it is an irony that the traditional technologies that are being abandoned are for the most part better-suited to climates of the regions in which they exist than is the standardised, mass-housing unit that is being erected across the length and breadth of the country. It is accepted that the dictates of both modern lifestyle and necessity are so entrenched that few long for the 'comforts' of tradition and that there is no turning back. Nevertheless, for heritage practitioners the dilemma of how to conserve the rich traditions of the past remains and is one with which they grapple, traditional western conservation methodology having little to offer by way of solution.

Matjieshut, Sendlingsdrift, Northern Cape, South Africa: Pure form built for exhibition purposes at the entrance to the Richtersveld National Park.



SUDAN

Matjieshuts, Khubus, Northern Cape, South Africa: Illustrates the use of shade-cloth and corrugated-iron in conjunction with very weathered traditional rush mats.



Until April 2000 the national heritage authority had no duty to look into this problem and it was studiously ignored, either for reasons of chauvinism, or out of a sense of hopelessness. New legislation, described in last year's Heritage at Risk report, does make Indigenous architecture and the survey and documentation of traditional architecture a duty of the new authority – the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). Through its National Heritage Resources Fund, SAHRA has shown an early commitment to this area by sponsoring a team of researchers who in the second half of 2001 will survey and document the maatjieshut and the traditional architecture of the district of Zulu-

land. The project is not only designed to produce data on the status of the building forms under examination, but also to develop a national standard for sustained data collection and to make formal recommendations concerning strategies for conservation of the traditions being investigated.

While this exercise comes too late for traditions that have already been lost, it is a light on the horizon and may be an important exercise in the development of a new methodology specifically geared to the challenges presented by heritage conservation in the African context.

Andrew Hall
ICOMOS South Africa

Report 2: Table Mountain At Risk

Table Mountain and associated uplands (such as Devil's Peak and Lion's Head) have always been notable features of *The Cape Peninsula* and of *The Cape*. They were part of the landscape utilised on a regular, seasonal, migratory basis by KhoiSan inhabitants for about 1700 years before the advent of colonists from Europe.

Legends suggest that there were various places that were holy to the KhoiSan, while early explorers and navigators from Europe invariably appear to have been captivated by the distinctive features of the impressive array of mountain slopes and the particular silhouettes they provided – these became symbols of the Cape. Colonial settlement and landscape adaptations overlaid past traces of human use on and about the lower slopes of the mountain areas and intensified over the years in sometimes gradual, sometimes rapid, waves of human use, adaptation and developments.

The material constitution, the role, the appearance, and the more specific range of uses of the existing physical form of Table

Mountain and associated uplands are the products of ecological and other historical processes, inclusive of purposeful human adaptations that have occurred over time. Thus, the subject is held to be an inherited 'cultural landscape' to be appropriately nurtured, rather than simply a 'natural landscape' to be returned to some pristine 'original' condition presumed to have existed in some 'golden age' prior to European colonisation.

The main features of the layering of human adaptation of Table Mountain and associated uplands appear to comprise a number of themes, each of which presents a facet of the overall cultural landscape, such as: the *landscape of the Cape Wilderness*; the *landscape of agriculture*; the *landscape of defence*; the *landscape of water*; the *landscape of slavery*; the *landscape of forestry and of recreation* (which introduced a variety of exotic vegetation); the *landscape of mining*; and the *landscape of urbanisation*.

Conservation Conflicts

We in Cape Town and the Western Cape stand at a cross-roads in regard to conservation of Table Mountain at the present time, because policies appear to relate to the conservation of the Cape Wilderness and not to other aspects of the cultural landscape. In the view of the author, this is the main landscape policy issue confronting the Cape Peninsula National Park (CPNP) Management, the current custodians of this significant area. This management has inherited a situation that, *inter alia*, raises two core issues. First, there is no doubt that one of the finest 'natural' areas in the world has been subjected over the years to considerable degradation as a consequence of damaging invasive vegetation and sometimes improper management and use of the Table Mountain area. In a distinctive and magnificent representative area of one of the six biomes of the world's flora (the Cape Fynbos), a policy of nurturing the 'naturalness' of much, if not all of the CPNP is obviously correct. The issue of indigenous and invasive vegetation is, however, not so simply resolved. After all, there are literally millions of 'people-aliens' who inhabit Cape Town and they cannot be made subject to the simple extermination policy to which alien vegetation is being subjected in the park.

The second issue is that the park of necessity comprises a continuum between an urban domain on the one hand and a wilderness domain on the other, particularly at some of its edges. A broad policy needs to be articulated that goes well beyond merely putting up fences and having different degrees of freedom pertain to use, development and alien and other vegetation on the two sides: the 'inside' and the 'outside'. High and low impact areas, and particularly 'gateway' sites that can accommodate large numbers of users seeking recreation in the park, obviously make sense. What also makes sense is that the CPNP exists as part of a much larger landscape and that it is visually perceived so.

With the benefit of hindsight, it seems true to say that most of that which is notable about Table Mountain and associated uplands today results from the maturation of a sensible, artful, and imminently liveable cultural landscape that is the product of the past, and consisted of:

- a splendid natural site, 'partially clothed' by a previously rural, and now an urban domain on the flatter land below, gradually diminishing in intensity of development as it reached up-slope;
- an intervening domesticated, yet rurally forested and landscaped band, visually absorbing some villas, as well as institutions and places of public recreation and outlook;
- the higher fynbos-covered slopes, which merged with the rugged wilderness qualities of the Cape mountains, and which have been enjoyed and perhaps revered by all Capetonians for centuries.

Towards a Mediated and Balanced View

In conclusion, the matter of an appropriate landscape framework that goes beyond 'wilderness' is elaborated somewhat. For many decades there was a contrived, people-made, 'eco-tone' between the two significant domains of wilderness and urban: in a sense a third landscaped domain existed which had its own characteristics. Much of it was created by non-indigenous vegetation, mainly trees. These exotic trees were part of the cultural landscape of the Western Cape in general and of some slopes of Table Mountain in particular. Their current removal and culling is an issue.

The maturation of the overall scene related to active landscape policies that were followed over centuries. Certainly, in the decades just before and after 1900 this particular humanised landscape was pursued as a matter of clear policy.¹ Since then, it seems that there have been few additions to the positive features of the landscape (other than attempts to eradicate alien vegetation).

For example, the wholesale felling of non-invasive Stone Pines (*pinus pinea*) on the lower slopes of Table Mountain is very debatable. It is not an accident that someone as internationally distinguished in landscape architectural circles as Dr. Hans Werkmeister, on a return visit to Cape Town as a consequence of an environmental and landscape symposium held in Pretoria during 1973, remarked to Mr David Jack (then Cape Town City Planner) that he was appalled that the fantastic landscape that he had so admired on his visit in the 1950s had been allowed to disintegrate to such disastrous effect.²

If the cultural landscape is a marriage of necessity and of broader and longer enduring cultural fare, inclusive of artful contrivance with beauty in mind, then we must beware the short-term and 'fashionable' pressures (such as the whole-sale alien vegetation removal fuelled by perfectly understandable, but imperfectly reasoned, and possibly quite narrow-minded and biased 'green' politics). A properly mediated, balanced view needs to inform decisions about these matters. Certainly, purely botanical criteria cannot reasonably be expected to reign supreme to the exclusion of other cultural considerations.

Table Mountain and associated uplands are significant heritage areas for reasons of both 'natural' and 'cultural' conservation. It is entirely questionable that the area be motivated as a heritage site only in regard to the landscape of the Cape Wilderness. A more inclusive policy should be put in place.

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University of Cape Town
(Based on a report prepared for the CPNP in 2000)

¹ See: Todeschini, F., 1992. 'Cecil Rhodes, Herbert Baker, and the Groote Schuur Estates: the Formation of a Cultural Landscape at the Cape (1890s-1920s)', *Architecture SA*, November/December, pp. 30-36.

² David Jack, personal communication.

SUDAN

The issue of identity has always been a contentious political one in the Sudan. The sheer size of the country, the artificial political boundaries, and the on-going conflicts for power exacerbate the problem. This has had serious implications for the inherited cultures of the country where the struggle for Arab-Islamic political and social supremacy has destroyed or undermined many other cultures and people of equal importance in the historical development of the country. The problem is aggravated by the fact that Sudan's people were predominantly nomadic.

Tracing the Problem

It is not possible to talk of this issue without blaming colonial policies in the country to a great extent. Religious animosity was non-existent in the region before the British and the missionaries entered the country. This explains historical circumstances that generated present-day tensions, but should not be used by the Sudanese to justify them.

It would be a mistake to blame Islam for these problems, since the religion is seen to be a victim rather than a culprit. Past and present mistakes of the Muslim rulers of the country have greatly distorted the image of the religion. Despite the fact that the religion is a strong spiritual force in the lives of the Sudanese, it is a religion – in that context – with little material imagery. This has led the people, with the explicit support of the present government, to borrow imagery from other Muslim states in a futile attempt to associate the country with its Arab-Muslim counterparts. The result has been the emergence of an inappropriate, ostentatious architectural style with no roots and no meaning within the social and historical context of the Sudan. These attempts have put many historical buildings and districts at risk. Old buildings and roads are transformed physically, or renamed, and a systematic wiping out of previous identities is being attempted.

There are isolated attempts at relating new architecture to Sudan's building heritage, thus placing the buildings more comfortably within their socio-economic, historical and climatical context. Some of these attempts have led to an eclectic architectural style that needs to be refined and developed. An increased obsession with facadism needs to be addressed and the meanings, as well as the images, related to Sudan's heritage need to be preserved.

The rulers in Khartoum are not the only ones to blame for the loss of important aspects of the country's heritage. International neglect is also a major culprit. It is only relatively recently that interest in the archaeological sites south of the Egyptian border revealed valuable information. Many sites are still unexplored and important structures and sources are gradually being lost. Castles and settlements remain undocumented.

The amazing Turkish port-town of Suakin on the Red Sea has been allowed to disappear. The fact that the Sudanese Government was not able to preserve these historical buildings, existing almost intact – yet uninhabited – till the 1950s, is understandable.

Additional culprits in these tragic crimes on the country's heritage must be the educational institutes and intellectuals who have rarely focussed their efforts to explore their heritage. As an architect training at the University of Khartoum in the 1980s, we learnt of the ancient wonders of Greece and Egypt. Only passing reference was made to the ancient kingdoms of Nubia, if mentioned at all. It is amazing how generations of scholars have been pro-

grammed to believe that their heritage has none or little value – it is even more amazing that they have succumbed to that ignorance. Awareness of heritage needs to be instilled in the Sudanese from an early age, through all levels of education.

Except for the southern and south-western parts of the country, the rest of the population is a hybrid mix of different races. The northern riverain communities have almost always had the upper hand in power and in social status. These people originate from Nubian-Arab-African ancestry.

A Rich Heritage

There was a rich heritage in the area before the advent of the Arab Muslims. The first settlements probably date back to 5000–4000 BC. The pyramids and temples in the north of the country are not familiar worldwide, yet they pay tribute to kingdoms and culture that flourished nearly 3000 years ago in the region of Kush. The scenes of these great achievements were the cities of Napata and Meroe, the centres of a powerful kingdom from 900 BC until the rise of Christianity during the period 542–543 AD.

Attempts to extend the Muslim rule further south after the conquest of Egypt were not successful. A treaty signed in 652 AD established a period of uneasy peace. Yet, this was the period when Islam extended rapidly into the Sudan. It has been said of the Nubians that they are a people who always conquered their conquerors. The invaders stayed and adopted the Nubian way of life.

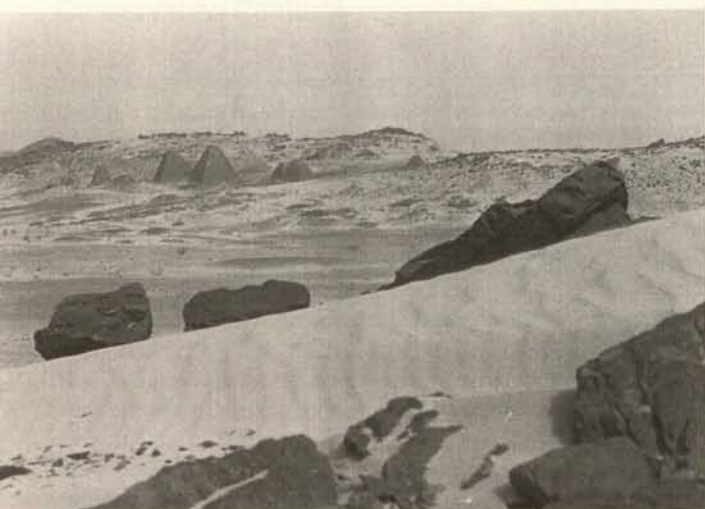
These same northern areas were scene to one of the greatest crimes against the heritage of the Sudan – in the 1960s, large areas of Nubia ceased to exist when it was flooded by the waters of the Aswan Dam. The residents of the Wadi Halfa resisted relocation in acts of brave defiance that went little noticed by the international community. All to no avail, because the waters rose gradually and wiped out a wealth of information that can never be reclaimed.

The Funj kingdom, with its centre further south on the Blue Nile in Sennar, flourished for 300 years. The origins of the people of the Funj is still a mystery. Whoever they were, they established a kingdom that dominated large areas of land and gave modern-day Sudan much of its character. The Funj adopted Islam as a religion.

It was during this period that the unique Sudanese practice of Islam developed. Sudanese sufism flourished and was based more on the ritualistic than the philosophical. These rituals, still strong today, leave few physical remains – except for the numerous Gubas (sheikh's tombs with conical domes) that spot the landscape – yet they represent a vivid and wonderful intangible heritage that needs to be systematically studied and preserved.

Another period of extreme importance in the history of the country must be the era of the Mahdist regime with its centre in Omdurman. This was a short period of independence between the Turkish/Egyptian and British/Egyptian colonial periods, spanning the years 1885–1898. Omdurman needs to be conserved as an exceptional African city. The size and character of the city make it truly unique in the continent.

Another concern are the Nuba people of the Nuba Mountains in south-west Sudan. They are a forgotten people who have historically never asserted themselves against Muslim-Arab control – to this day they are gradually and systematically being eradicated as a people and as a culture. The extent of the damage done in the Nuba Mountains and in the Southern regions of the country can



probably be fully appreciated only when the raging civil war subsides.

An issue of importance in the Sudan are the wonderful aspects of intangible culture such as dance, song, poetry, folklore and zikr (remembrance of the prophet through poetry, song and dance) from all regions of the country. The nomad cultures of western Sudan also need recognition and documentation.

One can only hope that the Sudanese government and the international community will try to save what is left of this valuable cultural heritage – before it is too late. In the meantime, the onus probably rests on Sudanese academia to play a bigger role in education, documentation and preservation within any financial or political restrictions they may come against. It is through the efforts of a few previous scholars and institutes that some of the ancient glory of the country has been retained for future generations.

Amira O.S. Osman
University of Pretoria

SWEDEN

This report is the second report on heritage at risk in Sweden. It includes material from the first report, but has additional information built on further information gained from a seminar arranged by the Swedish National Committee, 8 March 2001. The seminar aimed at defining what is a RISK for cultural heritage. To that end, Professor Thorbjörn Thedéen from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm was invited to introduce the problem. He particularly emphasised the need for continuous risk analysis concerning cultural heritage. Overall, we need to discuss issues such as:

- Possible consequences.
- What cultural heritage is indispensable?
- Risk analysis as a base for decision-making.
- How do political reforms, other sectors' decisions affect heritage?
- Are the consequences for heritage irreversible?
- The applicability of the Nara Principles, for instance the use of copies.
- Public participation and information as a tool to avoid ignorance of the heritage.

Economic change, changes in infrastructure and environmental threats are the major threats to heritage in Sweden. How to meet these risks is the challenge for the future. The challenge includes seeking co-operation with other sectors of society to create an understanding of heritage and its potential in regional and national development. It is also important to widen general public knowledge and awareness about heritage at local, regional and national levels.

General Information on the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Sweden

Monuments and sites in Sweden are protected by law. There is special legislation for monuments, both ancient monuments that are automatically protected, and the built environment where there is a need for a decree to validate the protection. There are additional possibilities to protect monuments and sites on a national level through the Environmental Code that also covers large areas – cultural landscapes for instance. On a local level, possibilities to protect buildings and heritage places exist in the Planning and Building legislation. In addition, each sector legislation has regulations for cultural heritage considerations. Since the 1970s, the heritage sector participates in National Physical Planning. Today, the country of Sweden can note the following statistics:

- A building stock of about 5 million buildings.
- 450,000 registered ancient monuments protected automatically by the Cultural Heritage Act.
- 1500 sites with protected buildings (containing many more buildings) out of a foreseen amount of 3000. Protected by the Cultural Heritage Act after a special declaration – 13 gardens and parks, out of an unknown number. Other parks and gardens are protected, together with manor houses and castles.
- 3000 churches protected by the Cultural Heritage Act.
- 1400 areas of National Importance, protected by the Environmental Code (including cultural landscapes).

On a national level, the State Conservation office operates as the National Heritage Board. All 21 Counties have a Heritage unit

within the County Administrations. There are also 24 County Museums, in addition to other museums at a local level and to private museums. All these institutions have heritage specialists, most of whom are archaeologists, art historians or architects. Only one position as a garden conservator exists with the National Heritage Board and none at the other levels.

The Government has also established a special body for management of the most valuable property owned by the State: the National Property Board. The National Heritage Board, the County Administration Heritage units and the County Museums cooperate in questions concerning the preservation of the Cultural Heritage in an organised way, supported by grants from the Government. Around 250 million SEK is available as grants from the Government to private owners for extra costs in restoration – however, 'normal' maintenance is always the responsibility of the owner. The grants are also given to cultural tourism programmes and information.

Sweden is a sparsely populated country, with the main building mass and population concentrated in the regions around the big cities: Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö. The country has been inhabited for the last 15,000 years, since the end of the last Ice Age. In historic times, the country has been mainly an agricultural area, while some parts have had mining and ironworks. Forestry, paper and glass production are other important sectors arising from the use of national resources.

Cultural landscape with hey barns, County of Västerbotten, Northern Sweden. Example of changes in agricultural infrastructure. The earlier very common hey barn landscapes have already disappeared to a large extent. As they do not have any use anymore the owners do not maintain them.



Main Threatened Structures (without any priority order)

Farmsteads and agricultural landscapes

Since the last decades, the change in agricultural policies has brought many farmsteads into decay. It has also impacted open agricultural landscapes, which in some areas have been planted with forests. Abandoned animal production and new regulations for animal housing have caused deterioration to cow houses and barns no longer in use. In certain areas of great cultural value, the government and the cultural preservation units have earmarked grants to maintain these kinds of structures. This is particularly obvious at the islands Öland and Gotland in the Baltic Sea, and in the county of Jämtland in northern Sweden. Unforeseen changes in national and/or European Union policies could be an additional threat in the future.

Manor houses and their cultural landscapes

Because the Entailed Estate Institution has been abandoned in Sweden, for some years castles and manor houses have been inherited in a common manner. No National Trust exists in Sweden, nor is there a possibility for a tax reduction for owners of cultural property. As a result, these properties are sold and the collections scattered. Many of the manor estates are converted into conference hotels and the land is divided into several shares and sold.

Historical parks and gardens

The greatest threat to gardens and parks is the lack of knowledge at all levels of society. The general public does not recognise gardens and parks as part of the cultural heritage. There is a lack of inventories and a lack of knowledge of their conservation and maintenance.

Industrial heritage

Sweden was not industrialised to any great extent until the late-19th century. The main industry was based on iron, forest and copper, once the base for the wealth of the country. Most of it has vanished now that production is cheaper elsewhere in the world. Industrial heritage sites, often with huge buildings, stand as monuments of a passed era, most often without any new use. The national level estimates that it is possible to preserve some of these with government grants. The rest is severely threatened if grants or a new use cannot be found to save them. Industrial heritage also includes railroads and old roads threatened by new infrastructure changes.

Housing areas

The housing areas built after World War II are now in a state that makes restoration necessary – this includes rebuilding, and often new colours. Much of this building stock is not protected and is under threat of loss of its high original qualities, though not destroyed completely.

Threats to ancient monuments

Looting is and has through centuries been a threat, although it has been minimised through education of the general public and

strong protective legislation. In modern times, looting by using metal detectors is the main problem, often by foreigners.

Land use in the agricultural sector and in forestry has always been a threat, which is minimised by inventories and information to these sectors. For example, the systematic planting of new forests and resulting acidity has caused damage to rock art in the County of Bohuslän. Forestry activities have caused mechanical damage to ancient monuments. So have the contemporary ideas of nature conservation, promoting the 'free development of forests'. Research has shown that more than 30% of ancient monuments in forests are affected. Information and workshops with the forestry sector are expected to minimise the damage in the future.

Infrastructure projects, such as large hydropower projects and the establishment of new satellite towns outside the big cities, are a threat. The loss of knowledge is also a risk, but is to some extent avoided by documentation of the expected losses.

The Rock Art World Heritage site in Tanum is under threat from the construction of a new road. The project is monitored by the National authorities, and by ICOMOS and UNESCO. Not only is the rock art at risk, but also the visual integrity of the landscape.

Other Risks to the Heritage

Stone in buildings and other constructions

Air pollution affecting especially soft stones is a threat, also brought to us from other countries. Although powerful efforts have been made in co-operation with the Council of Europe, and inventories and conservation work have been undertaken, this is an ongoing problem. Air pollution also causes threat to finds in ancient monuments and to rock art. The EU project, Tanum Laboratory on Cultural Heritage, based in Sweden, tries to find solutions to this problem.

Traditional crafts and traditional materials

Traditional crafts and traditional materials are at risk because they do not have a supportive market. The national authorities work to provide information to people in general and to builders to understand the importance of using these materials in heritage maintenance.

European Union directives

European Union directives on health and safety also impact on materials and methods used in the restoration of buildings. These directives are often accepted without the possibility for the Directorate for Culture to be involved or to interfere. For example, at the moment, pine tar is forbidden for health reasons, without the possibility to discuss its future use within certain limits. Tar is used on wooden church roofs and bell towers in Sweden and in other Scandinavian countries, as well as for the protection of wooden boats, wooden harbour pavements and so on.

Legislation

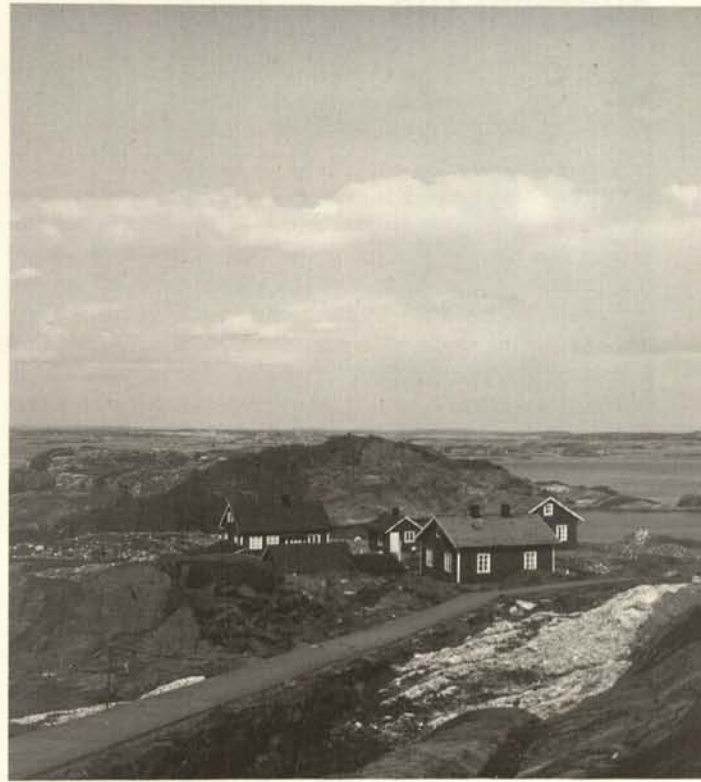
The planning and building legislation is mainly applied to the construction of new buildings, although there are possibilities to use the legislation to save old constructions. There is therefore a need to improve the tools available through that legislation.

Baltic Sea – 122 – Islands in the Baltic Sea – City Walls

The island of Gotland, Sweden, is a large island in the Baltic Sea. It is one of the largest islands in the world and is known for its rich cultural heritage. The island is home to several ancient cities, including Visby, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city walls of Visby are a prominent feature of the island's landscape and are a testament to the island's long history of trade and commerce.

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Ursholmen lighthouse near Koster on the western coast of Sweden. Lighthouses are no longer necessary for navigation at sea so that nowadays most of them are abandoned.



The image shows a coastal landscape with a dirt road leading towards a cluster of dark wooden buildings, likely a lighthouse station. The buildings have white window frames and gabled roofs. The background shows a rocky coastline with a body of water under a cloudy sky.



Due to structural changes the industrial heritage especially of the 20th century is threatened if a new function cannot be found. The State can only support the preservation and maintenance of a selection of industrial plants of international and national value, such as the Engelsberg iron works, inscribed on the World Heritage List.

SWITZERLAND

Bern – Underground Car Park

An underground car park is being extended immediately in front of the baroque 'Waisenhaus', in the heart of the city of Bern, while another one is to be enlarged at the 'Casinoplatz' in November 2001. At this very moment, important historical and archaeological remains of the 13th to the 18th century are being sacrificed for 140 new parking spaces. Of course, scientific salvage excavations have taken place. The archaeological excavation started in March 2001 and was almost entirely financed by the authorities. It particularly well illustrated why such a site should be protected, because the affected area of about 900 square metres had only been previously disturbed by a minor duct. The uncovering of the site, which became the garden of the orphanage (Waisenhaus), revealed the relics of the ancient constructions exactly as they were when abandoned at the moment of their destruction in 1783/84: a street from the late Middle Ages leading to a fountain in the natural trench, a stone building from the 14th century and foundations of a town residence near the town-ditch, as well as two well-preserved cellars with courtyard buildings. In addition, the site revealed different developments relating to the construction of the orphanage that was built in 1783.

At least the remaining part of the city wall – which is under protection – will be integrated into the construction project. Of the original 20,000 square metres of open space in the inner city –

composed of the well-known squares of Waisenhausplatz, Bärenplatz and the Bundesplatz – only 2500 square metres will retain the potential for undisturbed archaeological evidence after the enlargement of this underground car park. Remains of the 13th-century city wall, as well as parts of the Jewish quarter, still slumber under the Bundesplatz. But is 15% of the former archaeological patrimony enough to testify to the history of the city? And what are we to think of this when we know that any archaeological testimony is already reduced by the passage of time.

The city of Bern is not alone in the destruction of its historical underground. In many cities of Switzerland and Europe, the necessity for new constructions has resulted in increased underground disturbance. But should not Bern – as a UNESCO World-Heritage listed city – show the way? It is certainly in this perspective that the national commission for the conservation of sites (Eidgenössische Kommission für Denkmalpflege) passed a leading bill with detailed theses, reflections and arguments concerning 'underground building in historical sites'. This bill was sent to all leading cantonal authorities responsible for archaeology and monument conservation. The conclusions of this bill were to refuse all three forms of underground building: the building of cellars and other constructions under historical buildings, public squares and historical parks.

Bern, Waisenhausplatz. The excavation pit for the underground car park goes right up to the walls of the Waisenhaus.



Bern, Waisenhausplatz. Before its destruction, the archaeologists document the last witnesses of the history of this part of the city.



Bellinzona – Interference in the Middle-Age City Walls

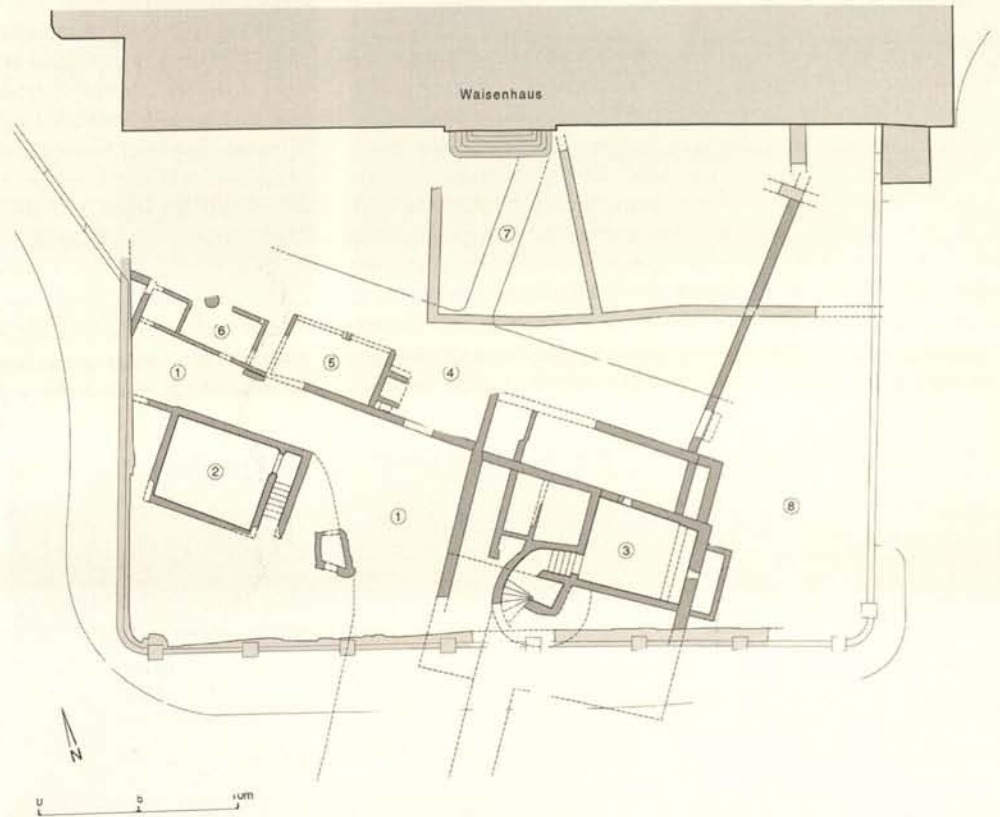
The 'Castello Grande' has recently been accepted as a UNESCO World Heritage monument. But destructive interventions on the historical walls have already been perpetrated. Niches have been built and cemented in the wall for the electricity supply. Was it carelessness, a harmless crime or neglect? And this is not the only example. It does, however, show how important it is to supervise works associated with our World Heritage listed monuments and to encourage a sense of responsibility among the local authorities and all those who work with these monuments. This was stressed in the ICOMOS colloquium held in Bern in 1999.

Switzerland, as a country, has committed itself to the international community. However, the sovereignty concerning archaeology and conservation in Switzerland belongs to the cantons; as a consequence, it is up to them to provide the necessary intervention. The only way the national government can positively influence these efforts is in supporting them financially, and yet it shirks from its responsibility.



Bellinzona, Castello Grande. Retaining wall with electricity box.

ICOMOS Switzerland



Bern, Waisenhausplatz. Overall view of the archaeological site: 1. street from the late Middle Ages (Schegkenbrunnenstrasse), 2. vaulted cellar, 3. town residence of the Tschifeli family (with a spiral staircase leading to the cellar), 4. paved courtyard, 5. stables, 6. workshop, 7. paved path leading to a tower of the town wall (Schwefelturm), 8. town-ditch.

SYRIA

Damascus: a Major Eastern Mediterranean Site at Risk

Damascus, the political and cultural centre of the present-day Arabic Republic of Syria, is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. For many centuries it was the centre of the Syrian region (comprising modern Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Jordan) and over several thousand years one of the main cities in the Middle East. Between 661 and 750 AD it became the capital of the Umayyad world empire – the first Islamic dynasty – that stretched from Gibraltar to the Oxus and Indus rivers. The Umayyad Mosque of Damascus (706-715), one of the oldest and most important mosques in the Islamic world, is still an impressive monument of that time. Different rulers, governors, notables and other individuals added masterpieces of Islamic architecture to the urban fabric of the city throughout its history. The city also contains many remains from the Classical period.

The majority of public and private buildings in the Old City, nearly all commercial buildings and private houses, originate from the Ottoman period (1516-1918). The numerous and very rich houses, as well as the huge bazaar, are impressive monuments of human cultural production. Accordingly, in 1979 the Old City was the first Syrian site to be included on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a site of World Cultural Heritage. This heritage is in great danger.

City Planning

The danger for Damascus is in some aspects the same that one can observe all over the world, but with the additional problems particular to urban centres in the Middle East: a desire for rapid investment, and ever mounting demographic pressure. Over many decades of urban planning, big roads and huge concrete buildings have been considered as ends in themselves in the desire to modernise the cityscape. The al-Bahsa quarter, once one of the most important historical neighbourhoods outside the city walls, provides a sad example. It was completely pulled down at the beginning of the 1980s and replaced by large, poorly integrated concrete structures of bad quality, which are today little used despite their location in the middle of the city. Other aspects of urban planning,

such as traffic management, are not very sophisticated and road improvements are currently seen as the only solution to the city's transport problems. The general economic and social crises that are ongoing in countries such as Syria, together with the loss of urban identity caused by extreme social change (the population drift to the cities in so-called 'third world countries') complicates the situation.

Domestic Quarters – the Protection of Coherent Architectural Units

The old city of Damascus preserves large residential quarters that contain not just a puzzle of isolated monuments but a complete historical urban fabric. In 1900 the Ottoman yearbook for the province of Damascus listed 16,832 houses, of which approximately half are still standing. Many houses are outstanding and richly decorated examples of Islamic architecture. In all the eastern Mediterranean – from Egypt to Greece – the Syrian towns of Damascus and Aleppo are the only large cities that preserve domestic architecture on such a scale. Other important cities, such as Cairo and Istanbul have lost practically all their residential architecture and preserved only those buildings considered historical monuments (such as mosques and schools). The idea that these ensembles deserve protection and are of importance as functioning units is still not commonly held. In some quarters, especially outside the city walls, one finds a mess of modern concrete high rises alongside low-level historical buildings of wood, clay and stone. Multi-floor office buildings replace single historical buildings that are of 'less' importance. In this way the historical town centre of Marja Square has lost nearly all its historical substance. At the moment the future of the historic market of al-Khayl and al-Atiq, next to the citadel of Damascus, is under discussion. Scant consideration is given to the idea that not only should the Market be safeguarded, but similar protection should also apply to its wider urban setting as an ensemble with the citadel.



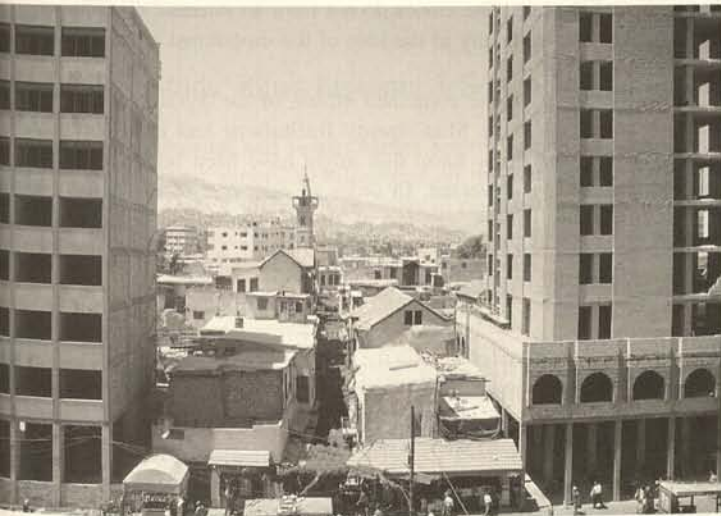
Old town - new town, general view



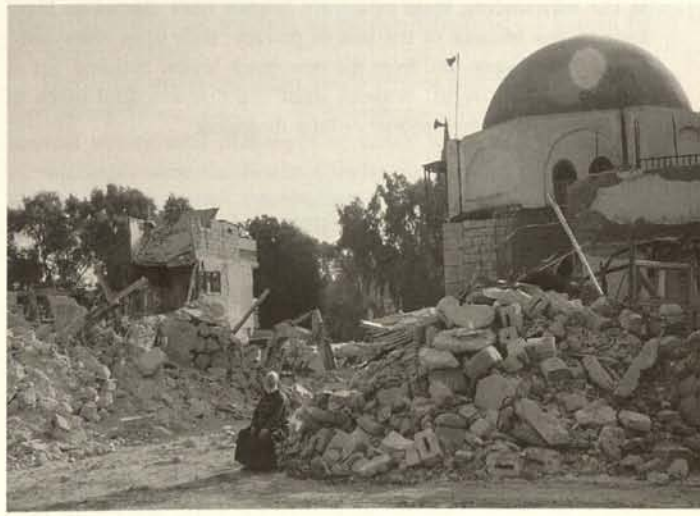
Situation of a quarter extra-muros



Destruction at the traditional market al-Hal / al-Khayl



View of the quarter Suq Saruja



Zuqaq al-Zukhra, extra-muros, destruction of an old quarter for a new hotel

Traditional court-yard house in the old city



Ruin of a 17th-century house intra-muros



Protection Intra Muros – Destruction Extra Muros

One of the main misunderstandings concerning the old town is its division in the two parts, intra and extra muros. From the 12th century, the city grew beyond its walls and during the last centuries of the previous millennium the majority of the city was actually extra muros. Two thirds of the historic houses and many public monuments were located outside the walls. Accordingly the status of World Cultural Heritage site has been given to the entire town. The Syrian administration has unfortunately considered only the quarters intra muros as worthy of safeguarding and has enacted laws and set up a council for protection of only these quarters. The very important extra mural quarters were left vulnerable for the most part to new town planning activity and whole quarters have vanished, such al-Bahsa and parts of Suq Saruja and Midan. The lack of protection given to historic urban extra-mural regions frequently leads to a slow but continuous destruction. This process is very obvious in the quarter of Salihiya / Muhyi ad-Din, which dates to the 12th century and is famous for its important role in Islamic intellectual history with its dozens of historic schools. The first multi-storey concrete building has just been erected in the historic market street of as-Salihiya. As a consequence, people living in the surrounding open courtyard houses have started to leave their homes because of the loss of privacy; their open courtyards, which can be seen into from the new much higher building, act as important living areas. Without strict and direct control much of this market street will sooner or later disappear.

A Lack of Technical and Financial Resources

In recent years Damascus has received new attention. Many new restaurants and cafes have opened and the bookshelves in libraries are now filled with nostalgic literature about the old town and traditional life. Some intellectuals, old Damascene families or people from the upper classes have bought old houses. This promising development is still a drop in the ocean when the sheer number of houses is considered. Until now there has been no master plan to protect the quarters inside and outside the walls, and for the local planners the enormous number of buildings is more than they can handle. Human and technical resources are very limited and often there is not sufficient training. Even if some individuals in authority are enthusiastic for the old town, their work is often hindered by the existing circumstances. For example, there is a lack of the necessary technical means of maintaining collected data about the historical structures in an archive. Often traditional construction and decoration methods have been forgotten and inherited local knowledge, developed over hundreds of years, is dying out with the last old craftsmen practising it. Damascus is in urgent need of a training and planning centre that teaches local crafts, restoration and traditional construction methods and has the technical and logistical know-how to help those people who want to engage in restoration.

Misunderstanding Restoration and the Lack of Knowledge

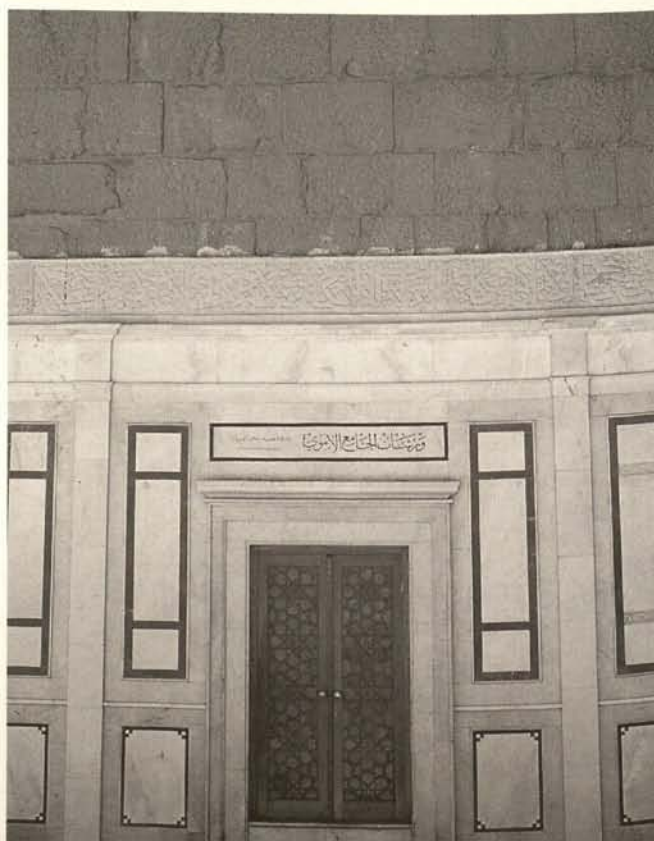
Many house-owners who want to restore their houses or modify them into restaurants simply do not know how to go about doing so. Often they partially destroy the original buildings and reconstruct them according to how they imagine an Arab house should look. Help is needed to guide this very welcome private initiative.

Last year the 19th-century Ottoman hospital of al-Ghuraba was torn down in the name of restoration, in spite of being in very good condition. It is now under complete reconstruction in concrete. It was one of the most important hospitals to be seen anywhere in the Ottoman Empire and its destruction illustrates the idea of restoration often seen in Syria. There are many similar examples in Damascus. Many historic mosques were totally rebuilt according to a modern fantastical style. In particular, the Directorate for Pious Foundations has destroyed or damaged many outstanding architectural monuments of Arab and Islamic history through restoration in recent years. Obviously many craftsmen employed were not specially trained. One of the most dramatic instances was the restoration of the world famous Umayyad mosque (early 8th century) that was built inside the Roman Temple of Jupiter. Roman walls (1st century) were partially deconstructed and rebuilt, Umayyad marble (8th century) was replaced and newly fitted with steel and concrete onto the Roman walls, and Mamluk fountains and interior elements (14th/15th century) were demolished and replaced by modern interpretations. Of course, all these undertakings were not done in order to demolish the monument, but to give it a 'nicer' appearance. The historical monument itself was considered less important than its historical image, and that had to be polished up. The stones do not have an intrinsic historical value but are secondary to the idea of the monument to which they belong.

Hopefully, through the combined efforts of the Syrian Directorate of Antiquities, the Municipality Institutions and local and foreign institutions, some harm that might have been inflicted to the old city can be prevented. In order to save one of the most important and rich urban centres of the eastern Mediterranean much help is needed and the implementation of a large international support programme essential.

Stefan Weber
ICOMOS Germany

New marble fitted with steel and concrete onto the ancient walls of the Umayyad mosque



TANZANIA

Tanzania has a vast cultural heritage and enormous potential for the development of cultural industry, crafts and cultural tourism through the judicious utilisation of cultural heritage items, their setting and environment. The history of the impressive sites of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara, which reflect multiple and rich cultural identities, are largely unknown to the people of Tanzania. The vast majority of Tanzanians, and particularly the local populations living in and around the sites, are generally ignorant of the potential commercial values of the sites. The case studies below review the situation at Kilwa, a site that is already included on the UNESCO World Heritage List, and Bagamoyo, which is on the tentative list of sites in Tanzania and may be nominated in the future.

There seems to be only a token management system for the protection of these sites; as a result, the monuments are slowly decaying and disintegrating, and the natural environment is gradually reclaiming the sites. It has become imperative to take affirmative action to restore, conserve and develop the sites in a realistic and sustainable manner.

Case Study: Kilwa Kisiwani & Songo Mnara

Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara are two islands, situated close to each other about 280 kilometres off the Tanzanian coast to the south of Dar es Salaam. A complex of ruins has been preserved on each island, and both complexes are presently under the protection of the government of the Republic of Tanzania.

The ruins on Kilwa Kisiwani are by far the most important. The site has been occupied from the 9th century to the 19th century and reached its peak in the 13th and 14th centuries. In 1331–1332, the great traveller Ibn Battouta made a stop here and described Kilwa as one of the most beautiful cities of the world. Thereafter, Cabral and Vasco de Gama were content only to call at its port, but Francisco d'Almeida seized it in 1505 and established a fortress there. The Portuguese named the island 'Quiloa'; it is by this name

that it was known in the west and that Milton made mention of it in his 'Paradise Lost'.

Among other monuments, the ruins comprise:

- the vestiges of the great mosque, constructed in the 12th century of coral tiles embedded in a core of puddled clay, but considerably enlarged in the 15th century under the reign of sultan Soulayman Ibn Mohamed el Malik el Adil (1412-1422);
- the remains of the Husuni Kubwa palace, built between c. 1310 and 1333 by the Sultan Al Hasan;
- numerous mosques;
- the Gereza (in Swahili, the term means 'prison') constructed on the ruins of the Portuguese fortress;
- an entire urban complex with houses, a public square, burial grounds, mosques and fence walls.

The ruins of Songo Mnara, at the extreme north of the island of Songo, consist of five mosques and a number of domestic dwellings of puddled clay and wood within the enclosing walls. A poorly identified construction of greater dimensions is known by the name of 'palace'.

The earthenware and other small objects that have been gathered during the excavations bear exceptional testimony to the commercial and cultural exchanges of which Kilwa and, to a lesser extent, Songo were the theatre. Cowrie shells, pearls of glass, carnelian or quartz were interphased with porcelain of the Sung dynasty as a medium of exchange from the 12th century. Chinese porcelain and Islamic monochrome faience continued to be the vectors of a bartering system, well after the appearance of a monetary atelier at Kilwa.

Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara are, therefore, two archaeological sites of prime importance to the understanding of the Swahili culture, the Islamisation of the east coast of Africa and the extensive commerce of the mediaeval period and the modern era.

There is a serious rapid deterioration of the archaeological and monumental heritage of these two islands due to various agents,



Kilwa Kisiwani, Portuguese fortress



Ruins of Songo Mnara

Erosion

The erosion due to the sea is the first sign that strikes the visitor who arrives on the island of Kilwa Kisiwani. Ninety-nine percent of the city walls have been lost, Gereza Fort has lost the north wall and the massive tower that flanks it on the north-east is severely threatened. Stabilisation work was done in this area during the restoration project undertaken by Neville Chittick, but since then this work has largely been eroded. All the vestiges situated on the sea front on the northern side of Kilwa Kisiwani have been greatly altered, and certain more are threatened with collapse. At the Husuni Kubwa Palace, the damage to the soil caused by rainwater wash is accentuating the risks of collapse of the remaining structures on the edge of the cliff. The eastern section of the palace is progressively disappearing.

Vegetation

The vegetation that proliferates on the cliff has limited the progression of the rain-wash effect, but also causes the break-up of the masonry structures. The plants grow into the joints and push out the mortar, then push apart the stones and end up weakening and dislocating the structure. The excavation carried out by Neville Chittick and the regular maintenance of certain parts of the site by the Tanzanian Antiquities services have limited the proliferation of the vegetation.

However, the size and geographical layout of the monuments do not always permit systematic maintenance. Husuni Ndogo, situated to the east of the Husuni Kubwa Palace, and the urban complex situated on Songo Mnara Island have been invaded by trees that have become so intertwined with the stonework that it would be extremely difficult to remove them without destroying part of the structures.

Rains

The ruins by definition have no roof, which renders them very vulnerable to the weather. The upper layer of exposed stone does not facilitate the run-off of rainwater. Thus a significant amount of water penetrates into the masonry, washing out the lime mortar so that it gradually disappears and causes the collapse of the wall. This phenomenon is one of the major elements that creates ruins out of the manmade structures. The dislocation of the stones also makes the work of stone poachers easier as they look for building materials. As early as the 14th century, it seems that the coral stone

of the Husuni Kubwa Palace (which was perhaps never finished) served as a source for raw materials for making lime for new constructions.

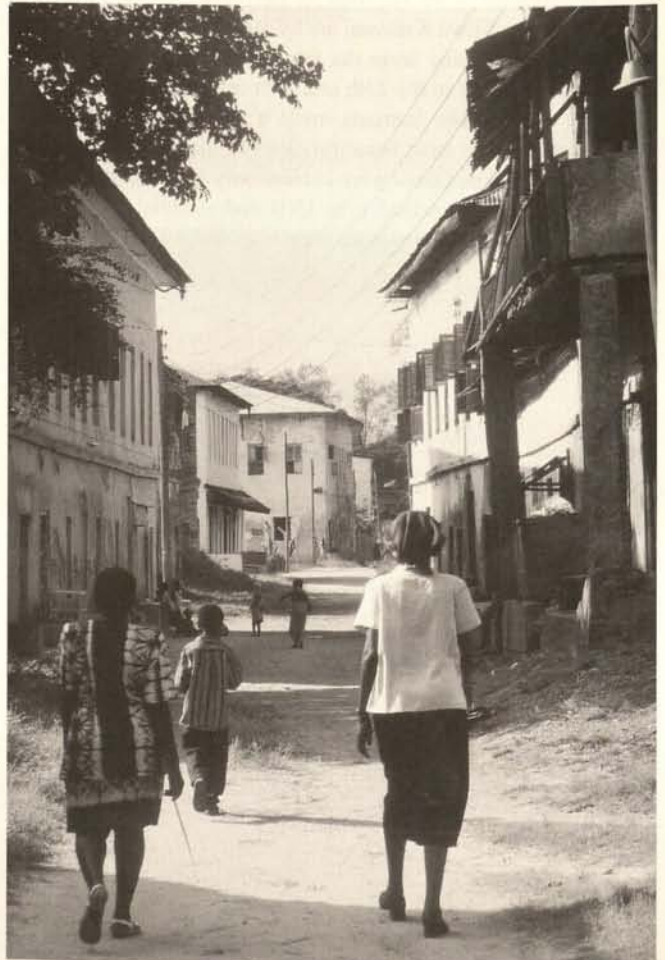
Only the Great Mosque and the Small Mosque have kept a significant part of their roofing of cupolas and vaults. It is essential to ensure the water tightness of these coverings in order to preserve the architecture.

In the 1960s, Chittick totally resealed the roofing of the mosque using a mortar made of lime, clay and sand, which is the best technique one can use. Since then, the service of Antiquities has performed several maintenance campaigns, removing vegetation and filling in cracks. Today, the state of degradation of the roofing is such that a simple maintenance job is not enough. The sealing of this type of roof, in a rainy climate such as in Tanzania, must be redone at least every 10 years and the work of Chittick will soon be 40 years old.

Problems due to lack of public awareness

Through lack of information, new construction that is indispensable for the development of the local population, can often be in contradiction with our aim of preservation. For example, the primary school of Kilwa Kisiwani, which occupies a very visible site, is made of concrete whitewashed with lime. It may be seen as imposing on the general landscape due to its position and architecture. However, the dilemma raised by the school remains only minor compared with the potential dangers from the development of tourism infrastructure, such as hotels or industries, once the

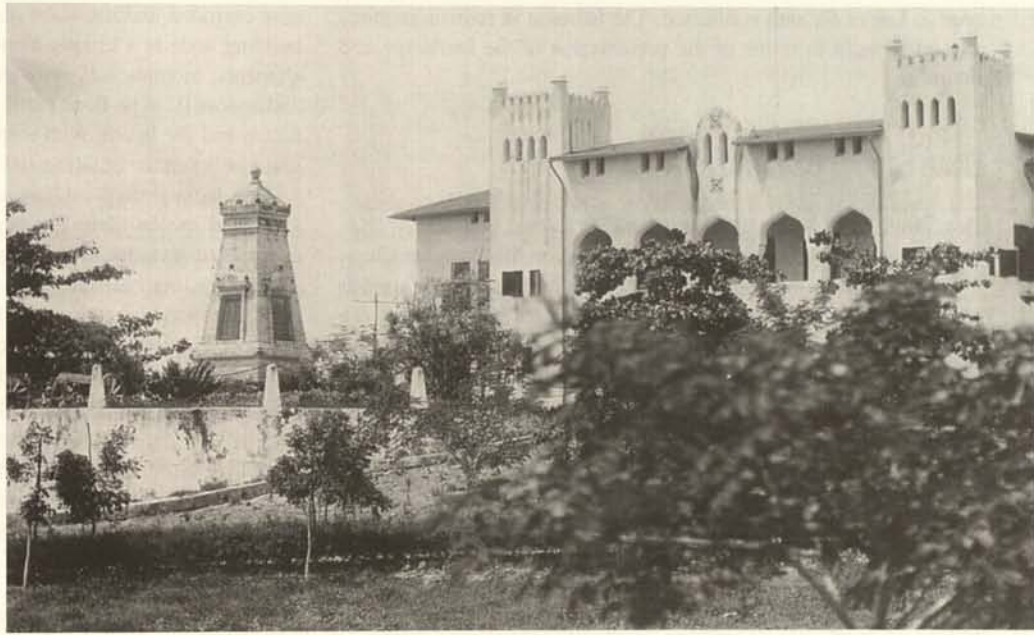
Bagamoyo today: India street



TURKEY
The Ministry of Culture
has announced that it
will be responsible for
the restoration of the
monument.

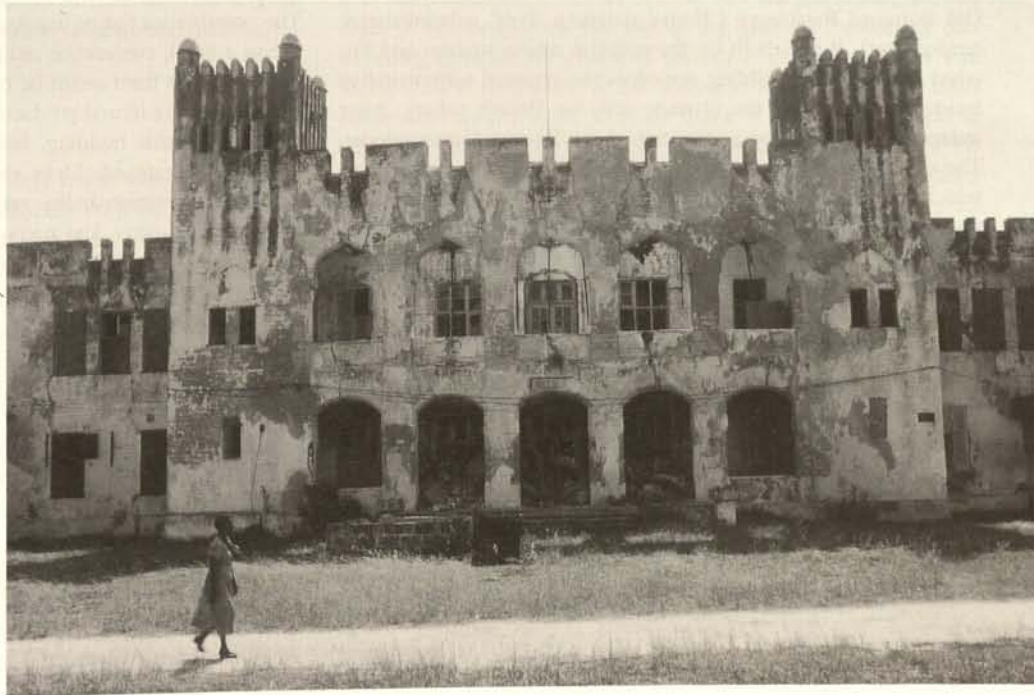
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The Old Boma of Bagamoyo, historical photo from colonial times (c. 1900)



The Ministry of Culture
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monument.

The abandoned Boma Bagamoyo after 1998



The Ministry of Culture
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the restoration of the
monument.

The Boma after December 2000: dangerous parts of the façade had to be taken down. Will it be possible to reconstruct it soon?



road to Dar es Salaam is finished. The increase in tourism requires careful thought in terms of the preservation of the landscape and the ruins.

Case Study: Bagamoyo

Bagamoyo is a small coastal town with a natural harbour, 70 kilometres north of Dar es Salaam. It is located on the Zanzibar Channel, just opposite the Island of Zanzibar. The relation to Zanzibar was very strong in history, because most of the slave trade, ivory trade and expeditions of traders and explorers from and into the interior of East Africa were organised through Bagamoyo. Bagamoyo was at that time the most important city of mainland Tanganyika and the most important harbour in East Africa. When the colony of German East Africa was established in 1888, Bagamoyo was chosen as the capital. But in 1891 the capital was transferred to Dar es Salaam, due to better harbour facilities.

The heritage of Bagamoyo consists of a mixture of German colonial buildings, buildings and facilities related to the slave trade and slave route, and buildings of the merchants and financiers of Indian origin. One outstanding example of the built heritage is the Old Boma of Bagamoyo ('Boma' meaning 'Fort', administrative headquarter). It was built by the colonial administration and finished in 1897. The building served as the regional administrative headquarter for both the German and the British colony. After independence, it served as the seat of the District Commissioner. The original roof construction was altered in a questionable way, which created maintenance problems. The pitched roof with a long roof overhang was removed and a flat roof introduced. The building is constructed with thick walls of coral stones with lime mortar and lime plaster, very similar to the Arab-Islamic buildings in the Stone Town of Zanzibar. However, the slabs are of a specific German type: I-beams with vaulted stone slabs. All the iron beams are

now corroded and the slabs have to be renewed completely. The building style is a unique blend of Islamic-Arabic and European elements, monumental symmetry and arrangement of the rooms and spaces (U-type floor plan). The site is close to both the town centre and the beach, with a splendid open public-park and landscape between the building and the beach.

Due to neglected maintenance, part of the slab collapsed in 1998 and the building has been abandoned since then. Several attempts to save the structure were initiated by the Department of Antiquities, but have not shown any positive results so far – the building is too big, complicated and costly for the Tanzanian Government. Foreign assistance is needed, but foreign donors are very reluctant to assist in financing the project, most of them giving priority to programmes such as health, education or infrastructure. Additionally it takes time to establish a well-organised project concept with the government. Also private investors may be reluctant to be involved in such a big investment. It is an open question as to whether or not the building can be saved before it is too late, the speed of deterioration being so fast.

It would be a big loss to the heritage of Bagamoyo if this building with its history, its outstanding architectural and aesthetic qualities, its supreme location at the sea front, were to disappear. The possibilities for re-use are very good, with the potential for use as a hotel, conference centre, museum or cultural centre. The public land in front could be re-established as a botanical garden or used for agricultural production.

Not only this building, but also the entire heritage of Bagamoyo is threatened. Many owners of the residential buildings, mostly of Tanzanian-Indian origin, are absent and have lost interest in their property, leaving poor tenants, often without water and electricity and with leaking roofs. Until it is understood that the buildings have a cultural and commercial value, especially with ongoing tourism development, it will be too late for many buildings unless emergency repair is undertaken soon.

D.M.K. Kamamba & U. Malisius
ICOMOS Tanzania

TURKEY

Threats from Development

Major engineering or development projects continue to cause considerable damage to the cultural heritage of Turkey. Decisions to build motorways, airports, bridges or dams seem to be taken without prior survey of the area to be affected by the project. It is shocking to see an airport built very close to the ancient city of Ephesos, or a highway going through the archaeological site of Belevi. Irrigation and hydro-electric dams threaten archaeological sites and historic urban centres. Such projects are to be completed in short periods and usually archaeologists have very little time to allow proper study and documentation of the cultural layers. At Allianoi, 'The Land of Asclepius' near Pergamon, Izmir, excavations speed-up to record and salvage as much as possible from the flooding of Yortanlı irrigation dam. Time and funds to transfer the monuments within reservoir areas are very limited. The bridge at Çine in western Anatolia is affected by a dam construction; it has to be transferred in a very short period of time from its original position to a site that can hardly offer the same natural features.

Dams

The adverse effects of dams are widely felt in south-east Turkey. Last year, the rising waters of the Birecik Dam on the Euphrates flooded Zeugma. There was considerable chaos due to the untimely rising of the water level; with international collaboration and donations, most of the very important mosaics and architectural pieces were salvaged and transferred to the local museum in Gaziantep. Unfortunately, Zeugma was not the only site affected by flooding; many settlements along the Euphrates valley suffered from the change in the water level. The lower parts of Halfeti were inundated: Halfeti was a small town with exceptional stone architecture, beautiful mansions and a historic bath. Now the town has a totally new image with only a small part of it visible above water level.

Similarly the rising waters have changed the visual impact of Rumkale, which is a mediaeval castle, very special in many respects. Previously, it perched on a high cliff and was hard to approach. Now, with rising waters, it is easily accessible. Time and neglect have done a lot of damage to this stronghold. Now that the eroded base of the cliff on which the castle stands is in contact with water, we suspect that its destruction might be accelerated.

Istanbul

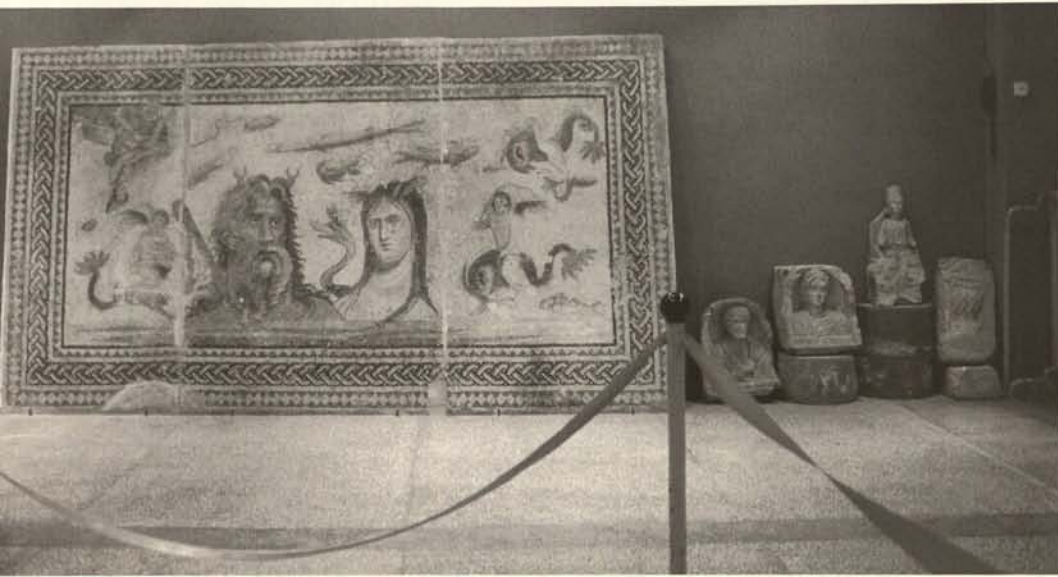
Istanbul, parts of which are listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is a metropolis with over ten million inhabitants. The historic town is suffering from pressures of urban sprawl, heavy traffic and unauthorised repairs to historic buildings. Although the historic city enjoys its situation on the Bosphorus, well known for its natural beauty and historic buildings, the increase in number of tankers transporting petroleum from the Black Sea to many parts of the world has become a very dangerous threat. The tankers are like huge bombs moving through a densely populated district. Already several tanker-collision incidents have occurred, resulting in fire, explosion or sinkings. Occasionally the tankers run off-route and crash into waterfront houses, killing people and destroying historic houses. Oil traffic through one of the most beautiful

channels of the world is a great threat for the inhabitants and cultural heritage of the city. There are serious attempts to stop the oil traffic, but it will take some time. In the meantime, the naval office decided to establish a radar system to be able to navigate the traffic on the Bosphorus. The proposal to build radar towers along the shores of the Bosphorus was rejected by the Landmark Commission, contending that the towers will spoil the natural and architectural beauty of the Bosphorus. Stressing the importance of safety measures for the city, the security officers insisted on building the towers. The construction of several radar towers along the Bosphorus is under way now. The construction of the tower at Kanlıca has received strong reaction from the inhabitants.

Another engineering project that threatens the natural and cultural heritage of Istanbul is the construction of a new bridge over the Bosphorus. There are already two bridges linking the two sides of the Bosphorus, but due to the growing number of cars travelling from the Asian side of the city to the European, or vice versa, there is congestion at the bridges in rush hours and it takes commuters several hours to reach home or work. The project to build the third bridge over the Bosphorus was raised by the Ministry of Public Transportation; unfortunately the locality chosen for this project is a very delicate site and will do great harm to Arnavutköy and Kandilli villages. Kandilli, with its wooded areas and beautiful houses along the shore, reflects the tranquil aura of the Asian side. On the European side, Arnavutköy, a 19th-century village, is exquisite with its timber architecture. The dense urban heritage will be under risk of pollution and noise from the bridge, which will cast a heavy shadow over the conservation area and ruin its scenic beauty. The inhabitants of Arnavutköy are vehemently reacting to the project and voicing their protest in the media, but the government has not yet withdrawn the proposal.

The Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul is seeking ways to ease the traffic problem in the city. Travelling underground is a much-coveted mode of transportation, but there are problems at points where the subway passes through cultural layers and the location of stations and their access can create problems. The construction of the Levent-Yenikapi subway started from the modern parts of the town at the north and is moving south, towards the 19th-century, mediaeval and ancient parts of Istanbul. The construction of the section between Taksim and Sishane has already caused problems in areas where the ground was not very stable and the digging for the tunnel took place close to the surface. As a result, several 19th-century buildings developed cracks.

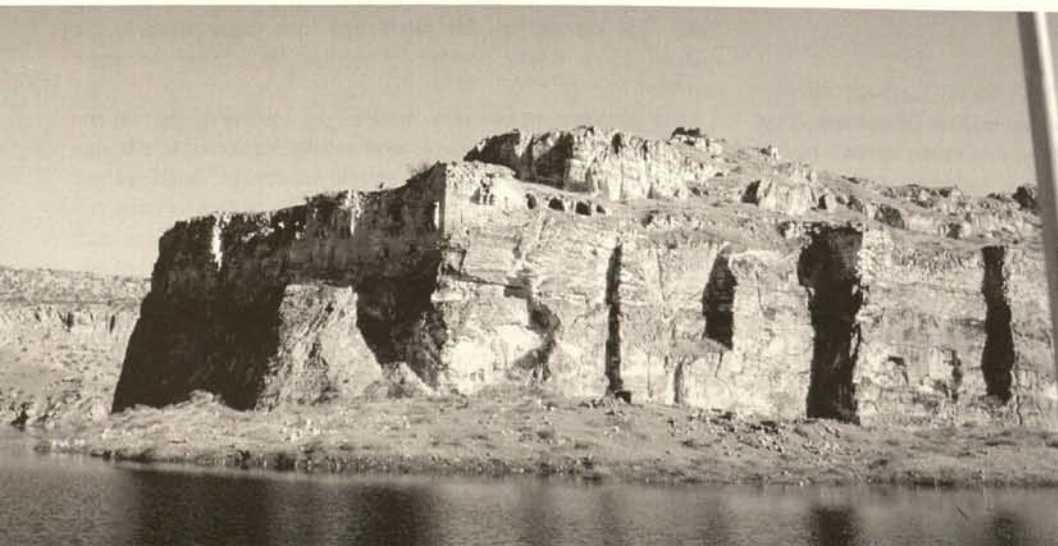
The construction has now reached the mediaeval part of the town. From Galata, the underground will be connected to a bridge that goes over the Golden Horn, roughly spanning Yanikkapi and Süleymaniye hillside. The height of the bridge and its location is a great threat to the historic city; it damages the urban fabric at both ends and the silhouette of the historic city is affected negatively from this foreign element. Furthermore the proposed location and size of the subway stations in the historic city are not suitable and revision of the project is a must in order to preserve the cultural heritage of Istanbul. The Monuments Council has already asked for improvement of the project.



The ancient city of Zeugma was founded on the Euphrates River during the Hellenistic period, in 300 B.C. There was a timber bridge connecting Zeugma to Apameia, another ancient city across the river. During the Roman period, the city flourished with trade. Roman villas with mosaic floors dating from the second century B.C. witness the high quality of the artistic achievement in the city. In 1999, as the waters of Birecik Dam started to rise, there was great concern to salvage the most significant architectural pieces and beautiful mosaics of Zeugma. The panel showing Okeanos and Thetis is one of the salvaged pieces now on exhibition in the museum of Gaziantep.



Halfeti was a spectacular hillside settlement on the Euphrates valley. The rising waters swallowed large parts of the town. Many houses and the 19th-century bath are under water now.



Located 5 kilometres to the north of Halfeti, Rumkale is a medieval fortress which was strategically located on the caravan route leading from northern Mesopotamia to inner Anatolia. The castle was totally deserted around the mid-19th century. Remains of some houses, a big cistern, churches and monasteries are still visible. The rising waters of Birecik Dam have changed the landscape around the castle drastically. Now the waters touch the foot of the hill on which the fortress rises.

Case Study: Küçük Ayasofya Mosque

The Mosque of Küçük Ayasofya (Little Hagia Sofia) is one of the most beautiful and important of the surviving structures of the Byzantine era in the city. The structure was constructed in 527 as a church commissioned by Justinian and his Empress, Theodora, 5 years before the commencement of Hagia Sophia. It was converted into a mosque after the fall of Constantinople in 1453.

In plan, the church is an irregular octagon inscribed in a very irregular rectangle. These irregularities may be partly due to the fact that the church had to be squeezed between two already existing buildings, the church of Saints Peter and Paul, and the Palace of Hormisdas.

The dome is divided into sixteen sections, eight flat sections alternating with eight concave ones above the angles of the octagon. This gives the dome an oddly undulatory or corrugated effect.

The octagon has eight polygonal piers, between which are pairs of columns, alternately of verde antique and red Synnada marble both above and below, arranged straight on the axes but curved out into the exedras at each corner.

On 13 July 2001 some members of ISCARSAH Committee¹ visited the Küçük Ayasofya Camii in Istanbul and made a cursory examination of the condition of the structure.

The existing vertical cracks on the north-east and south-east corners through the dome as evidenced on the interior plaster surfaces have increased in width since the earthquake of 1999. This suggests that cracks through the masonry behind may have also increased; therefore, there is a danger of partial collapse, especially during future seismic activities. Other damage may exist that is not easily discernible that might also contribute to this safety concern.

In the past, the acceleration induced by the vibrations from trains that run-by very closely has been measured, but this effect does not seem to be the main cause of the damage.

The cracks are mainly related to soil settlement and, in particular, outward rotations of the walls probably produced by rising water in the soil.

As a consequence of this phenomenon, in addition to the cracks, the dome has suffered significant deformations and, in some zones, reduction of the original curvature; it is particularly this factor that has reduced the safety margins of the structure and produced risky situations.

Some temporary restraint needs to be provided as a matter of urgency. This would entail the installation of temporary tension devices on the exterior of the structure, beneath the dome; the provision of scaffolding on the interior to protect visitors; close-up inspections, and the shoring of areas of the dome as necessary to prevent partial collapses. However, there is insufficient information at present to design any permanent strengthening measures. We recommend that, having provisionally placed the dome in safety conditions, no further work be undertaken until full examination of the structure has been carried out to enable these measures to be properly designed.

ISCARSAH

¹ The members of ISCARSAH (International Scientific Committee for Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage) who have prepared this report are Nikolas Charkioulakis (Greece), Giorgio Croci (Italy), Predrag Gavrilovic (Macedonia), Kenichiro Hidaka (Japan), Stephen J. Kelly (USA), Androniki Miltiadou-Fezans (Greece), Juhani Pentimikko (Finland), Ya'acov Schaffer (Israel), Christian Schmuckle-Mollard (France), Ramiro Sofronie (Romania), Koenraad Van Balen (Belgium), David Yeomans (UK), Gorun Arun Ozsen (Turkey).

Natural Threats

Natural disasters are affecting the heritage in different ways. The flooding of Antakya, ancient Antioch, caused serious damage to the service facilities of the historic town. In 2001 there were several earthquakes in Turkey, mainly damaging the rural architecture. The damage inflicted on monuments and urban rural areas by the earthquakes of 1999 in Izmit and Düzce continue; some of the damaged buildings have not received any care for 2 years. Either there are not enough funds or the problem is very complex and calls for careful study before starting actual work. Unfortunately some monuments are being repaired without expert advice, or the interventions to retrofit the structures are very heavy. The Mosque of Küçük Ayasofya, originally the Church of Saints Sergius and Bacchus from the 6th century, had structural cracks for some years – the earthquake of 1999 aggravated the situation, making the monument very sensitive. The causes of the cracks have to be assessed and consolidation treatment should follow the diagnosis. However, some groups are eager to make injections to the foundations before studying them carefully. One of the striking examples of bad intervention carried out after the 1999 earthquake damage

can be seen at the Feyzullah Efendi Madrasa in Istanbul. The contractor was very harsh on the monument, which dates to the beginning of the 18th century. To stabilise the cracks on the walls and domes, a steel frame was inserted into the masonry construction. This intervention, which was carried out without permission from the Monuments Council, has spoiled the original masonry; it will probably cause a lot of damage to the structure in the event of future earthquakes.

In rural areas, where old houses were either cracked or fell victim to wall-collapse during tremors, a lack of understanding caused considerable damage. In many cases the old houses were demolished on the basis of reports by technical staff who were not trained about historic preservation in any way.

Many deserted buildings, houses, churches or mosques are awaiting funds and care. In Hasan Ağa village of Bursa, the villagers built a modern mosque across the historic one. The timber-framed mosque was neglected for a long time and the earthquake in 1999 damaged the southwest wall. The villagers do not care for their old mosque any more; they want to remove it and have an open space instead. Luckily the Monuments Council of Bursa has not consented to this and the old mosque still stands.



The danger of fire and explosions emanating from tankers is a growing threat for Istanbul. Tankers 250 meters long and weighing 100,000–150,000 DWT are passing through the Bosphorus without asking for guidance from the local naval office. Along the eastern shoreline (right side) of the photograph there are some timber houses that were designed as summer residences during the Ottoman period. There is a great contrast between the scale of the old architecture and the second Bosphorus Bridge. Construction of bridges over the Bosphorus has encouraged encroachment around the woodlands of the Bosphorus shores. Although protected by law, due to mass migration and population increase it is a difficult task to preserve the natural and historic assets of the Bosphorus.

The Church of Saints Sergius and Bacchus (now Mosque of Kucuk Ayasofya) in Istanbul is suffering from structural problems. The growth of the cracks on the dome, arches and walls of this important monument from the 6th century needs careful study and treatment.



Re-use of historic buildings for tourism purposes usually exerts pressure on them. The Maiden's Tower in Istanbul was leased to a private investor who turned it into a restaurant. The rehabilitation project did not respect the architectural form of the historic building; instead, spaces that would normally be open to the sky, such as the courtyard of the castle, were roofed. In addition a mezzanine floor was inserted to allow more space for commercial use. The natural form and contours of the island on which the tower stands was changed to increase the usable open area.

Loss of Traditional Methods

Construction methods using wattle and daub, clay and wood are nearly forgotten and lost. Many villages in the timber region or in the south-eastern part of Anatolia are reverting to brick and concrete structures, instead of continuing the traditional system. In particular, timber architecture is very fragile and suffers from negligence and adoption of modern materials for repairs. The oldest surviving *yalı* waterfront house on the Bosphorus, Yalı of Amcazade, dating from the end of the 17th century, is suffering from lack of maintenance. Urgent measures are needed to save this unique building. It exemplifies Istanbul's waterfront house that was designed in such a way that people could enjoy both the beautiful interior and the scenery of the Bosphorus.

Lack of proper craftsmen and expertise results in the simplification and loss of original details. The case of the pointing in Yıldız Palace enceinte walls, which date from the 19th century, is a striking example. A special kind of pointing that was done – probably by craftsmen coming from Lesbos Island – was totally lost during recent repairs carried out by masons who were not familiar with this technique. Perhaps the supervising technicians did not attach importance to the details, missing the significance of a special finish. It is essential to train people to identify and execute such details. Publications are needed to inform architects and other technical staff about historic pointing techniques and renderings.

Industrial Heritage

Industrial heritage of the 19th century is suffering from neglect and desolation. Changes in production technology, or a decline in the demand for certain goods, have led to the abandonment of old factories. Silk factories, olive-oil plants, flour mills, gas plants and docks are some of the industrial buildings suffering from changes in the 20th century. Some of these buildings are being assigned new functions, but many have lost their original interior elements and several have been demolished to give way to modern buildings.

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ICOMOS Turkey

UKRAINE

Overview of Legislative and Government Protection

Under valid Ukrainian legislation a wide range of objects are subject to State registration and protection: architectural monuments and monuments to the art of engineering, along with natural and human-made elements, monumental works of sculpture and painting, archaeological objects, caves with evident traces of the presence of man, buildings or rooms in which authentic evidence of significant historical events or the lives and activities of important people is preserved. Issues of the protection of objects of cultural heritage have been designated as priorities. These cover a whole range of measures associated with the protection and preservation of the traditional character of the environment of historically inhabited places and environments in the Ukraine, which has acceded to the Convention on the Preservation of World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

At present in the Ukraine there are official records for more than 140,000 objects of cultural heritage and 132,000 historical and archaeological monuments and items of monumental art, of which approximately 500 are of national importance. There are 15,600 urban and architectural monuments, of which more than 3000 are monuments of national importance.

We will also discuss architectural and urban monuments. Along with the Kiev monastery complex – Kiev-Pechersk Lavra – and the historical centre of Lviv, the Saint Sofia Cathedral was included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. At present, preparations are being made to include the historical areas of certain towns, such as Kamyanets-Podilsky, Odessa, Chernigiv, Uman and others on the aforementioned list.

At the end of September 2001, an international conference was held in Odessa with the participation of responsible employees of State and public heritage institutions, scientists and specialists from the Ukraine, Russia, Poland and Greece. This conference was organised by the State Committee for Issues of Construction, Architecture and Housing Policy of the Ukraine, the Ukrainian Committee of ICOMOS and the state administration of Odessa, and its central theme was the preservation of historical towns and urban monuments and also the inclusion of the historical area of Odessa on the UNESCO list.

Individual heritage units and complexes with an exceptional historical value were declared as State historical-cultural reservations. At present the Ukraine has 56 of these reservations, of which 12 have been granted the status of national reservations. In addition to this, 402 towns and municipalities of the urban type have been included on the List of Historically Inhabited Places of the Ukraine. In addition, the relevant material is being prepared for the purpose of including villages on this list: more detailed information about the protection of historical monuments in the Ukraine can be found on the Internet: www.heritage.ort.kiev.ua on the page Monuments of the Ukraine (Пам'ятки України).

Restoration Programmes

Steps for the protection and restoration of monuments in compliance with valid legislation are implemented using the resources of owners or users and their financing is also ensured by a special part of the Ukrainian State budget. In recent times, resources from



The synagogue in Pidhac (end of 17th century)



The synagogue in Berezhany (early 18th century)



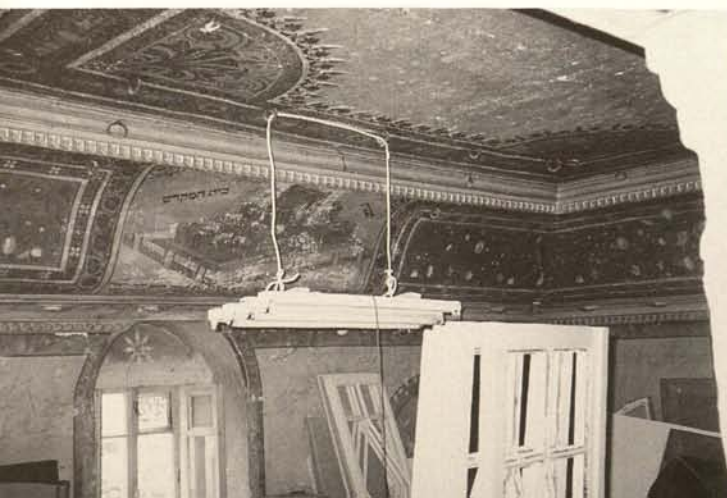


Roman Catholic church in Zelenijvka (Gross Werder) (18th century)



The Great Kenasa in Yevpatoriya

Interior of the Great Kenasa



the State budget have been used to restore the buildings of the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra, the Saint Sofia Cathedral, the Church of Saint Cyril in Kiev, the Cathedral of Saint George in Lviv, Cathedral of Saint Volodimir in Sevastopol and many other important monuments. In addition to this the Michajliv Zolotoverch Monastery and the Dormiant Cathedral of the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra in Kiev, the shrine of the Ukrainian People that was barbarically destroyed in the 20th century, have been renewed and restored. Several long-term State programmes have been prepared that focus on the restoration of monuments in towns such as Chigirin, Halich, Katnyanets-Podilsky, Gluchiv, Zbarazh, Odessa, Novgorod-Siversky and others that are now in progress. A special government resolution was adopted, and restoration work is being carried out on the Theatre of the Odessa Opera, and rehabilitation work is being carried out on the architectural and archaeological monuments of the former Hetman's capital Baturyn, where the cultural layer following the tragic events of 1708 remained preserved and which is acknowledged as a standard archaeological monument from the 17th century.

It is particularly important to mention the State programme for the preservation of the historical part of Lviv, which has been included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. A significant part of the mediaeval buildings of this city are at risk as a result of the negative impacts of hydro-geological factors.

Looked at in general terms, a significant part – virtually every tenth monument – is in an unsuitable technical condition and some of them are even in a state of devastation. More than 200 architectural monuments of national importance (approximately 10%) require urgent work in order to avert destruction, as well as basic conservation work. The existing unsatisfactory state of architectural and urban monuments, especially those that are used by budget-funded offices and institutions, is the result of cuts in the financing of restoration work by the State (seven times from 1995 to 2000).

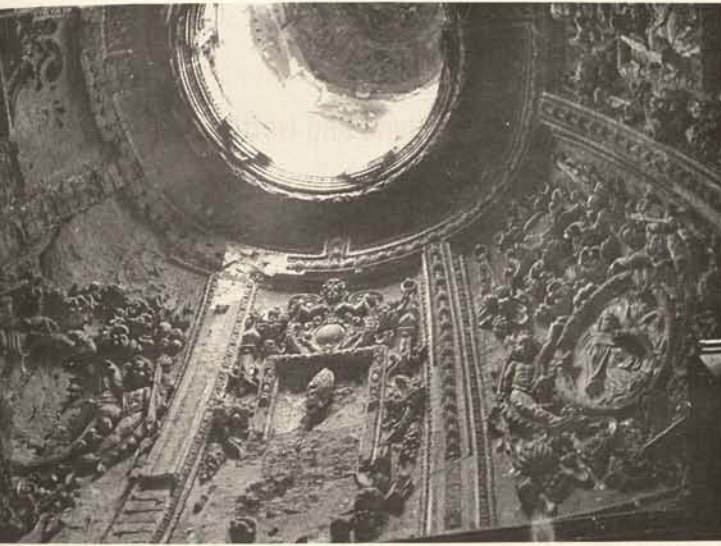
In recent times we have noticed a tendency for financing from the resources of local budgets to grow, especially in cities such as Kiev, Lviv, Kamyanets-Podilsky, Odessa, Poltava, Kolomyja, Ochtyrka and others.

Due to the development of co-operation with international institutes, such as the World Monuments Fund and its programme 'One Hundred Most Endangered Sites' or the Getty Foundation, grants have been gained for several important monuments, such as the Sina-Castle Bridge in the city of Kamyanets-Podilsky (the first stage of its construction probably dates from the 2nd century BC); the Church of the Saviour of Berestovo in Kiev (started in the 12th century). Relations have been established with experts, scientific institutes and universities in Poland, Austria, Canada, Israel and other countries, and many joint projects have already taken place or are being planned.

Threatened Monuments

Religious & defensive architecture

The most endangered monuments in the Ukraine are monuments of religious and defensive architecture. The State has returned to the faithful most of the religious buildings that were wrecked by the Communist regime or used for other than original purposes. Particularly at risk are those monuments made of wood, in particular wooden churches from the 17th–18th century having an architecture of clearly expressed folk lines that constitute a special chapter in the history of world architecture. At present some of these buildings, such as the 17th-century Georgiev church in the town of Sedniv, the 18th-century Mykolaiv Church in the town of Gorodyshe in the Chernigov district, and the 18th-century Myko-



Palace chapel in Berezhany, detail of the stuccowork in the cupola

laiv Church in the town of Drabiv in the Cherkask district, are in a critical state of disrepair. These buildings represent the architectural type of wooden churches of the left-bank and supra-Dnieper Ukraine of the 17th and 18th centuries.

In addition to this, in certain regions of the Ukraine, especially in the western and partially in southern parts, as a result of certain changes in the ethnic structure of the inhabitants following World War II, the religious buildings of ethnic minorities who have lived in these areas continuously for centuries have been left without the requisite care from the relevant parishes of religious communities. This is especially the case for churches and synagogues. Some examples which are worthy of mention are the 18th-century Church of All Saints in the village of Hodovicja; the Church of the Dormition in the municipality of Jazlovec (end of the 16th century); the synagogue in the town of Pidhac (originally an Arian tem-

ple – end of the 17th century), and the synagogue in the town of Berezhany (beginning of the 18th century).

It is particularly important to mention the Roman-Catholic church of German settlers from the end of the 18th century in Gross-Werder in the north-east of the Ukraine. Another building – the Great Kenasa from the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th century in the town of Yevpatoriya – is the spiritual centre for the few native inhabitants of the Crimea – the Karaims. This temple was long used for other purposes, but has now been handed over to a Karaim religious organisation. The temple is in desperate need of special restoration of its unique polychromal ceiling with carved elements.

Chateaux, castles and forts

Another group of endangered monuments includes chateaux, castles and forts. One example is the group of chateaux and castles on the river Dniestr. Most of these buildings are currently in a devastated condition and urgently require conservation. These buildings are to be found in beautiful countryside with good climatic conditions and in an ecologically pure environment, near to recreational areas in the foothills of the Carpathians with many mineral springs, spas and sanatoria. All of this makes the buildings attractive for tourists (including foreign tourists). Out of all these buildings one could pick several outstanding examples: an important monument from the period of the Renaissance – the Senyav Castle in Berezhany from the mid-16th century; the castle in the town of Buchach from the end of the 14th century to the beginning of the 17th century; the castle in the municipality of Pidzatnochok from the end of the 16th and beginning of the 17th century; the castle in Halich from the 16th–17th century; the chateau from the 17th century in the town of Trebovlja and many others. With the participation of State and private investments, these buildings could become profitable if an appropriate tourism programme was created that included the construction and reconstruction of roads, hotels, restaurants and shops. This would lead to an inflow of finance to carry-out further conservation measures.



Palace of the Senyavski family in Berezhany, chapel of the late 17th century in decay

UNITED KINGDOM

Wetlands Initiative

The most significant new archaeological initiative to identify buried monuments at risk in England has been the commissioning by English Heritage of a project titled 'Monuments at Risk in England's wetlands'. This initiative follows the inaugural meeting of the European Archaeological Council in 1999, which is made up of heritage managers; their initial focus has been the heritage management of wetlands. Wetland habitats are important for both the excellently preserved archaeological and palaeoenvironmental record that they contain. The English project is collating data on the destruction of wetlands over the last 50 years, and with it the rate of destruction or damage to archaeological sites in wetlands. The site density in England's wetlands is estimated at least 1 for every 100 hectares (or 220 acres). An estimated 1.1 million hectares of wetlands have been destroyed, which means that at least 13,000 archaeological sites will have been destroyed, mostly in the last 50 years. Future management will concentrate on preserving the hydrology of whole wetland areas, rather than protecting 'monument islands'. This will involve combining different interests in specific areas and co-operating with nature conservation organisations and landowners and managers.

English Heritage Register of Buildings at Risk

The fourth edition of the *English Heritage Register of Buildings at Risk* has been published. It brings together information on all the Grade I and II* buildings, and scheduled monuments (structures rather than earthworks or buried sites), known to be 'at risk' through neglect and decay, or vulnerable to becoming so. 1999 is the year taken as the baseline against which change is measured for the statistical purposes of the Register. England has 30,270 buildings or groups of buildings listed I and II*, an increase of 1.3% since 1999. Nationally 3.8% of these listed entries (1 in 25) remain at risk. A total of 109 entries were removed from the Register, as their future has been secured; a further 11 have been removed following reassessment and 4 have been lost, but 102 entries have been added.

English Heritage Grant Aid

English Heritage offered grant aid towards 98 buildings at risk, totalling £5.7million. Concrete progress is being made towards securing the future of more than one in four of buildings on the Register. Overall, almost half the items on the Register are capable of beneficial use sufficient to justify their maintenance once repaired. The remainder need long-term stewardship. Almost one in eight are economic to repair and bring back into use without subsidy. In about one in five cases, the owner is all or part of the problem, making coercive action a necessary part of the solution. The restoration and re-use of listed buildings at risk has been central to the renewal of many run-down areas in towns and cities throughout the country. It is clear that conservation-led regeneration is working and enjoys enormous public support (demonstrated in a recently commissioned public opinion survey). The approach taken by English Heritage in dealing with buildings at risk shows how a strategic approach can achieve real benefits for the historic environment, improve quality of life and help support sustainable economic development.

Initiatives in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

SAVE Britain's Heritage continued to maintain an online register of Grade II buildings at risk in England and Wales and published *Sleeping Beauties*, its twelfth annual catalogue of a selection of such buildings. In 2001 the SAVE register features many nonconformist chapels in Wales. Although some will be retained intact, many will find new uses if they are to survive. A Welsh Chapels Trust has been formed to safeguard the future of the most outstanding redundant chapels. The fate of these buildings is a serious conservation issue. Even those more modest buildings have played an enormous role in shaping both the social and physical character of Wales.

The Scottish Civic Trust's *Buildings at Risk Bulletin 2001-2*, compiled on behalf of Historic Scotland, contains a selection of some of Scotland's endangered historic buildings urgently in need of rescue. This bulletin includes a special feature on agricultural/croft buildings. There are 1331 buildings currently classified as at risk. Mansion houses and churches are the greatest types of building at risk and the highest concentration of urban buildings at risk is in Glasgow.

The Ulster Architectural Heritage Society's six-volume report 'Buildings at Risk', completed in 2000 in association with the government's Environmental and Heritage Service, remains the reference work for Northern Ireland. Unfortunately, there are no further plans to fund a post to keep the database up to date or to initiate rescues schemes.

Historic Parks

The National Heritage Lottery Fund continues to fund conservation throughout the UK, partly to stimulate regeneration in both urban and rural environments. Grants of £16.3 million in 1999/2000 were awarded through the Urban Parks Programme, launched in 1996. Total expenditure to date on this programme has been £178.3 million. The need for these grants was highlighted in a report by the Urban Parks Forum, titled *Public Park Assessment, A survey of local authority owned parks focusing on parks of historic interest* and published in 2001. There are 27,000 urban parks in the UK. But in spite of their importance to the quality of life and vitality of their local communities, there have been dramatic cuts in revenue expenditure. Historic parks, of which more than 2,500 are of historic interest, have in general fared worse than recreational open spaces with significant loss of features and disproportionate reduction in revenue expenditure. Despite the recognition of national status conferred by inclusion on registers of parks and historic gardens, registered parks have also suffered significantly with only Grade I designations offering any perceivable protection. Over half of all the historic parks are located in the most deprived local authorities and it is these that are most neglected due to lack of funding to cope with backlogs of major repairs and maintenance. Historic country parks fare marginally better than other historic parks.



Heaton Hall at Heaton Park, Manchester



West Wemyss village, Scotland, during restoration

Visitor-Management Research

Over the last year, ICOMOS-UK has been engaged in research into visitor management in cathedrals and great churches in the UK. The findings of the 200-site survey, published in June, indicated that although generally fabric was in good heart, the sheer volume of visitors in some cathedrals presented risks to the fabric and to monuments, as well as intentional damage such as theft and vandalism. In addition, damage inflicted by regular use of the buildings included those caused by public functions, by television crews, by the installation of services, by the use of heavy trolleys for moving furniture and by inappropriate cleaning materials and equipment. A conference was held in London on 20 June 2001 to report on the results of the research. One of the principal aims of the conference was to highlight 'best practice' in co-ordinating the needs of visitors with the preservation of the building and 'sense of place'. The proceedings of the conference will be published in September 2001. It was encouraging that the Conference Key-Speaker, Simon Jenkins, author of *England's Thousand Best Churches*, commented that no more than six out of the thousand he described were in a state of disrepair.

Case Study 1: Heaton Park, Manchester, England

Heaton Park is the former country house estate of the Earl of Wilton. It became a public park in 1902 and represents 25% of the total green space in the city of Manchester. Over the years it had declined through lack of investment and increased vandalism. A National Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £3.4 million was awarded in 1997 towards boundary and security works. This phase restored and regenerated the historic core of the park, including repairing historic buildings and features, reinstating original planting and improving facilities for visitors to the park.

The link between building preservation and encouraging urban regeneration is also central to the National Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative. This scheme is based on establishing working partnerships between public funding bodies and the business community. It aims to achieve its restoration and regeneration objectives through a shared strategy, drawing on a 'common fund' set up by the project partners. Grants have been awarded to 50 schemes totalling £33 million. Work has begun in earnest on the first schemes. Examples include: restoration and re-use of vacant and disused houses and industrial buildings in Frome, England, which are being restored for residential and commercial use; and the restoration of derelict warehouses in the former dock area at Lower Duke Street and Henry Street, Liverpool, England. The scheme is to be extended at least until 2002.

Case Study 2: West Wemyss, Fife, Scotland

West Wemyss was an area in physical decline. The lack of investment in property reflected the lack of confidence in the area generally. The National Heritage Lottery Fund provided funding of £750,000 in 1999 for repairs to the main street for social housing.



Croft Cottage, Blaragie, Highland region, Scotland

The restoration of this key part of the townscape has brought new vigour to the area. The new housing has been fully let and the area has taken on a new lease of life. It is hoped that the improvements funded by the Townscape Heritage Initiative scheme will act as a catalyst for change within the area generally.

Case Study 3: Croft Cottage, Blaragie, nr Kingussie, Highland Region

The Scottish Civic Trust's bulletin of 2001 has a special feature on threatened agricultural/croft buildings. In Scotland, agricultural production accounts for around 75% of land use. Agricultural dwellings such as Croft Cottage, Blaragie, nr Kingussie and associated steadings are numerous and should be regarded as a valuable resource reflecting the social and economic life of rural communities. Elsewhere in the UK, successive impacts of recent agricultural crises will undoubtedly affect the cultural landscapes created by traditional farming methods. It is expected that the rate at which farm buildings go out of traditional use will increase, bringing with it the challenge of developing sympathetic planning and regeneration policies.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

National Trust for Historic Preservation – 11 Most Endangered Places

Since 1988, the *11 Most Endangered Historic Places* list has been one of the most effective tools in the fight to save America's irreplaceable architectural, cultural, and natural heritage. ICOMOS USA has recommended the lists inclusion in this *Heritage at Risk Report 2001/2002*, in recognition of the important contribution it makes to the potential mitigation of heritage at risk in the USA.

The National Trust annually identifies 11 different places throughout America to help bring home its message about endangered places. The 11 sites chosen each year are threatened by neglect, insufficient funds, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy. Some are well-known, such as Valley Forge National Historical Park in Pennsylvania and Ellis Island in New York Harbor. Others, like the Kennecott Copper Mines in Alaska or the town of Petosky, Michigan, are less famous but just as important, because they too represent preservation challenges facing thousands of communities. Each site raises awareness about the dangers to specific parts of America's heritage and about preservation generally.

The list has now brought national attention to more than 120 significant buildings, sites and landscapes. At times, that attention has galvanized public support to rescue a treasured landmark, while in others, it has been an opening salvo in a long battle to save an important piece of our history. The '11 Most' list has been so successful at educating the public that now more than fifteen states and numerous cities and towns publish their own lists of endangered places.

America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places has identified more than 120 threatened, one-of-a-kind historic treasures since 1988. While listing does not ensure protection of a site or guarantee funding, the designation has been a powerful tool for raising awareness and rallying resources to save threatened sites in every region of the country. Whether these sites are urban districts or rural landscapes, Native American landmarks or 20th-century sports arenas, entire communities or single buildings, the list spotlights historic American places that are threatened by neglect, insufficient funds, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy.

Recent 11 Most Successes

Since Pittsburgh's Fifth and Forbes Historic Retail Area joined the list in 2000, threatened by widespread demolition as part of a redevelopment plan, developers are working with the city to find more preservation-friendly solutions. President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home, in Washington, D.C., had seriously deteriorated over the years; two weeks after it was placed on the list, President Clinton named it a national monument, which will help raise funds to transform it into a world-class historic site. New Mexico's Montezuma Castle, once threatened by years of neglect, has just completed a successful \$10 million campaign and plans to reopen as an international study center. And thanks to the tireless work of its community leaders, the Atlanta neighborhood of Sweet Auburn, after decades of disinvestment and blight, is once again a flourishing center of African-American life.

The 2001 List of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places

Historic American Movie Theatres

Historic theaters were designed to transport audiences to fanciful, faraway places with their Art Deco, Egyptian and Chinese motifs, bringing a unique dimension to the moviegoing experience. With the advent of multiplex cinemas, movie studios gain influence over distribution companies, helping determine which theaters run their films; often, independent, historic theaters are left out of the loop. Many are forced to close, often demolished in the face of staggering competition from suburban multiplexes. As theaters are frequently located in the midst of their downtowns, they have been centers of community activity and keep many downtowns active long after dark. Closing a historic theater often means the loss of reliable income for surrounding businesses.

Bok Kai Temple, Marysville

Constructed in 1880 by Chinese immigrants, the Bok Kai Temple long served a flourishing Chinese community first attracted to the area by the California gold rush. Boasting exquisite wall paintings and gilded altars, the temple has been the centerpiece of Marysville's Chinese community for more than a century. Today, though, time and weather have taken their toll, and the temple's murals and furnishings are in jeopardy. In addition, Marysville faces significant economic challenges, and its now dispersed Chinese community lacks the resources to face the daunting task of restoring the temple and its collection alone.

The temple structure is virtually unchanged since its construction in 1880. Magnificent multicolored wall paintings and murals, which depict traditional Chinese values, adorn the temple's exterior walls. The wall paintings are thought to be the only examples of their kind in the US. The temple's center hall has gilded altars, painted statuary and elaborately embroidered ceremonial banners and lanterns. Since its construction, the temple has continuously been used as a house of worship and community meeting place.

Years of water damage have rotted the temple's structural members and threaten its glorious decorative features. Cracks have appeared in the paintings, and pieces of the delicate painted plaster walls have disintegrated and broken away. Additionally, Marysville's historic core has experienced a slow decline; the loss of the Bok Kai Temple would be devastating to the community.

Telluride Valley Floor, Colorado

No one disputes that Telluride is one of the Rocky Mountains' most beloved vacation spots. The problem is, it's being loved to death.

Nestled among 14,000-foot peaks, Telluride is cradled in a wide valley that, until now, remained as verdant and peaceful as when the Ute Indians hunted there centuries ago. But sprawl has come to the mountains, and now a massive resort may be developed on the 880-acre valley floor, threatening the region's historic context and forever altering one of the Rocky Mountains' last intact mining towns.

Though granted to the Ute Indians in 1868, the valley was overrun with miners in the early 1870s. The first mining camp grew into a town called San Miguel City, whose properties soon

grew too expensive for the average miner. In response, Telluride, a mile up the valley, was born. The railroad came to town in 1890, sharing the valley with a few dairies. In the early 20th century, men played softball on the valley floor while women sunbathed by the runoff ponds.

The land changed hands over the years, ending up in the hands of the San Miguel Valley Corporation, which plans to develop a large hotel complex, a gondola, a golf course, commercial space and housing. Tourism is booming, increasing pressure to develop the area. For that same reason, the stakes are high for the valley floor's preservation: the very qualities that make Telluride unique will be profoundly compromised by the development.

CIGNA Campus, Bloomfield, Connecticut

A widely publicized architectural icon that was once hailed as one of 'ten buildings in America's future' could soon be a thing of the past. When it was completed in 1957, the headquarters of the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company in Bloomfield was immediately recognized as a milestone in the history of modern architecture. Five years later, similar praise was heaped on the headquarters of the Emhart Corporation, built just a short distance away. Now CIGNA Corporation, the owner of both buildings, wants to demolish them and turn the beautifully landscaped site into a sprawling complex of offices, stores and houses clustered around a golf course. A new development plan is needed – one which recognizes the significance of the Connecticut General and Emhart buildings and allows them to remain in place and in active use.

Carter G. Woodson Home, Washington, D.C

Eighty-five years after Carter G. Woodson created the black history movement, the Washington home where he lived and worked sits abandoned and forgotten, an ironic legacy of the man who spent his life preserving African-American history and culture.

The Victorian 1890s red-brick row house, with the broken windows and overgrown yard, sits squarely in the middle of D.C.'s Shaw neighborhood, a richly historic area undergoing a renaissance. While many of Shaw's grand old homes and classic row houses have been rehabbed, the Woodson home, whose condition worsens by the day, awaits rescue. The home, which is owned by the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, a non-profit publisher, has been abandoned for nearly a decade. It has suffered extensive interior damage, including structural deterioration caused by water leaks in a number of locations. The Association hopes to restore the property, use it as its headquarters and open it to the public to showcase the life and work of Carter Woodson.

Ford Island at Pearl Harbour, Honolulu

The historic resources remaining from one of the most painfully memorable events in American military history – the attack on Pearl Harbor – are in danger of being lost through a massive development initiative at Pearl Harbor's Ford Island in Honolulu.

Ford Island – the centerpiece of the Pearl Harbor National Historic Landmark District – is adjacent to Battleship Row, now home to the USS Missouri Memorial Association, and a few yards away from the memorial to the USS Arizona, which sustained the heaviest loss of life that day. Remnants of bomb craters and signs of the Japanese aircraft's strafing runs are still visible. The original airfield, air tower, World War II hangars, a collection of bungalows,

officers' housing and landscaping with mature Banyan trees remain on the site. Yet these historic resources could be altered forever if there is inadequate planning to protect them.

In 1999 the National Trust and the Historic Hawaii Foundation first learned that the Navy planned major housing development, a festival market place and recreational marina on Ford Island. The National Trust expressed concern over the plans in a letter to then-Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig. Despite ongoing efforts since then – including nearly two years of discussions – resolution has not occurred regarding the future of this landmark and the Navy's plans for developing housing, commercial and recreational uses. The Navy has asked potential developers to be sensitive to the island's historic character, but the Navy's need for new facilities has caused it to move forward without completing the preservation planning needed for one of the nation's most significant 20th-century landmarks. An agreement must be worked out with the Navy to ensure that development on the island follows a comprehensive master plan that gives full and careful consideration of the island's historic resources, starting with a completed cultural resources plan. It is important that a collaborative, public process inform development planning.

Miller-Perdue Barn, Grant County, Indiana

Historic barns add life and color to the rural landscape. In northeast Indiana, an English-style, pre-Civil War barn faithfully served the Miller farm for nearly a century. But as the farming economy changes, old barns like the Millers' are increasingly viewed as obsolete, and across the country, many owners are choosing to dispose of historic barns – either by torching them or neglecting them, rather than consider adapting them for modern farming or other uses.

The Miller-Purdue barn was built in the 1850s by an Indiana farm family. It is a three-gabled, white-painted structure with five cupolas. In 1940, the barn and the 700-acre farm on which it sits were given to Purdue University. For more than 40 years, Purdue agriculture students used the land as an experimental farm. In the late 1980s, the farm, including the barn and other outbuildings, was bought by Wayne Townsend, an Indiana farmer.

When the barn was built 150 years ago, it was used to house livestock. In recent years, however, the agricultural focus in this part of Indiana has moved from cattle to grain crops that require the use of heavy farm equipment. The barn's interior space, though massive, has ceiling heights meant to accommodate cattle – not combines and tractors – and would require expensive reconfiguration. That shift has left the Miller-Purdue barn – and countless others like it – with no apparent purpose on the farm.

The solution is neither simple nor one-dimensional. Saving historic barns requires a concerted effort involving elected officials at the local, State and national levels, preservation groups and, most important, farmers and owners. The key to success is helping farmers and other owners understand that reconfiguring and re-using historic barns can often make more sense economically than tearing down these sturdy old friends.

Stevens Creek Settlements, Lincoln, Nebraska

Set in a gently rolling landscape just east of Lincoln, the fertile Stevens Creek valley has been considered prime agricultural land for more than a century, and many of its farms are still owned by descendants of the first settlers. Those farmers – plus the bikers and hikers who treasure the area's quiet beauty – now face the threat of a proposed expressway and associated development that

will bring noise, traffic and sprawl to this region of fields, woods and history.

Stevens Creek was attracting settlers at least a decade before Nebraska became a state in 1867. After the Civil War, large numbers of German, Swedish, Czech, Swiss and Irish immigrants swelled the area's population. Building types and materials, ranging from stone and wood-frame farmhouses to log barns and pre-cast concrete outbuildings, trace the history of architecture and farming practices over the past 150 years. Two sites, the Stevens Creek Stock Farm and the Herter-Sartore Farmstead, are already listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and several others have been deemed eligible for listing.

Proposed amendments to the Lincoln/Lancaster County comprehensive plan may affect the protection of historic resources and raise the specter of increased development in the Stevens Creek region. Even more ominous is a proposal by city and county officials to construct an expressway that would cut a 300-foot-wide swath through the area, negatively impacting several historic properties and irrevocably altering the area's rural character. Of several possible routes being considered, the one apparently most favored by some elected officials would cause the greatest damage to the area's historic resources.

The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department staff has not endorsed the route most harmful to historic resources. Over the summer, the local elected officials will vote on a route for the proposed highway. Protection of historic resources and management of sprawl should be priority components of the future planning agenda for the Stevens Creek Basin. In addition, City and County elected officials and the Federal Highway Administration should choose a route for the proposed highway that poses the least possible threat to the valley's historic farms.

Prairie Churches of North Dakota

Were it not for the prairie church, the vast North Dakota landscape would stretch unbroken to the horizon. Often founded by first-generation settlers from Germany, Poland, Iceland, Russia and Scandinavia, the simple prairie church was usually the first building to go up when a town was settled - and the last to close its doors if the community died out. But now many of these buildings are threatened. Of North Dakota's 2000 church structures, more than 400 are vacant and threatened by inadequate maintenance and demolition.

Flooded with settlers in the late 19th century, North Dakota saw a population peak by 1930. Since then, many rural congregations have struggled to keep their churches going in the face of declining population and agriculture. Many of these structures still contain irreplaceable artwork, stained glass windows, carvings and statues. Architectural styles vary from simple folk vernacular buildings to Gothic, Greek Revival, Tudor, Prairie and Romanesque.

Rather than see them slowly fall to pieces, some church leaders have chosen to burn or demolish their church buildings when left no alternative. Seventy-eight percent of the State's churches are in towns of fewer than 2500 people; 57% of them were built before 1950. At the rate they are falling into disuse, 50 more may close this decade. But recent census data indicates the population trend is changing: the State has grown for the first time in 70 years - potentially good news for prairie churches, although its growth rate is still the nation's lowest.

Prairie churches need not go vacant. They have been adaptively re-used as community centers, libraries, day-care centers and

museums. Or they can be preserved for occasional uses such as family and community reunions, summer services, weddings and baptisms. For the most part, prairie churches are simply built and easy to maintain.

Los Caminos del Rio, Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas

Stretching for 200 miles between the cities of Laredo and Brownsville, the area known as 'Los Caminos del Rio' encompasses farms and ranches, fast-growing cities and dusty small towns whose history and architecture reflect a rich blend of Hispanic, Latino and Anglo cultures. The region is also a patchwork of newfound economic prosperity and longstanding poverty - a perplexing paradox that has thwarted efforts by agencies on both sides of the US-Mexican border to preserve historic buildings and neighborhoods and encourage heritage tourism.

The area's older buildings and communities are threatened by poorly planned growth and inappropriate development (much of it fueled by NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement), apathy, lack of funding, and simple neglect. In Rio Grande City, for example, more than half of the town's historic properties are vacant and deteriorating.

Public education, adoption of 'smart-growth' philosophies, development of heritage tourism programs, identification of public and private funding sources, and a strengthened commitment to preservation from political leaders are needed to keep the region's unique heritage from crumbling to dust.

Historic Jackson Ward, Richmond Virginia

Since the late 19th century, this neighborhood has been one of America's largest African-American districts, once bursting with the sounds of jazz and prosperity. But in the 1950s, highway construction ripped Jackson Ward in two, an act that started decades of urban decline. And now Jackson Ward is in danger of losing its heritage forever.

Founded by free blacks and immigrants, Jackson Ward became a gerrymandered voting district in the 1870s that kept those groups voting in one area. When early 20th-century Jim Crow laws separated the races, the people of Jackson Ward created a self-sustaining economy that made the area famous as the 'Black Wall Street' and alive with theaters, clubs and restaurants. Jackson Ward boasts the first African-American bank in the country; the home of Maggie Walker, America's first female bank president; Richmond's oldest public school building; and wood-frame row houses with cast-iron porches. A National Register inventory lists more than 600 significant historic structures in the neighborhood.

When desegregation came to Richmond, many residents moved away and many businesses dried up. Urban renewal in the 1970s and 1980s caused widespread demolition and insensitive development; since then, many of the neighborhood's historic buildings have fallen into disrepair and approximately 100 of them are vacant. A convention center built in the 1980s has recently expanded; its 2003 re-opening threatens to overwhelm Jackson Ward.

Although Jackson Ward has the tireless support of residents, preservationists and the City, it needs a master plan, sustained investment and local protection measures.

UZBEKISTAN

Samarkand

Samarkand has long been known as the symbol of Oriental culture, due to the various travel stories and fairy tales describing its splendid arts and architecture created in the fervent but also mysterious atmosphere. An ancient site, already known as Afrosiab in antiquity, but destroyed by the Mongols in the 13th century, the heyday of Samarkand came when it was re-established by Tamerlane, the great Timurid ruler, towards the end of the 14th century. The main period of Samarkand lasted through the 15th century, especially under Ulugh Bek, after which its political role diminished in favour of Bukhara and other cities. Its cultural significance still continued well into the 17th century, and its many fine monuments became a fundamental reference in the development of Islamic art and architecture. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the town decayed due to earthquakes and economic decline. It was given a new administrative role during the Russian period from the end of the 19th century until the recent independence of Uzbekistan in 1990.

Impacts on the Urban Fabric

During the past couple of centuries, there have been changes in the urban layout and there have also been many losses. The town has grown into a metropolis, though the Timurid city still forms its heart with the remains of the splendid monumental ensembles, including the Registan Square, the Bibi Khanum ensemble, the Ulugh-Bek Observatory, the fabulous monumental cemetery of Shakhi Zinda, and numerous other public buildings. Many of these buildings have suffered due to the earthquakes, such as the Bibi Khanum mosque, which was reduced to half of its original height in an 18th-century earthquake. The residential part of the town consists of courtyard houses built in mud brick with roof structures in timber, and with fine painted and plaster decorations in the interior. The traditional neighbourhood structure of the town is still intact, including small community centres with their spiritual and material facilities for the community. The community has retained its traditional spirit, and even the traditional crafts skills are still available and utilised for the maintenance and repair of the traditional housing stock.

During the Russian period, probably partly due to political reasons and partly due to the necessities of a modern administrative centre, the traditional urban fabric has suffered serious losses. On the spot of the former Timurid citadel, the Russian administration developed a 19th-century extension of the old town to the west, which today can be considered as part of the historic continuity of the place. On the eastern side of the Timurid town, there is the archaeological area of Afrosiab, which includes some significant monuments, such as the Shakhi Zinda ensemble. The Timurid city itself has been traversed by some new roads for traffic circulation, and the surroundings of many of the ancient monuments have been cleared, creating open areas with some garden layouts. This has led to the loss of traditional housing, and some serious wounds in the fabric of the historic town. Unfortunately, such demolitions have continued even in recent years.

Another problem area is found in the present condition of the ancient monuments. Until the end of the Russian period, only a minimum amount of repairs or restorations was carried out. Often these were done in the spirit of the Venice Charter, and the new work was clearly distinguished from the original. However, the

resources were obviously limited, and many buildings have remained with hardly any attention for decades. This has continued to cause an increasing amount of deterioration and decay.

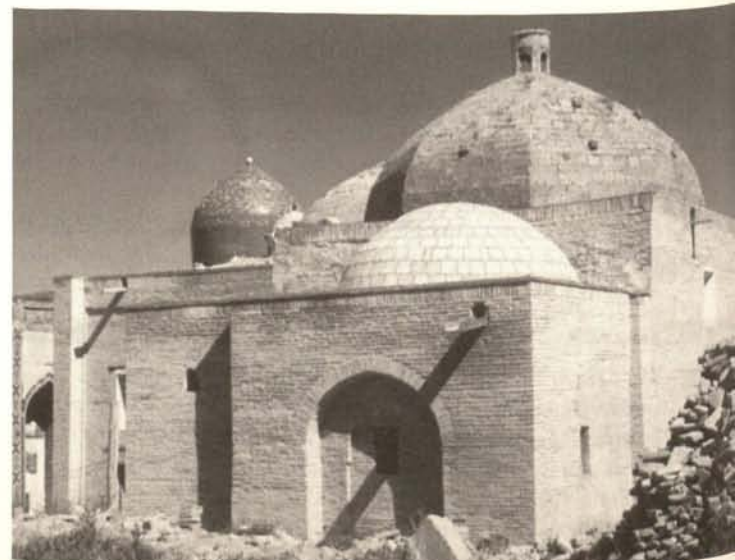
National Monuments

A major change has been brought due to the declaration of independence of Uzbekistan in 1990, and the ancient Timurid monuments have thus acquired a particularly strong national significance. These 'national monuments' are now seen as a representation of the national identity of the Uzbeks, and have thus become the object of a revived interest. In fact, over the past 10 years, several of these have been subject to restoration campaigns. The last of them is the Bibi Khanum mosque, where the upper part has now been completely reconstructed in reinforced concrete. The new structure has been covered with modern ceramic tiles, copies of the original – but slightly paler in tonality. The problems that may be caused by this work are related, for example, to the strong seismic hazard of the place, as well as the incompatibility of a modern concrete structure on top of traditional mud brick walls. At the same time, the trend of modernisation has continued, and more derelict residential areas have been replaced by modern garden layouts.

International Involvement

Samarkand has attracted a certain amount of international interest. Partly this was due to the international competition declared several years ago to design a new administrative and commercial centre for the city. Additional interest was attracted by the efforts of UNESCO and the Aga Khan Trust to promote the conservation of the old city and monuments. At present, in fact, the ancient monuments are duly protected under the national law. There are also

Mausoleum of Kussam ibn Abbas (1335) in Samarkand



long-term programmes for the restoration of ancient monuments associated with the anniversaries of the Timurid rulers. Plans also exist for the reconstruction of the earlier destroyed areas around the monumental ensembles, which are under the management responsibility of the Central Government as well as of the Samarkand Municipality. The aim of such programmes is to promote tourism, which is seen as a potential source of income in the future economy of the country. The programme has also included the removal of unsympathetic industrial activities away from the centre.

The programmes of the Aga Khan Trust have represented an important activity over several years. These programmes have focused especially on the rehabilitation of the residential quarters, giving particular emphasis to the issue of training and education. In fact, the programme has been able to sponsor several pilot works, consisting of the restoration and rehabilitation of traditional houses. In some cases, this has also involved the reconstruction of ruined structures using traditional techniques. Such works have involved foreign experts from neighbouring countries and Europe, and have been carried out by local technicians, architects and craft-persons. Unfortunately, the Aga Khan programme has now come to a conclusion, but it is hoped that it has contributed to building a more sympathetic approach to the care and use of traditional housing.

We appreciate that the historic significance of Samarkand is well recognised by the authorities. Nevertheless, the 'burden' of a modern industrial and technical approach often tends to carry away even the technicians. And politicians like to give priority to modernisation rather than working on the restoration of traditional mud-brick structures. It is thus that Samarkand faces many challenges, and where the potential World Heritage nomination may well give a positive input. At the same time, we recognise that the tasks the Samarkand people are currently facing are not indifferent. The city needs help from the international community. It is necessary to recognise the available skills, both traditional and modern, the important contribution of the Uzbek researchers, scientists and technicians for the knowledge and care provided so far. At the same time, the challenge that traditional structures face in front of overwhelming modern development are serious, and need clear strategic guidelines in order to reach reasonable solutions. What is required is a compatible and sustainable alternative that fully recognises the significance of the outstanding universal heritage of Samarkand and its people.

Jukka Jokilehto
ICOMOS Finland

VENEZUELA

Modern Heritage

Modern architecture, and 20th-century architecture in general, is a topical subject in the cultural heritage of this country and the world, due to the historical perspective acquired with the beginning of the new century. In Venezuela, socio-economic changes and the impact caused by the growth of oil production generated changes in the urban network of our cities, causing the appearance of new uses and new architectural typologies that form the cultural expression of the historic moment. These changes are significant for our understanding as a nation and its analysis in the world context.

Our country came to pioneer a number of works where ideas of modern architecture are expressed – from the first transitional works between historicism and new abstract forms, passing through works that result from the maturity of the modern movement (such as the emblematic Ciudad Universitaria and Centro Simón Bolívar), to later works where new subjects are added to modernity.

Threats

This rich architectural production is seriously threatened because its historical magnitude has not been appreciated; perhaps because it is seen to be very recent. Its destruction has been caused by several factors: the need of urban land-speculation to create new works; the rehabilitation of the structure to adjust it to new uses, without paying attention to its cultural value; and the absence of a maintenance tradition, among others. As well as the reasons mentioned above, the root of the problem is the lack of a significant inventory of these buildings, the lack of a categorisation to apply to such an inventory assessment process, and limited legal protection.

The range of its expression is very wide. For example, the city of Caracas stands out – in its architectural expression of modern times – not only for the superimposition of its architecture, but also for its urban layout, in spite of any criticism that might have arisen.

Both government and private initiatives have carried out developments of important housing complexes. Among the first ones, La Reurbanización de El Silencio – which was an example of cleaning-up and revitalising an impoverished environment – stands out. The traditional design is kept throughout the continuity of the block. This creates a unit in which an 'edge' architecture is developed, with arcade galleries and interior courtyards incorporated as a mechanism of climate adaptation (1941-1945). Later, we have the advanced experiences by the Banco Obrero, from the works of Coche and Casalta, which are based on the typology of the Siedlungen, to some initiatives inspired by the prototype of the Housing Unit of Marseille – such as the Unidad de Habitación Cerro Grande (1954) and the Comunidad 2 de Diciembre (1955–1957). Important private attempts were also made – like Urbanización La Florida (1929), Urbanización Country Club (1930-1935), Los Caobos (1939), Altamira (1943) and Urbanización Campo Alegre (1929-1932) – where later expressions of the neo-colonial style and the first modern experiences with residential projects were encapsulated. The last example was almost completely demolished during the 1990s because of lucrative exploitation of the urban land. The other works have lost their morphological coherence because of consecutive additions and substitutions.

Political-military complexes, schools, airports, tourist buildings, hospitals, as well as markets stand out because of the architectural and symbolic value of their historical moment. Among them are patrimonial buildings, outstandingly successful from a plastic and formal point of view, with the implementation of new constructive techniques, new uses and new concepts of modernity. However, most of them are today without protection and they have considerably deteriorated.

Urban Complexes

Centro Simón Bolívar (architect Cipriano Domínguez) stands out among the urban complexes, with its twin towers, its outstanding works of art and its top-quality finishes, which represented for many years the image of Caracas. It has serious damage because of use transgression and the incorporation of inappropriate additions. The Sistema de La Nacionalidad (architect Luis Malaussena), including the Paseo de Los Ilustres, Paseo de Los Símbolos and Paseo de Los Precursores, not only constitutes a recreation space for the city, but also represents a link between the civil and the military. It shows an advanced deterioration as a result of non-planned interventions – which are far from representative of scientific preservation practices.

Education Structures

During the 1940s, in the educational sector, school buildings such as the República de Ecuador and República de Bolivia (both by architect Luis Malaussena), high school buildings such as Liceo Fermín Toro and Liceo Andrés Bello, were developed. The campus of the Universidad Central de Venezuela, called Ciudad Universitaria, the masterpiece of the architect Carlos Raúl Villanueva, was recently added to the World Heritage List as an expression of modern ideas of urban planning and the incorporation of the arts – among other values. This complex, even though not evidently at risk, has pathological problems in some buildings and it is necessary to approve an adequate Management Plan for such high-category work.

Tourist-Related Growth

The tourist-sector boom in Venezuela during the period of the petroleum industry development is represented by a wide plan of important hotels and complexes in several places where tourist potential was evident. Some of them are: the Humboldt Hotel at the top of El Avila hill (architect Tomás Sanabria), from where the Caribbean Sea at the north and the capital valley at the south can be seen; the Cumanagoto Hotel, in the east coast; Prado Río Hotel, in the Andes; Hotel Del Lago, in the oil lakeside area of the west part of the country; and Ciudad Vacacional Los Caracas, in the Central Coast, originally intended to attract the working class. However, the Hotel Avila, the first modern hotel in Caracas and the precursor of all the above mentioned – planned in 1939 by the well-known Harrison, Abramovitz and Fouilhoux company – is

threatened with replacement by a complex that will make no significant contribution to the city's architecture and is not in accordance with the expectations of the new millennium. The Corporación de Turismo de Venezuela and the Instituto del Patrimonio Cultural, government entities, with the consultancy of ICOMOS, are taking actions to avoid its demolition and to keep the profitable character of the building.

Outstanding Building Works

Important welfare buildings from that time, like Maternidad Concepción Palacios and Hospital Militar, continue to be among the main hospital centres of the country today, in spite of the lack of maintenance of many of them. Likewise, among the service buildings, the Markets, developed between 1951–1956, where concepts of standardisation, prefabrication and the use of new techniques were employed, deserve to be mentioned. Quinta Crespo, Guaicaipuro and Catia stand out as particular examples – today they are all in bad conditions and have serious changes to their original structure as a consequence of subsequent additions.

The buildings and complexes erected by multinational corporations are also important, especially those constructed by oil companies, such as Creole Petroleum Corporation, Shell Petroleum Co., Mobil Oil Co. These organisations not only built their headquarters, but also oil 'camps' with particular characteristics, including differentiated areas for the accommodation of executives, employees and workers. They present interesting housing typologies, which employ mechanisms for efficient natural ventilation and solar control. Complementary infrastructure and support needs led to the creation of additional structures, such as hotels, car dealers, shopping malls – all representative of the way of life of that time. Among the above, it is worth mentioning Centro Comercial Las Mercedes (1955) and Centro Comercial La Vega (1956–1958), both of Architect Don Hatch, pioneer works of this typology.

To this complex of outstanding building works, can be added many others that are anonymous; most of them were constructed for housing or office-use, completing the image of national and capital city modernism. Some of them are today uninhabited, waiting demolition or recycling of their structures. The case of the representative Galipán building could be mentioned. It was built in 1950, in Caracas, designed for a combination of three functions: housing, offices and commerce. It was demolished in 2000 to make way for a shopping mall with greater profitability. We can also mention the Pasaje Zing, the Altamira building and the headquarters of the Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas in Altos de Pipe, all works of Architect Arthur Khan, a European resident of our country from 1942.

Many of these buildings are in danger of disappearing, even when they keep their original use. This is because they are not competitive from an economic point of view, in a culture where it is considered more profitable to make than to preserve. This is compounded by a lack of legal protection under the Cultural Heritage legislation. The result could be the extinction of fundamental architectural pieces that allow the comprehension of the modern city. Pieces that could – and should – be re-valourised in their dual character as single units and parts of a whole, providing structure to a city identity.

ICOMOS Venezuela



Reurbanización de El Silencio



Centro Simón Bolívar

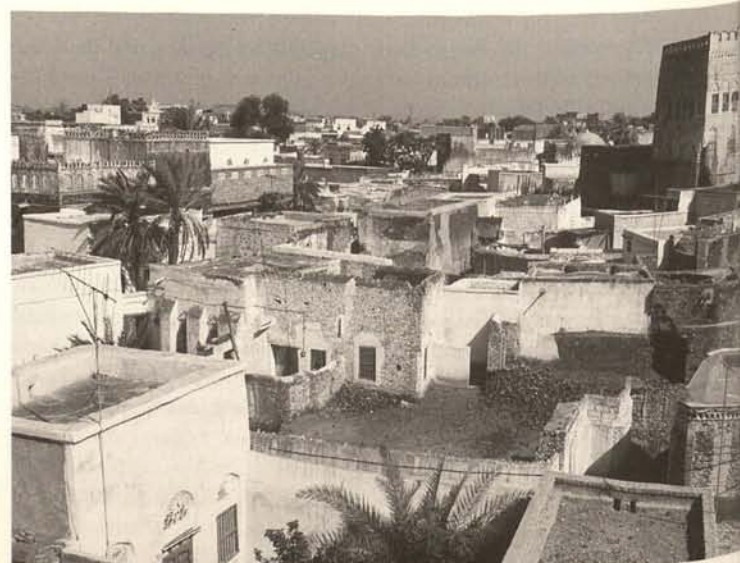
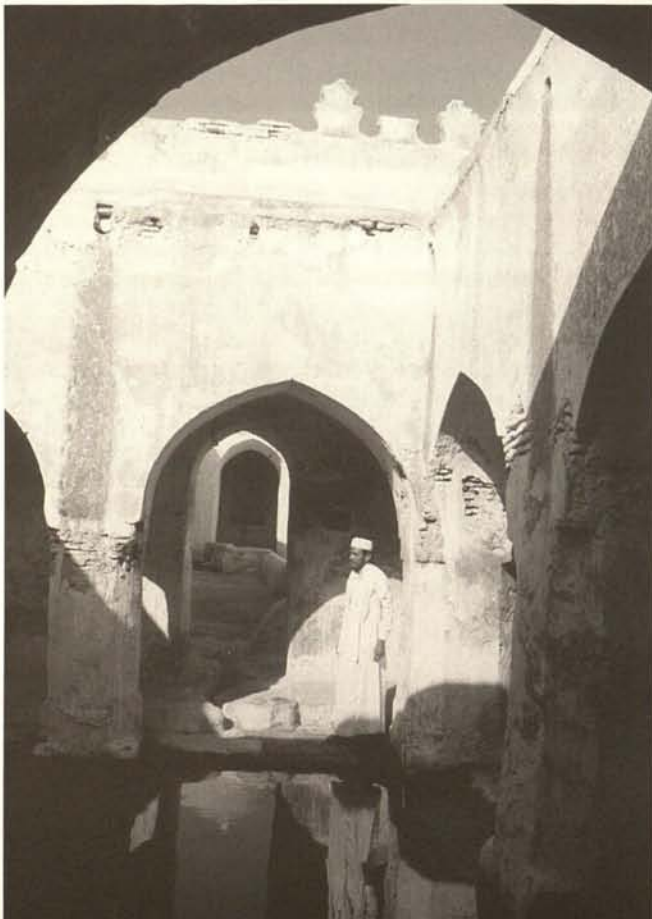
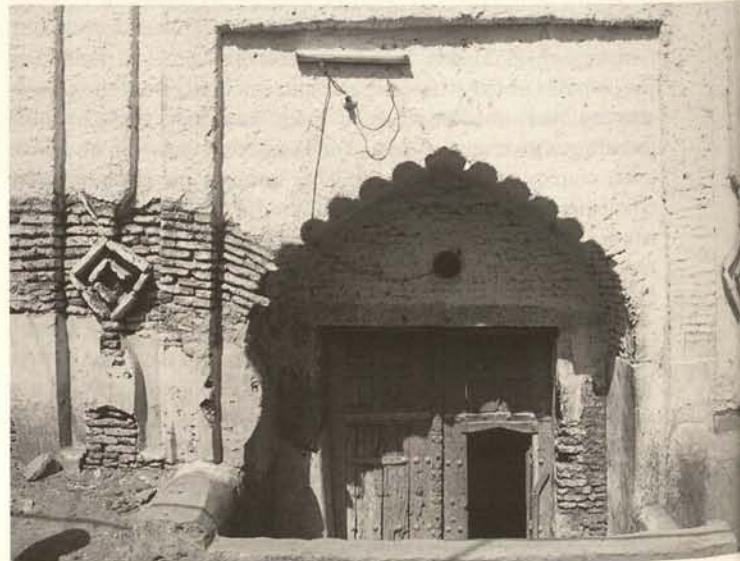
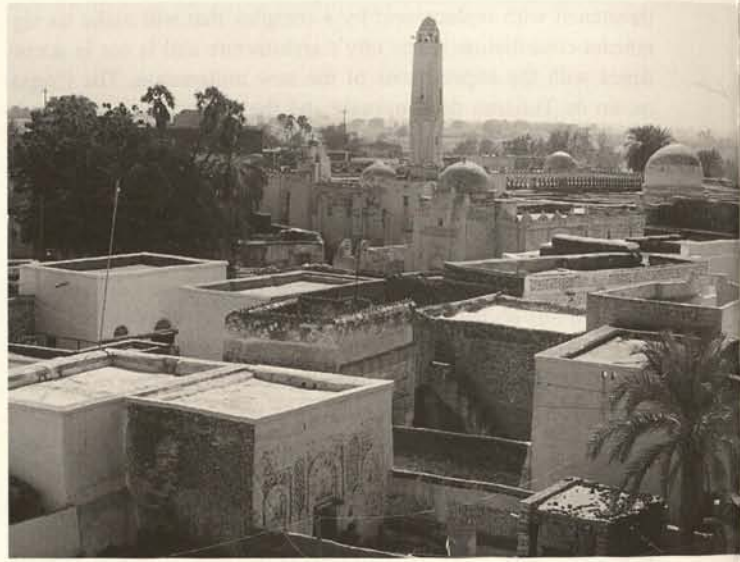
Paseo Los Próceres, Conjunto La Nacionalidad



YEMEN

Many of the outstanding cultural landscapes in Yemen, including villages and towns, are threatened by decay, although efforts by the General Organisation for the Preservation of Historic Cities in Yemen (GOPHCY) to stop this process of decay and restore individual monuments seem to be successful in the towns of Sana'a and Shibam, both inscribed in the World Heritage List (see also the *Heritage at Risk Report 2000*). However, Zabid, capital of the first independent Islamic State of Yemen from the 9th century onwards and once the seat of a famous Islamic university, is highly endangered and has therefore already been placed on UNESCO's list of cultural heritage in danger. At the beginning of the 1990s, this city in the Tihama, a plain between the coast of the Red Sea and the mountains, with its wide range of monuments showing partly Egyptian, partly Ottoman influences, was still in a relatively good condition. The rapid dilapidation of the historic houses, some of which were empty, others were drowning in rubbish, only began in the last decade. Many houses have been pulled down and replaced by banal concrete constructions. The dilemma is how to stop the continuing destruction of this unique city.

Views of the rapidly decaying city of Zabid



YUGOSLAVIA

In addition to all the risks present in other countries in transition, cultural heritage in Yugoslavia is exposed to some quite specific threats. On the one hand, they are connected to the extremely acute economic crisis, which marked all the activities of the monumental heritage protection service during the past decade. Conditions in which protection institutions operate are still unfavourable, and to a great extent the chronic lack of funding for planned activities hinders or disables timely, expert, preventive and operative engagement. It equally hinders the determination of an adequate protective treatment, including conditions for maintaining and using protected heritage. Nevertheless, significant efforts are being made to define a well-conceived conservation policy, which would promote long-term conservation plans and determine the priority of interventions on the basis of the type and level of endangerment of the heritage. Re-establishment of international professional contacts and co-operation with international institutions and organisations in the conservation field is aimed at improving methodology and knowledge in this area. At the same time, it also creates opportunities for expert consulting on complex professional problems.

On the other hand, during the past decade, heritage in the territory of Yugoslavia was also exposed to dangers brought about by war operations. This applies especially to the territory of Kosovo and Metohija, where the cultural heritage is still inaccessible to experts of the protection service. However, attempts are being made as soon as an opportunity appears, and every possibility is used to gain information about the state of the monument fund in the terrain. Some of our experts visited a small number of cultural monuments of exceptional importance, such as the Peć Patriarchate, Dečani, Devič, and Gračanica. At the moment, it is possible to begin conservation activities only in the northern part of Kosovo. Protective conservation and restoration works in Banjska Monastery, dating from the beginning of the 14th century, are now considered top priority. These works include the renovation of the church roof and conservation of the buildings of the once imposing monastery complex – now reduced to the level of archaeological remains – as well as the construction of temporary protection over the monumental, representative monastery refectory. This monastery – a cultural monument of great importance – has not been in use for a long time, which is another reason for its rapid decline.

Archaeological Sites

The situation in regard to the protection of archaeological sites of exceptional importance in Serbia has not changed much during the past year. The Roman town of Viminacium and the mediaeval settlement and cemetery in Čelarevo are still endangered by the nearby industrial plants that exploit mineral deposits (brick clay), exactly from locations where archaeological remains can be found.

Current problems regarding the illegal use of metal detectors are solved by instituting criminal charges against the offenders, but these are still not effective enough to prevent this lucrative criminal activity. After the bulldozers have passed, whole archaeological layers are irretrievably lost, while ruined buildings and disturbed archaeological layers remain in the wake of prospectors with metal detectors. The protection service is persistently fighting to protect the rich archaeological heritage, but the prevailing diffi-



Banjska Monastery, south-eastern view of the church with three-coloured marble façades



Banjska Monastery, remains of the refectory walls, seats and pavement

Viminacium, remains of the Roman architecture on the ploughed road





Čelarevo, profile with visible archaeological layers



Čelarevo, traces of the destruction made by illegal excavators

Village of Gornja Kamenica, 'house with arches' typical of Eastern Serbia, recently abandoned



cult economic conditions still make the archaeologists powerless in the face of immediate communal needs.

Vernacular Heritage

Loss of original function and non-existing cultural property-management mechanisms are identified as very immediate dangers to monumental heritage as a whole, but especially in the case of vernacular architecture. Modern living conditions inevitably lead to the abandonment of traditional forms of housing, while the preservation of wooden architecture through a chain of open-air museums represents an excellent but unacceptably expensive conservation method. The only financially viable solution would be to devise new uses, which could ensure the survival and maintenance of this form, as well as other forms of built heritage.

Historic Towns and Urban Areas

The 'insufficient age' problem, relevant to modern architectural heritage in general, is especially pertinent to historic towns and urban areas. Because this heritage most often dates to the 18th–20th century period, it has still not focused the attention of either experts or users. Both groups find it difficult and slow to adjust to the idea that buildings that represent their everyday environment actually possess the characteristics of heritage monuments. Though exposed to degradation processes like any other immobile cultural property, this heritage is neglected in comparison to heritage of a much greater age, which imposes greater respect and responsibility from the protection service. The growth of town population, migrations, the demands of modern life, political instabilities, economic crises, and pauperisation – all are open problems whose specific victims are the towns and their architectural heritage. Illegal 'wild' construction, building extensions, destruction, demolition, change of function, traffic expansion, development projects that disregard the original urban matrix – these are the most frequent risks facing this kind of heritage. Even though great efforts are taken to find a more adequate conservationist approach, to innovate the legal and administrative systems, to control planning, and to achieve greater co-operation between the protection service and urban planning, it is becoming increasingly difficult to protect the endangered urban heritage, while the preservation of its authenticity is becoming a prime professional task.

Case Study 1: Mileševa Monastery

Mileševa Monastery, with the Church of Christ's Ascension, was built in 1219 by Prince Vladislav Nemanjić in the mediaeval county (župa) of Crna Stena, at the mouth where the Kosačanka flows into the Mileševka River. It is a cultural monument of exceptional importance. The position of the monastery complex on two river banks, on very argillaceous grounds formed by the river deposits, as well as the presence of subterranean waters and an abundance of atmospheric downfall, has caused a constant presence of moisture in the foundation of the church and the walls covered with 13th-century fresco paintings. Archaeological and geophysical research was undertaken in an attempt to solve this problem, resulting in a church circumference drainage-project, with an out-

let into the Mileševka. The drainage was constructed by placing 'Raudril-D' drain outlet pipes (150 mm in diameter and enveloped in geotechnical felt material) on a concrete base at an average depth of 160–170 cm with a drop of 1%. Seven access shafts, one of which is also a collection point, were constructed. On the north side of the church, the composition of the soil along the drainage canal was altered using gravel with natural granulation, for better permeability and easier absorption of surface waters. After these interventions, experts will continue to monitor the dampness level of the church walls and take adequate steps on the basis of the data gathered. Archaeological excavations were done along the track of the drainage canal, with results that were very important for the historiography of the monastery complex.

Case Study 2: Church of St. Elijah in the Village of Ba

Strong earthquakes that struck Kolubara District in September 1998 (5.7 on the Richter scale) and April 1999 (5.4 on the Richter scale) were followed by a series of weaker local tremors, which caused the already existing damage on cultural monuments to progress. Some of them suffered heavy static damage, so that their use was prohibited and they lost their function. Three years after the first earthquake, very little had been done toward their repair and conservation, while new problems appeared. The built structures are now exposed to the direct effects of atmospheric precipitation, which speed up the decomposition of all the building materials. This affects ceilings and church bell-towers, and especially wooden roofs or buildings with walls made of unfired bricks or some other material placed between wooden beams.

Among the most severely damaged monuments is the church of St. Elijah in the village of Ba, located at the very source of the Ljig River, and placed on a plateau formed by deposits of calcified materials that the spring waters extract from the caves they emerge from. The church was supposedly built towards the end of the 14th or at the beginning of the 15th century. The renovation from 1872 was certainly a result of the local villagers' efforts, when the cupola was removed.

The damage is located in the upper zones of the building. As well as the roof that has toppled down, the static stability of the arches has been severely disturbed, and the ceilings were shaken loose, causing large segments of mortar to fall off. Visible damage and cracks were also noticed on the north wall of the church and the bell-tower. The construction work on the renewal of the roof structure, including the central cupola, was completed and the roof was covered. The final conservation and skilled craft works remain to be done when sufficient funding is found (new layers of mortar on the church walls, both on the outside and inside, floor panelling, reconstruction and conservation of the iconostasis, construction of drainage and pavement around the church).

Case Study 3: Petkovica Monastery, Fruška Gora

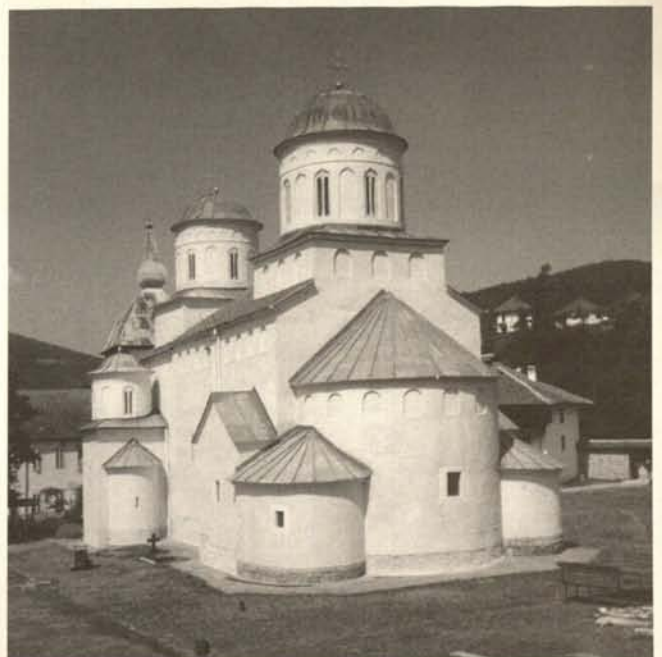
The monastery church is dedicated to St. Paraskeve. The earliest certain facts about the monastery date from 1566/67. The triple-nave church has preserved its original shape, the only change being the brick bell-tower that replaced the original wooden one. The church is decorated with frescoes painted in 1588.

The church building, built in a combination of brick and stone, was completely shaken loose, as a result of damage from World



Belgrade, inappropriate interventions in the old city centre

Mileševa Monastery, south-eastern view of the church





Village of Ba, church of St. Elijah during the conservation works



Petkovica Monastery, conservation work on mural painting

War II. Static repairs of the building were executed and a new living-quarters building was constructed next to the church, enabling monastic life to resume in this monastery. However, there is still the problem of no paved road leading to the church, making the church practically inaccessible during the winter.

The frescoes in the church interior are in a very poor state. The characteristic damages that endanger the stability of the wall paintings are separation of the mortar layer from the wall (an estimated 50% of the painted surface suffer this separation), pulverisation of the painted layer, as well as the effects of moisture (both capillary and moisture penetrating through damage in the roof, at the juncture of the cupola and church nave). It is necessary to restore and conserve the wall paintings and to consolidate the mortar layer.

During the static repair of the church walls, a preventive conservation of the most endangered segments was achieved by injecting the separated layer of mortar, seaming the free edges of the damaged parts, and fastening the most endangered sections of the painted layer.

Case Study 4: Natural and Historic Cultural District of Kotor

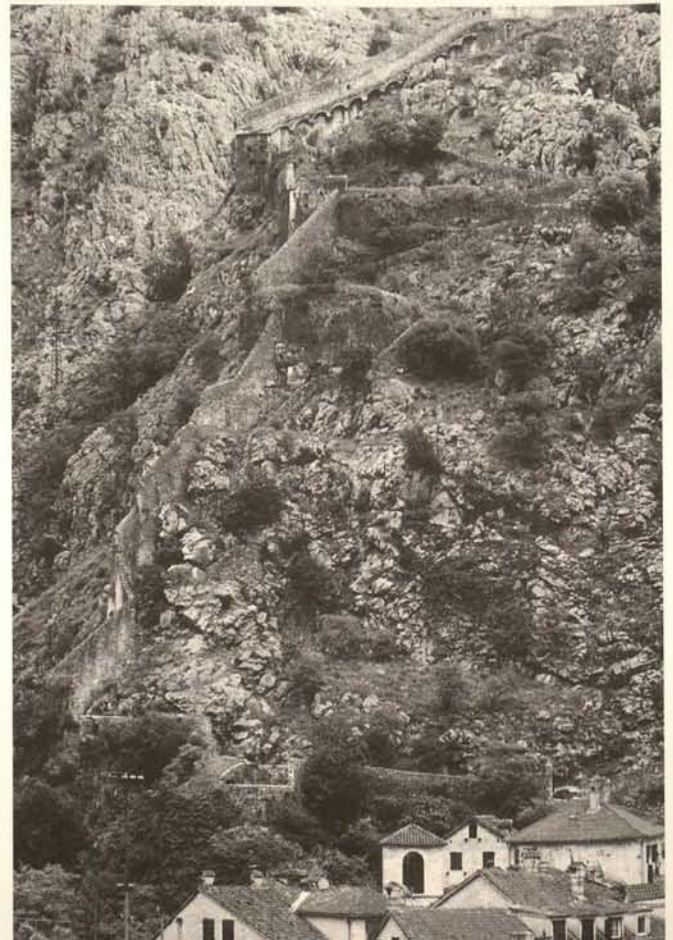
The natural and historic cultural district of Kotor was inscribed in the World Heritage List in 1979. The 1979 earthquake caused damage to the city fortification walls, churches, residential and public buildings.

A significant danger factor for the heritage in this area is the fact that 20 years after the earthquake, many significant monuments have still not been renovated, and their deterioration has further increased due to atmospheric effects, vegetation, and human factors.

As well as the palaces, churches, archaeological localities, and others, this applies primarily to the Kotor fortification, the most important monumental complex in this city. Revitalisation of the fortress requires significant technical and financial expenditure, which this community does not possess. In this sense, numerous activities have been undertaken on the study, planning and launching a revitalisation process of the city fortifications. A renovation of the fortress was incorporated into the proposed UNESCO Participation Program and Japanese government technical aid for cultural heritage, while preparation is under way for the annual meeting of the Europa Nostra Scientific Council and the International Fortress Institute (in Kotor, October 2001, subject: Valorisation of the Kotor fortifications).

ICOMOS Yugoslavia

Kotor, detail of natural and historic cultural district



ZAMBIA

Zambia is a land-locked country situated in southern Africa, approximately between latitudes 8–18 and longitudes 23–38 degrees south of the equator.

The country is endowed with varied cultural heritage resources, which include a wealth of heritage buildings from the pre-colonial and colonial periods in traditional, Victorian and other architectural styles. In addition, the country has ancient ruins, rock-art sites, historic sites, cultural landscapes, historic towns, archaeological sites and other natural heritage sites with dual significance from the natural and cultural heritage point of view, such as the Victoria Falls.

Management System

The major custodian of Zambia's immovable heritage is a statutory organisation – the National Heritage Conservation Commission (NHCC) – with its headquarters in the southern border-city of Livingstone. ICOMOS Zambia, together with other stakeholders, provides direct assistance to NHCC with respect to the conservation and management of these resources.

NHCC's profile report of heritage resources, which provides a broad overview of their current status countrywide, indicates that there are 2936 heritage sites in Zambia. The overwhelming majority of these are archaeological sites (1959 sites). Other categories include:

- historic/architectural/buildings (384)
- historic sites (180)
- anthropological sites (189)
- engineering industrial structures (62)
- geomorphological sites, geophysical sites, paleontological and ecology sites.

For a considerable period of time, there have been no condition surveys done for the majority of these sites to establish their state of conservation. This means that the current condition of most of these sites is unknown. Furthermore, the above statistics only represent about 15% of the country's land area that has been adequately surveyed for cultural heritage – the remaining 75% of the country is yet to be surveyed. This state of affairs is in itself a threat to the very existence of cultural heritage resources, for how can one manage a resource whose condition is unknown?

Diverse impacts affect these heritage resources. They can only be conserved in perpetuity if their condition is known, as well as that of their surrounding environment, in order to determine immediate risks that may threaten their existence.

To date, survey work indicates that out of the 2936 identified and documented sites, only 1714 sites can be said to have good documentation, and 496 historic buildings and structures can be said to be only fairly documented. Substantial work remains to be done in terms of documentation to improve on management of these sites.

Risks Related to Natural Processes: Termites

Of all known insects that present a real danger to timber elements of heritage building by infestation, termites probably present the most vicious threat in Zambia. Villages have been deserted because of the pest. Also, historic buildings in urban and suburban



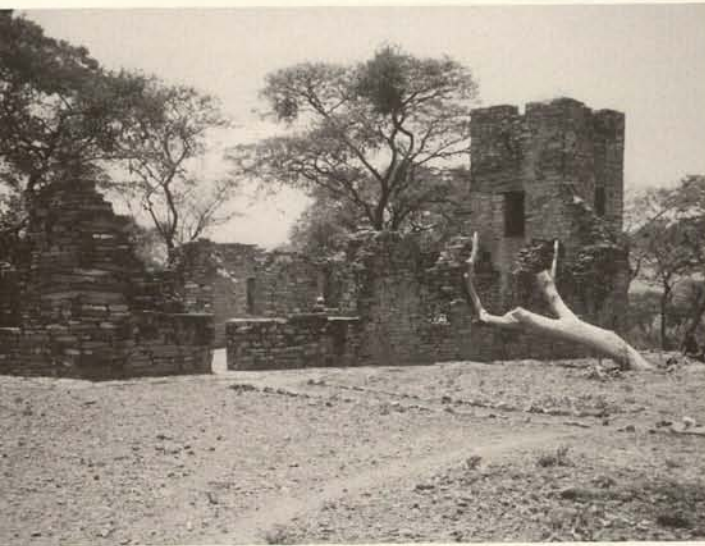
Barotse Royal establishment, Litunga's winter palace, Lealui, built in 1902. The roof has been severely attacked by termites.



View of Mukuni Park from Musi oa tunya Street in Livingstone. The developer has put up a billboard to advertise the proposed development.

The derelict isolation ward at Mwenzo Health Center before restoration, 1995. An example of the effects of a combination of neglect and termite attack.





Niamkolo church ruin, built in 1896 – currently a national monument. The ruin suffered from vandalism by locals removing stones to repair their own houses.

centers are sometimes abandoned and eventually deteriorate after heavy termite attack.

Sadly, traditional methods of preservation of timber against termite attack have often been ignored in preference to modern chemical treatment. Mostly, these chemicals call for spot treatment of infested elements. Unfortunately, it is often impossible to reach all infested parts, especially those that are concealed. Fortunately, traditional methods of conservation are practiced in some parts of rural Zambia and some heritage buildings have benefited from this knowledge. The Litunga's Palace in western Zambia is one such case in point.

Development Related Risks

Mukuni Park, Livingstone

Mukuni Park, built in 1905, is the most historic garden in Zambia. It was at Mukuni Park, known then as Barotse Center, that the Paramount Chief Lewanika of the Lozi people of western Zambia mounted an exhibition of art and crafts of Batotse in 1910, for his meeting in Livingstone with the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. This was a great cultural affair for Livingstone and led to the inception of the Livingstone cultural festival.

A lack of appreciation of the cultural value of this site has resulted in it being allocated to a 'foreign investor' who has decided to build a modern shopping mall on this piece of land. Suggestions to move this type of development to an alternative site seem to have fallen on deaf ears. A subsequent legal battle, waged by

NHCC, ICOMOS Zambia, the Livingstone Residents Association and other traditionalists, unfortunately seems to be going in favour of the developer. A court injunction that was granted to restrain the developer from going ahead was recently overturned by the High Court.

Risk due to Neglect

A number of heritage buildings have deteriorated to alarming levels in most historic towns and villages, particularly those that belong to the government and mission stations. Much as it can be appreciated that financial resources to maintain these cultural heritage buildings may be scarce against the backdrop of poverty and basic social needs, it should be noted that some of the reasons advanced for such neglect lack validity. Surely, some routine maintenance activities necessary to stave off decay do not require huge amounts of money – such as clearing leaves from gutters, and making good spoon-drains to allow water to flow away from a historic building. Government houses and office buildings were the most affected in this regard.

The current regime's deliberate policy of home ownership, has resulted in the sale of a large stock of government pool-houses, most of which were historic houses. New private owners are now co-operating with NHCC and local authorities in matters of repair.

Risks due to Vandalism

Vandalism has proven to be another big threat to the conservation of cultural heritage, particularly in urban centers. The young generation, and some adults, have no appreciation of heritage. In many cases, unjustified damage has been done to heritage sites by youths, where security has been seen to be lacking. Adults have also taken part in ransacking heritage sites, removing valuable items such as fossil remains and building elements from unoccupied historic buildings. Obvious examples are the Chirundu fossil forest site case in southern Zambia and Niamkolo national monument at Mplungu Harbour in northern Zambia. This threat is real; measures should be taken to curb it so that our sites can be protected for posterity.

NHCC, with its co-operating partners, has put in place an ambitious project which aims to re-identify all recorded cultural heritage sites, and also to identify new ones in areas that have not been surveyed, with a view to updating its cultural heritage inventory. Further, a deliberate publicity campaign has been planned to raise public awareness on the need for private sector participation in heritage conservation, especially as present political developments have brought changes in terms of home ownership. It is hoped that the campaign will help minimise the apparent risks to these non-renewable resources.

ZIMBABWE

Salvaging Vandalised Rock Art at Domboshava National Monument in North-eastern Zimbabwe

Domboshava cave lies 35 kilometres north-east of Harare and was proclaimed a national monument in 1936, covering only 1 acre. The physical boundary of the site was extended in 1996 to cover 300 hectares. The proclaimed area now encloses rock paintings, late Stone-Age deposits, a geological tunnel (which has acquired cultural significance through time), sacred forest, spectacular granite geological formations and a buffer zone for management purposes. An Archean green stone belt surrounds the Domboshava batholith (Lister 1987; Baddock 1991; Stocklmayer 1978). Generally a dissected and relatively undulating igneous complex (comprising series of gneiss tonalite-granodiorite plutons) characterises the Chinamora area occupying 1200 square kilometres.

Several values placed on the Domboshava rock art site were used to justify its nomination to the National Monuments list of Zimbabwe. These include the scientific, living traditional, geological, educational, social values and many others. The site has more than 146 identifiable individual rock paintings, executed in red and brown pigments. The shelter also has scatters of Stone Age deposits attributed to Stone Age communities; however, no excavations have been done to place these deposits into Zimbabwean Stone Age chronology. The living traditions revolve around a rain-making ceremony, which is performed once a year at the site. As an educational resource, the site can be used across the school curriculum in the fields of art, geography, history and geology, among other subjects. Therefore, the management of the cultural site, as well as any restoration or conservation work, should respect the values placed on the site. Otherwise it becomes a mis-management or 'mis-restoration' of values, which could lead to the desecration of the authenticity or the totality of this Domboshava national monument.

Vandalisation and Condition Assessment of Domboshava National Monument

Domboshava cave was vandalised on the eve of 14 May 1998. The incident was reported by law enforcement agents to National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe (NMMZ) on 15 May

1998. An inspection of the Domboshava site and others within the area was undertaken, in order to establish the extent, type, and nature of the vandalism. Photography was extensively used to document the graffiti.

The graffiti is one of the most severe, distressing and depressing damages known to have happened at any rock-art site in Zimbabwe, apart from Pomongwe cave which was damaged by an application of linseed oil around 1965. At Domboshava cave, a dark-brown enamel (oil-based alkyd) paint was used to obliterate paintings. The dark-brown paint covered approximately 75% of the painted surface and about 5% of the unpainted surface. This excludes the extreme left and right sides of the painted surface, as well as the upper and top most levels of the cave.

Out of the 146 identifiable individual paintings known to exist in the Domboshava cave, approximately 65–70% were obliterated with the dark-brown oil paint. About 90% of all the human figures were completely obliterated; 52% of the animals remained unvandalised on the extreme right side of the painted surface and on the upper-parts, which could not be reached. The identifiable abstract and plant figures were not vandalised at all.

Cleaning Trials

As a starting point, the paint used to obliterate the rock paintings at Domboshava cave was analysed by a leading Zimbabwean paint-producing company. The aim was to determine the chemical composition of the paint (especially the type of binder) used to obliterate the rock paintings, and subsequently identify chemicals that are likely to remove it without removing the rock paintings. Flake samples with traces of the offending paint were collected and sent for physio-chemical analysis by a leading paint producing laboratory. The result showed that it was modified brown enamel (alkyd resin) paint. Technically this kind of painting takes between 18–24 hours to dry after application.

An analysis to determine the nature of the rock affected by the graffiti revealed that the stone material is a garnet with strong lamination. Granted that the rock samples analysed were representa-

Domboshava rock art site: Phase I of the cleaning process



tive of the general situation, the rock surface appeared very friable and extremely sensitive to any kind of mechanical touching. However, this could be subjective, because the samples were collected from the lower levels of the cave, which probably would not be representative of the nature of the entire Domboshava granite outcrop.

The information gathered from the physio-chemical analysis of the graffiti, and the nature of the rock affected, became the basis for formulating cleaning trials. The aim was to test the effectiveness and impact of all the possible cleaning methods on the paintings and the stone itself. Several cleaning methods, ranging from mechanical to chemical, were tried over nine months. Areas affected with graffiti but without rock paintings were used for the trials, with the exception of one 'sacrificial' cleaning trial done on a section with rock paintings at the time of making a final decision. Generally the cleaning trials were confined to the lower levels of the cave.

Mechanical cleaning methods

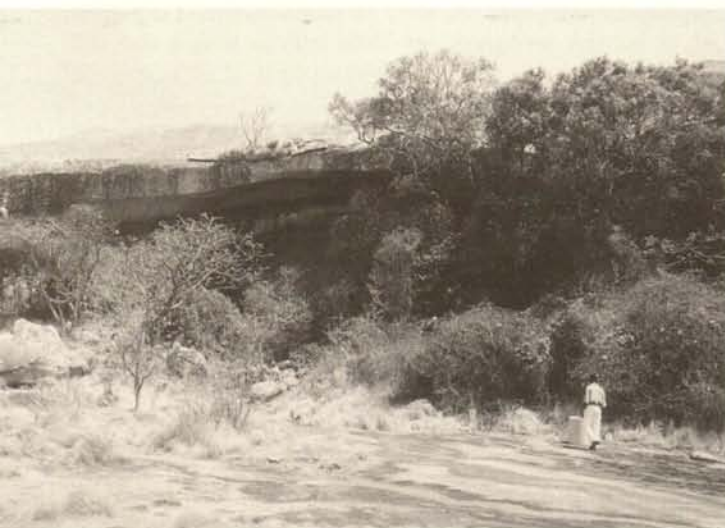
A mechanical method of removing the graffiti was initially attempted. Several instruments were tried, such as blunt and sharp plastic knives and scrapers. The results were not satisfactory, because these instruments failed to conform to the rugged surface of the rock face. The cleaning was not systematic and could not remove the graffiti. There was also a risk of scraping both the graffiti and the rock paintings if sharper implements were used.

Solvent based cleaning methods

Lacquer thinners

A lacquer thinner, a chemical constituted by benzene and lead (or a mixture of petroleum and benzene) was tried. It is usually used as a solvent in the painting industry. The thinner was poured over the graffiti, then cleaned with a soft brush and distilled water. Instead of removing the graffiti, the lacquer thinner converted the brown enamel paint (graffiti) to a blackish paint, which started to spread over the rock surface, further obliterating the surface. The conclusion was that the lacquer thinners could not clean this kind of graffiti.

Domboshava Cave



Animals after removal of graffiti

Acetone

Acetone (CH_3COCH_3 – dimethyl ketone), a colourless and inflammable solvent with a sweetish odour was applied in a manner similar to the lacquer thinner. The results failed to remove the graffiti.

Paint stripper

Paint stripper, mainly constituted by methylene chloride (CH_2Cl_2), was used as the last option. It was evenly applied in its thick jelly-like form and allowed 5–10 minutes to settle on the surface with graffiti. A soft brush and distilled water were used to scrub off the thick jelly. The paint stripper successfully removed the graffiti leaving the rock patina visible but a little shiny. In other sections that were not thoroughly rinsed with distilled water, a glossy appearance could be seen. It was concluded that a thorough rinse of all the paint stripper remnants was important to avoid leaving ugly stains, which might contain damaging salts that could eventually destroy the works of art. It was therefore suggested to use Toluene ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_3$) to rinse the surface. The combination of Toluene and paint stripper appeared to be effective in removing the graffiti and avoiding the shiny residues of paint stripper.

'High Tech' cleaning methods: laser cleaning

The Nd: Yag laser cleaning method was used on samples with traces of graffiti but without rock paintings. Although the cleaning yielded positive results, it must be mentioned that given the original rock paintings contain a wide range of brown to red pigments, colours synonymous to that of graffiti, it becomes obvious that the laser could either remove or alter the original rock paintings. Therefore it was a risk to try this method *in situ*.

Several public lectures and consultations on these trial results were made within and outside the borders of Zimbabwe. On the basis of the results of the cleaning trials and extensive consultations, a combination of the industrially produced paint stripper and Toluene were recommended to clean the graffiti.

The Conservation Process

With patience and understanding of the principles involved in cleaning graffiti of this nature from rock paintings, the 'mouth to

mouth resuscitation' process commenced in September 1999. The cleaning exercise was divided into three phases, as the cave was divided into three sections. The conservation team cleaned the left side first, then moved to the central section and eventually the right section. Before moving to another section, the team had to take a four-month break to monitor any developments on the area cleaned and continue carrying out consultations with other experts. The success of the project hinged on following proper conservation processes and application of the recommended chemicals within the limits of the technique chosen. In this cleaning exercise, we sought a complete removal of all the graffiti, given that both the rock paintings and the graffiti shared the same shades of brown colour. Very soft artists' brushes, trimmed to thumb-nail size, were used to clean 10 sq cm at a given time. Protective clothing was worn to safeguard the health of the conservation team. The cleaning exercise thus spread over 1.5 years to allow continuous monitoring and modification of the method if need arose.

Results of Cleaning

Grffiti was successfully removed using the described method. The rock paintings are now very visible. The paintings were not affected because of the silica encrustation process over several decades. Over the years of exposure, a silica crust develops on top of the rock paintings, to form a natural protective coating that is very difficult to remove. Paint stripper or Toluene does not easily remove this silica crust. As such, the paintings were expected to remain visible after the cleaning. It is important to note that the fragile rock patina survived the cleaning exercise. But one cannot rule out that it might have been partially removed, but the degree is less obtrusive compared to other areas not affected by the graffiti. The cleaning exercise also removed thin layers of dust that had accumulated over the years, thereby exposing some figures that could not be seen very clearly before.

Conclusion

The vandalism of the Domboshava rock-art site posed and still poses a great conservation and management challenge to National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe. It is very difficult to remove a commercial paint applied on any cultural site. The success of this conservation project, particularly given the nature of the graffiti and chemical used, cannot be guaranteed as the after-

effects are usually noticeable only after long periods of time. This fear brings us to the medical procedure: *patient resuscitation*. A person who has 'collapsed' or fainted due to a certain health condition, can be temporarily or permanently brought back to life through mouth to mouth resuscitation or using an oxygen breathing machine. What happens after this resuscitation is beyond the means of the resuscitator, because many uncontrollable biological factors relating to a particular health condition come into play. At Domboshava National Monument, rock paintings were given a new lease of life through the cleaning exercise. But whether it is a long or short-term lease of life is difficult to tell, because of uncontrollable *in situ* factors that affect both the rock and the art. What is important is that an attempt was made to bring back the *beauty* of the rock paintings, and a continuous monitoring process has been put in place. This process relies on a comparison of photographs taken, before, during and after the cleaning exercise. As such, periodic reports will be produced.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AT RISK

Introduction

The ICOMOS International Committee for Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) reports that much of the world's archaeological heritage is at risk. This is reinforced in the first *Heritage at Risk* report, with two-thirds of the accounts recording threats to archaeological heritage.

Many of these reported threats occur because of the special nature of archaeological heritage. This is not because archaeological heritage consists only of sites found below today's ground surface, and only retrievable by excavation – it does not. Archaeological heritage also includes monumental structures and extensive cultural landscapes, as well as discrete small surface sites. It is special because it constitutes a basic record of human activities, and provides an understanding of past societies and our cultural and social roots that can be interrogated by archaeological techniques.

In recognition of its special needs, ICOMOS established an international scientific committee, ICAHM, as well as setting standards for the protection and management of archaeological heritage, which built on earlier international standards:

1. *1956 UNESCO Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations*, accepted in New Delhi (UNESCO, Delhi 1956). This recommendation acknowledges the international significance of much archaeological heritage, urging international co-operation for its protection and establishing general principles for archaeological heritage, particularly in regard to archaeological excavations.
2. *1990 ICOMOS Charter for Archaeological Heritage Management*, adopted at the 9th General Assembly in Lausanne (ICAHM Charter 1990). This Charter establishes principles relating to different aspects of archaeological heritage management, recognising the broad range of archaeological heritage and that its protection requires co-operation between government, academics, private and public enterprise and the general public. The participation of Indigenous and local cultural groups is seen as essential for the protection of elements of archaeological heritage that are a part of living traditions.

Many countries have enacted legislation, procedures and national standards to protect their archaeological heritage. There are also regional agreements on the protection of archaeological heritage, for example the American nations' *Convention of San Salvador 1976*, and Europe's *Malta Convention 1992*, discussed at length in the US/ICOMOS Newsletter 2001-3 special issue on archaeological heritage management. Codes of ethics and standards have also been set by international and national archaeological organisations (see references). A large body of published literature provides case studies and debates about archaeological heritage management issues, such as the Getty Conservation Institute, the series of books *One World Archaeology* and the international journal *Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites* begun in 1996 (see references).

Yet despite this progress in archaeological heritage management practice around the world, risks are still prevalent. ICAHM is not able to comprehensively report on every country's risks to archaeological heritage, so the following report is partially based on concerns expressed in *Heritage at Risk 2000*. Most national committees, 42 of 60 countries, as well as many scientific or regional accounts, reported many of the same kind of risks in dif-

ferent regions in the world. ICAHM considers it likely that these key risks to archaeological heritage also occur in several member countries that did not mention these threats, or who did not report in 2000.

Risks to Archaeological Heritage

There are certain widespread threats to archaeological heritage. Archaeological heritage not only suffers from many of the same risks that impact other forms of heritage places, but also particular risks special to archaeological heritage. These threats to its survival occur in all aspects of its management: identification, significance assessment, protection and conservation – either in ignorance or contravention of the above international principles for the protection of archaeological heritage. The prevalent risks are discussed below.

Loss of in situ excavated archaeological heritage

The most widely reported risk to archaeological heritage is the lack of maintenance and conservation of *in situ* excavated remains. Damage to archaeological heritage is almost certain when excavated cultural features are left exposed without any management plan or resources for their protection, conservation or management. Sub-surface structures and artefacts generally deteriorate very rapidly when exposed to new environmental conditions above ground. The impacts range from physical deterioration – such as the cracking and spalling of monumental stone structures, and the weathering and crumbling of mudbrick features – to the erosion and slumping of unexcavated cultural layers, as well as vandalism and looting. The consequences include the destruction of the features that are excavated, together with damage to unexcavated evidence.

Countries that reported this threat include Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cambodia, the Czech Republic, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Pakistan, Thailand and Yugoslavia.

This practice may be prevalent because of the belief that archaeological heritage should be made accessible to the public. However, the funds for the necessary protection and conservation of excavated sites is often not easy to obtain, especially when it is difficult to predict prior to excavation what discoveries might be made, and what their heritage and tourism value might be. This makes it difficult to plan ahead for a site's potential for cultural tourism.

Israel reported a trend and pressure towards 'tourism-oriented archaeological development', which can skew priorities of national financing for cultural heritage. Some countries propose to finance the necessary conservation from tourism income; this, however, is rarely sufficient for a site's maintenance.

To undertake the excavation of archaeological heritage, without providing for maintenance or conservation, flouts the standards of protection proposed in the international principles:

ICAHM 1990 Charter. Article 6: ...asserts the principle that archaeological heritage should not be exposed by excavation or left exposed by excavation if provision for its proper maintenance and conservation after excavation cannot be guaranteed.
UNESCO Recommendation 1956. Principle 6 (b): steps should

be taken to ensure in particular the regular provision of funds... (iv) to provide for the upkeep of excavation sites and monuments; and Principle 21: ...The deed of concession [for excavation] should define the obligations of the excavator...provide for...maintenance and restoration of the site together with the conservation, during and on completion of his work, of objects and monuments uncovered...

This risk is controlled in several countries where backfilling of excavated sites is a condition of excavation permits. Such re-covering of excavated remains can be permanent or temporary, and provides physical protection pending management decisions about the future use of the site. However, backfilling is not always enforced, although it presents an ethical solution for the protection of excavated archaeological heritage. Case Study 1 (First Government House site, Sydney, Australia) provides an example of how backfilling can be incorporated in the management planning of an excavated site.

Loss of unidentified archaeological heritage

Several national committees reported the widespread risk to archaeological heritage from development projects, such as earthwork constructions. Examples reported include: urbanisation (New Zealand, Turkey, Yugoslavia); road widening (Denmark, Germany, Slovakia, Turkey); railway building (Germany); dam constructions (China, India, Turkey); underground parking in historic cities (Switzerland); and modern agricultural deep ploughing (Norway, Denmark), which can be a special risk to earthwork sites. Much that is lost is either entirely sub-surface or unrecognised on the ground surface.

The archaeological heritage is impacted in a number of ways:

- destruction of entire or particular elements of past cultures or phases of human activity, particularly the earliest or less monumental manifestations;
- damage to the integrity of cultural landscapes by removing cultural features that are important archaeological evidence of the relationship between sites;
- potential damage to sub-surface remains by changes to the surrounding environment as a result of development constructions – the effects from changes to groundwater and to compression are not yet fully understood.

This destruction of archaeological heritage is most likely to occur in the absence of prior recording of this heritage and ICAHM recognises this threat:

ICAHM Charter 1990. Article 4: ...A duty for developers to ensure that archaeological heritage impact studies are carried out before development schemes are implemented, should therefore be embodied in appropriate legislation, with a stipulation that the costs of such studies are to be included in project costs. The principles should be established in legislation that development schemes should be designed in such a way as to minimise their impact upon archaeological heritage.

However, ICAHM is aware that this standard is not always met. Despite many countries having requirements to record archaeological heritage, others report a lack of:

- regional surveys of archaeological heritage (Austria, Norway Sami sites, Panama);
- environmental impact studies, including archaeological heritage, as part of approval requirements for development projects

(the Czech Republic noted some developers are prepared to destroy a site and pay the fine, rather than undertake archaeological investigation);

- geographic information systems and inventories that record archaeological potential and sensitivity (Lebanon).

Case Study 2 (Development Approvals – Motorways in Hungary) illustrates how an Eastern European country is balancing development pressures with archaeological heritage protection.

Loss of archaeological potential

Rescue archaeology is of real and special concern. In many development projects, such as outlined above, and despite community or international protest, construction proceeds with archaeological sites and objects that are in the way being 'salvaged'. It is likely that such 'rescue' archaeology will destroy most heritage values, despite artefacts and other features being salvaged.

Salvage archaeology is particularly destructive of future archaeological potential. The reasons for the loss are twofold: often insufficient time is allocated to such salvage and/or the total site is excavated. Too little time means that it is not possible to properly record information according to best archaeological excavation practice, so data is lost forever. In many cases, the entire site is either totally excavated or the remainder destroyed by the development. This does not leave any parts of the site for later investigation. All archaeological excavation is destructive, but such losses during salvage are irretrievable, as recognised by ICAHM:

ICAHM 1990 Charter. Article 5: ...overriding principle that the gathering of information about archaeological heritage should not destroy any more archaeological evidence than is necessary for the protection or scientific objectives of the investigation.

Loss of diversity of archaeological heritage

Country reports mention that certain types of archaeological heritage are at risk because they are not valued as much as other heritage. Likely threats range from indifference to deliberate damage that results in the entire loss of certain archaeological heritage places or values.

Non-monumental sites

Many of these are ignored and neglected, because they do not receive the same recognition as larger or older sites. Risks include a lower level or no statutory protection, or limited resources for protection, management and conservation, because that country allocates greater status and protection to monumental archaeological heritage than less visible and less imposing archaeological features. For example, Andorra states that there is a perception of 'high' and 'low' cultures to be protected, with resources going to the 'high' cultures, such as Roman remains. National committees reporting this risk include Andorra, Burma, Lebanon, Thailand and USA.

Recent archaeological heritage

In many countries the recent past, including industrial archaeological heritage, is often similarly unrecognised as 'heritage', with little attention or resources paid to its research or protection. Archaeologists are frequently involved in researching and recording this form of cultural heritage and are keenly aware that it is rapidly disappearing, and with it evidence of industrial technologies of the past two centuries. National committees mentioning this risk

include Canada, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Finland, Guatemala, Hungary, Sweden, Venezuela and USA.

Sites of particular cultures

In some cases, sites are not given the same priority as other examples of archaeological heritage, because they are manifestations of particular historical periods or cultures. Risks include removal of archaeological layers without appropriate documentation, in order to excavate a period of culture that is more greatly respected (mentioned by Croatia), or even deliberate damage or destruction.

This arises as a potential threat when one cultural group does not recognise a segment of the archaeological heritage as relating to their current society's cultural tradition. As a result, alternative periods are given greater priority for research and conservation as they are deemed to be important to the dominant society's cultural identity. In cases of intense and competing nationalism or inter-communal conflict, such archaeological heritage may be deliberately targeted as part of the other vilified group's past or present culture.

The consequences of such disparate treatment include the potential loss of entire periods of a region's history, a distorted understanding of that past story, and a potential maintenance of past prejudice. This is recognised as one of the major risks to heritage in times of war and civil strife and is reported as having damaged archaeological heritage in Cyprus, India and in the countries of former Yugoslavia. An extreme example of this bigoted treatment of archaeological heritage was seen in 2001 with the iconoclasm at Bamiyan in Afghanistan.

Countries reported in 2000 to have variations of the above risks include Afghanistan, Andorra, Burma, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cuba, Cyprus, Egypt, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Italy, Lebanon, Pakistan, Thailand, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. Reference to these issues by ICAHM is:

ICAHM 1990 Charter. Article 6: ...active maintenance...should be applied to a sample of the diversity of sites and monuments, based upon a scientific assessment of their significance and representative character, and not confined to the more notable or visually attractive monuments.

Loss of local ownership of archaeological heritage

Another risk to archaeological heritage is its appropriation without regard to relevant local or Indigenous communities. Many of these groups have special knowledge and associations with the archaeological heritage, which is a manifestation of their past and of their living present. While not widely reported by national committees, it is ICAHM's view that this is an ongoing risk to the full identification and maintenance of the values of archaeological heritage, and to the possibility for the sustainable management of living archaeological heritage. ICOMOS has recognised this:

ICAHM 1990. Article 3: Active participation by the general public must form part of the policies for the protection of archaeological heritage. This is essential where the heritage of Indigenous peoples is involved. Participation must be based upon access to the knowledge necessary for decision-making. Article 6: Local commitment and participation should be actively sought and encouraged as a means of promoting the maintenance of archaeological heritage. This principle is especially important when dealing with the heritage of Indigenous peoples or local cultural groups. In some cases it may be appropriate to entrust responsibility for the protection and management of sites and monuments to Indigenous peoples.

In some countries there has been an increased move to consult with local communities that may represent ethnic or cultural groups not belonging to mainstream society, particularly in the case of Indigenous peoples. The local or Indigenous community maintains the intangible heritage that belongs to a place and their lack of involvement risks the loss of important aspects of heritage significance.

Many countries now include Indigenous involvement in their legislation or their heritage management practice. This is particularly an issue in 'new world' countries settled in recent centuries by people of European descent, who are today the dominant population. In the past two decades, in countries such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand, some South American countries, and the USA, it has become standard practice to consult with and include participation of local Indigenous communities in management decisions about their cultural and archaeological heritage. The United Nations has recognised the rights of such Indigenous people to control their own culture in its draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN 1994/5):

Article 12: Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artifacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature, as well as the right to the restitution of cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property taken without their free and informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs.

Case Study 3 (Community Consultation, South Africa) illustrates the involvement of local communities in archaeological heritage management.

The allocation of new values to archaeological heritage by outside or 'alternative' groups is another potential risk. In particular, the populations in the West, in seeking spiritual and New Age meaning, may appropriate some archaeological heritage as a vehicle for their own meanings and associations. There are many well-known cases around the world, such as Stonehenge in England, the focus of the recreation of Druidism in the 19th century, and subsequently the focus of many New Age beliefs, such as ley lines. Increased travel by Westerners includes sacred tourism to various Inca sites in Peru, such as Machu Picchu, or the Nazca Lines, and the Earthmother Goddess tours to Çatalhöyük in Turkey. These post-modern, New-Age Western belief systems may interfere with scientific interpretations of that archaeological heritage, as well as the general management of the site. This has the potential to occur in association with other forms of heritage, but archaeological heritage that portrays earlier cultures that may seem inexplicable is particularly prone to this threat to its scientific, archaeological or traditional community values.

Externally imposed values can also disrupt the local community, their own cultural traditions and their relationship with the heritage in their locality. A New Age appropriation of heritage may occur at a place that has living spiritual connections with the local community, and may be seen by that community as another form of cultural imperialism. This is a current threat at various Indigenous peoples' significant heritage sites, such as Uluru in central Australia.

Solutions

Additional risks to archaeological heritage are similar to those impacting other forms of heritage, and include natural damage,

earthquakes and coastal erosion (all mentioned in the 2000 report). Henry Cleere, in the *Heritage at Risk 2000* report, identified cultural tourism as often presenting a major risk to archaeological sites on the World Heritage List. However, most risks ultimately result from a lack of funding, law enforcement, and sufficient training – evidence in most countries of a lack of political will or commitment. In some cases, there may be resistance to the application of guidelines and good archaeological heritage management practice because it seems difficult or expensive. These are challenges that are often relevant, but are not always the case.

It is often difficult to fully appreciate the risk to archaeological heritage because there is little in place to monitor what is happening to that heritage. These reporting mechanisms are particularly important as they can allow the development of self-correcting archaeological heritage management systems. Some countries have programmes in place to report on threats, but most do not. An example of how such monitoring can allow otherwise unseen problems to emerge is seen in the UK-ICOMOS 2000 report on risk, which describes the ICOMOS Monuments at Risk Survey 1995. Reporting on its 937,484 monuments and sites (including 300,000 archaeological sites), the survey found that, on average, one monument had been destroyed every day since 1945.

Australia's first State of the Environment report in 1996 included archaeological sites as cultural heritage. In 1998, a set of indicators was developed to monitor the protection of cultural heritage. Several indicators are applied to archaeological heritage, for example:

Impact of Development (humanly initiated actions including tourism): A2.1 Number and proportion of archaeological assessment studies initiated prior to development that include assessment of Indigenous archaeological places and values (www.ea.gov.au/soe/envindicators/heritage-ind.html)

Australia's second State of the Environment report is due to be released in late 2001 and will report on results measured against the established heritage indicators (www.ea.gov.au/soe).

Such monitoring programmes are the ideal. However, many current risks are already easily identifiable, and we can work towards raising awareness of these problems now. ICAHM proposes that ICOMOS brings its 2000 and 2001 reports on Heritage at Risk to the attention of key international bodies that fund cultural heritage management, such as ICCROM and UNESCO, to raise and reinforce awareness of the risks to archaeological heritage management. Similarly, ICAHM strongly recommends that ICOMOS makes strong representation to other international bodies involved in activities that often impact on archaeological heritage, such as aid organisations and international developers. For example, ICAHM is aware of the World Bank's current development of a draft Policy on Management of Physical Cultural Resources (www.worldbank.org/whatwedo/policies.htm). ICAHM strongly recommends collaboration between all relevant agencies, including ICOMOS, to promote consistency and united efforts to ensure the better protection of the world's archaeological heritage.

In the meantime, ICAHM's current examination of archaeological heritage management internationally may result in its developing new strategies to contain risks to archaeological heritage. We have begun a review of the awareness and use of our *Charter for Archaeological Heritage Management*, as well as identifying national mechanisms to protect and manage a country's archaeological heritage. This will allow ICAHM to understand more precisely the anecdotal evidence in the various country reports, to identify which threats to archaeological heritage are worldwide or regional, and to be able to advise ICOMOS on international

actions to deal with these risks. The report of this review is proposed for the 2002 General Assembly in southern Africa.

Case Study 1: Backfilling Excavated Archaeological Heritage – First Government House Site, Sydney, Australia

An example of using backfilling in order to conserve important excavated remains, pending decisions about a site's conservation and future use, can be seen with the First Government House site in Sydney, Australia.

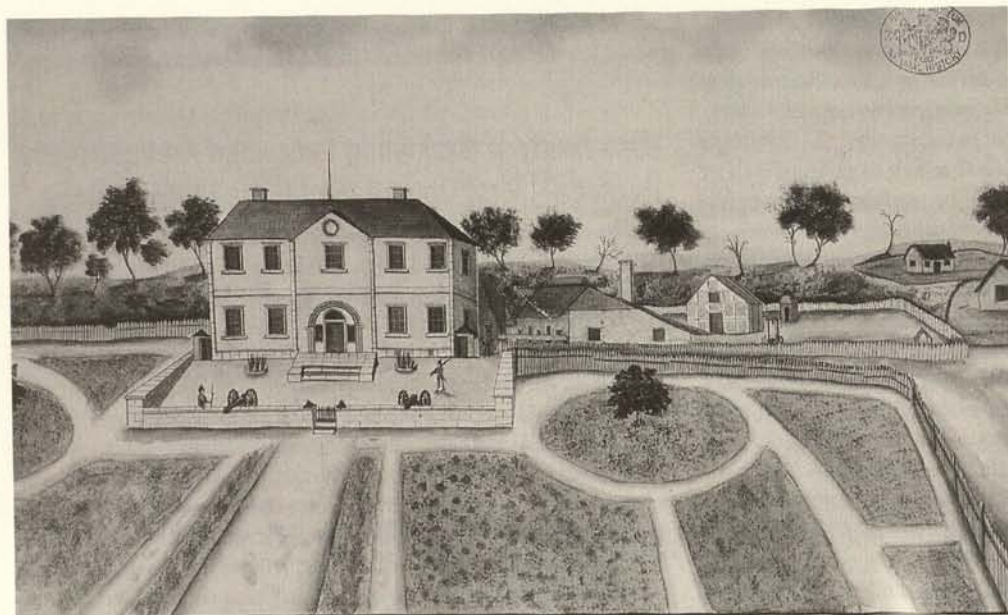
The First Government House was built in Sydney in 1788, the year of British colonisation of Australia. It was the social and administrative centre of the colony, with successive governors living and working there. Over the years the building has undergone many changes and extensions. The Government House residence was demolished in 1846, and the land subsequently used for many purposes, finally as a car park. Today, the site is in the central business district of Sydney.

In early 1982, the New South Wales (NSW) State government called for a high-rise development proposal for the site, a condition being that 'the ground level of the tower will contain an area for displays to mark the site as Governor Phillip's residence'. (Phillip was the first governor of the colony). Excavations commenced in 1983 and revealed extensive traces of the First Government House, with footings and remnant walls, as well as thousands of artefacts, showing the history of the site during its phase as Government House and over the subsequent years.

Considerable public and expert concern was aroused, and Australia ICOMOS was one of the many community groups lobbying extensively to retain the archaeological remains. One significant result was the nomination of the site to community, State and national heritage registers. The publicity was followed by the Sydney City Council refusal of the development application; subsequently the NSW Government released the developer from its contractual obligations in order to retain the site for future generations – and excavations continued. In early 1985, the NSW Premier announced that the site would be conserved and that a Conservation Analysis and Plan would be prepared prior to a national architectural competition for a 'development design' that ensured protection of the site.

At that time, the excavated areas were carefully backfilled in order to protect the fragile structural remains. Areas that were particularly fragile or might introduce water into the trenches, such as the baulks, were covered in a non-porous protective gauze; other areas, including parts of the foundations, were covered in a porous geotextile, held in place by sand-filled bags. Clean, washed river-sand filled the remaining area; the entire surface was then sealed with a thin layer of bitumen. This method of backfilling was based on extensive analysis of the physical condition and conservation risks to the exposed archaeological remains.

In 1988 the award-winning design was selected. It includes two commercial high-rise buildings – Governor Phillip and Governor Macquarie towers – and allocated extra height to allow much of the area of the First Government House site to be left as a civic place. The development also includes the Museum of Sydney, in front of the towers. Opened in 1995, the museum commemorates the history of the site and the story of Sydney, as well as the story of Sydney's Aboriginal population. It is partially built over the remains of the First Government House site. Segments of the footings were re-exposed and are on display under glass panels in the museum's floor. Other areas are similarly displayed outside, in the



A View of Governor Philip's House Sydney Cove Port Jackson taken from the N.W.

First Government House in Sydney, watercolour, early 19th century (British Museum)



Aerial view of the excavations



Excavation of the First Government House, backfilling trenches against water damage

open area in front of the museum, where an outline of the First Government House is traced on the paving.

This use of backfilling pending development and site presentation decisions has been successful. There has, however, been continued controversy over the presentation and interpretation of the First Government House site. Many archaeologists and heritage experts do not consider that it fully presents the site's historical and archaeological values (see US/ICOMOS newsletter 1997/2 at www.icomos.org/usicomos/new/marapa97.htm for a summary of this latter issue).

Case Study 2: Archaeological Heritage and Development Approvals – Motorways in Hungary

Hungary has an estimated 100,000 archaeological sites, based on the 'Hungarian Archaeological Topography', a large-scale project of the Institute of Archaeology of the Hungarian Academy of Science. The project commenced in the 1960s, and by 1998 some 10% of the country had been intensively surveyed with 9952 sites recorded.

This archaeological heritage is at risk. There has been a falling-off of planned scientific excavations, especially in the bigger cities, where the prevailing practice is to undertake rescue archaeology ahead of development. Greater numbers of green-field investments (such as shopping malls), big infrastructure developments (motorway construction for example), linear developments (including communication cables and pipelines) are all posing a threat to archaeological sites. The problems are compounded by modern agricultural deep-ploughing, and looters with metal detectors.

The investment boom has meant a great challenge to Hungarian archaeology. Without this development, many sites would not have been identified and large surface areas would not have been explored, and certain research questions regarding settlement structures could not have been answered. On the other hand, the small group of Hungarian archaeologists is facing increasing numbers of excavations and the associated problems: on-the-spot documentation and inventory of millions of excavated finds, the demand for their temporary and final storage, and last but not least, the preliminary and final scientific evaluation.

Hungarian 1997 legislation that protects archaeological heritage, as well as other forms of heritage, maintains several features of the ICAHM Charter and of the Malta Convention. This includes requirements that archaeological heritage be left *in situ* and in context. The Hungarian legislation also demands that, where this cannot take place, the cost of 'pre-excavation excavation', i.e. salvage archaeology, is to be borne by the developer as part of planning and environment impact studies.

Serious problems for archaeological heritage emerge when the investors, especially foreign companies, do not abide by existing regulations and do not involve the responsible authorities – such as museums, local government, and conservation bodies – and begin earthworks without valid permits. This happened on the site of Budaörs, near Budapest. In this example, the shopping centre development, funded by French interests, was stopped by local museum archaeologists. Part of the site was destroyed without any prior project planning, including a failure to undertake data audits, field surveys or investigation. In the end, losses were incurred by the investor, the museum, and the archaeological heritage.

The examples that follow highlight how these issues are managed by the Hungarian regional/county museums that administer the protection of archaeological heritage.

The construction of the second stretch of motorway M1 from the capital Budapest to Vienna, Austria, took place in the early 1990s. The project had successes and failures for the regional museum responsible, providing an example that was educational for all regional museums. A success story followed a few years later, with the 1993–1996 archaeological research program for the construction of a 175-kilometre length of the M3 motorway. Collaboration between the four relevant county/regional museums included thorough preparation, during which different types of archaeological and natural scientific examinations were carried out. These included an interdisciplinary focus with data collection, and ground, aerial and archaeomagnetic surveys, identifying 150 sites that were subsequently all partially excavated. The available development funds covered the costs of the excavations, documentation and initial restoration, as well as providing facilities for a temporary exhibition of the excavated finds.

However, in the case of another motorway (M5), the same arrangements did not function, bad contracts were made, archaeological sites were damaged, and both parties turned to the courts. If Hungarian archaeological heritage management is to avoid such disasters, current government plans to fast-track a 600-kilometre long motorway mean that exact timing and logistical planning of this enormous project is essential from an archaeological perspective.

In order to assist developers' compliance with statutory requirements, the Hungarian Cultural Heritage Directorate is currently preparing databases and a GIS system, so that they can be accessed for archaeological heritage information as part of development planning processes.

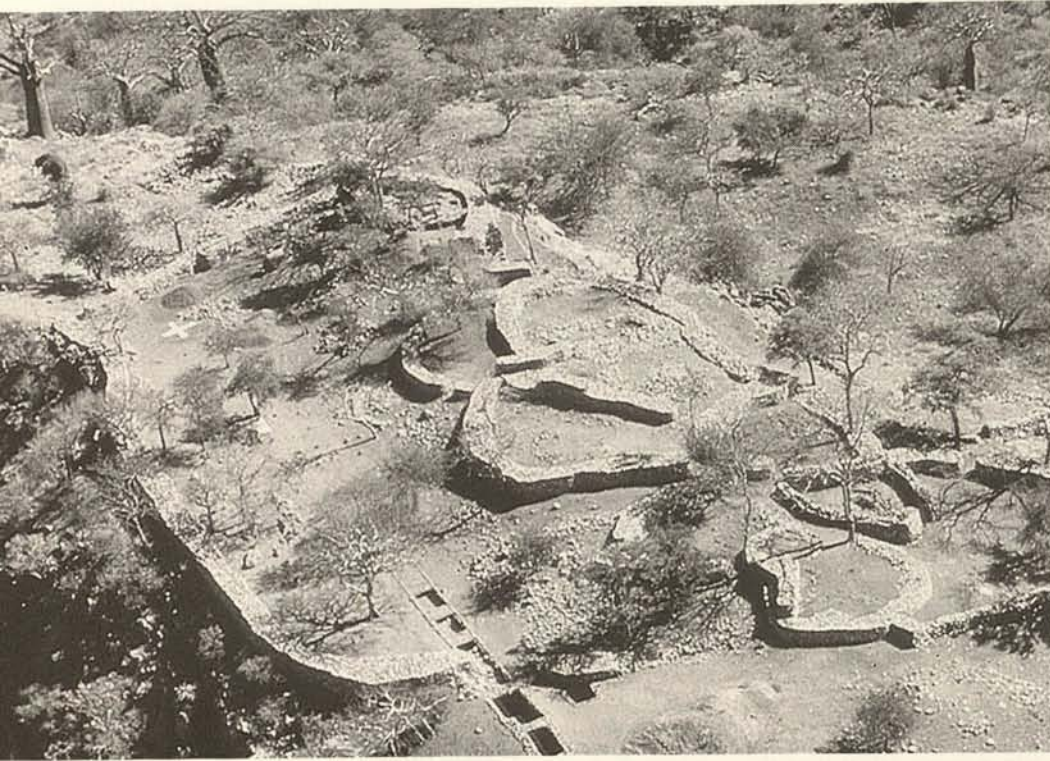
Case Study 3: Local Community Consultation – Kruger National Park, South Africa

The case of the Thulamela graves, where excavated human remains raised the very contentious issue of who owns the archaeological past – academics or local communities? – broke new ground regarding the excavation of, and research on, human remains in South Africa. The issue involved communities neighbouring Kruger National Park.

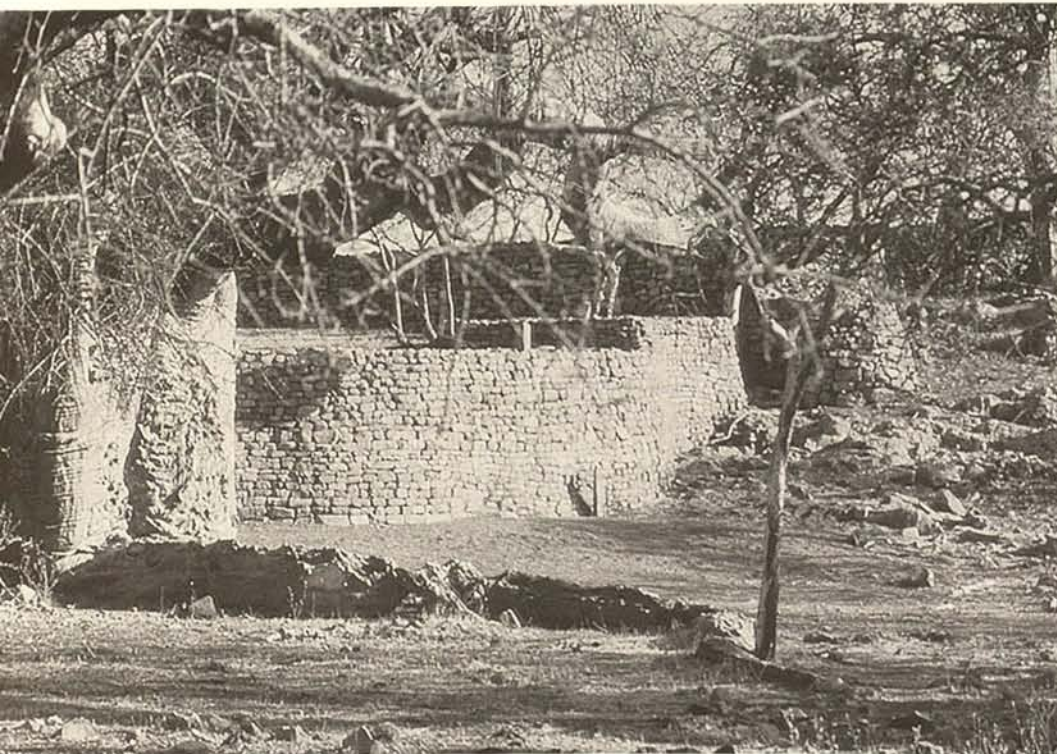
The two graves were found towards the end of a larger archaeological project that included excavations on Thulamela Hill at Pafuri, in Kruger, during rebuilding of walls to prepare the site for visitation. The significance of the site, including the evidence of metalworking and trade during the post-Greater Zimbabwean culture in southern Africa, had already been confirmed and communicated in terms of inter-disciplinary scientific value, historical importance, tourism potential, and neighbouring community involvement.

At the discovery of each burial, excavation work was stopped and the project committee convened, and then the local communities were called in to inspect the site. Because of the age of the burials, no direct descendants could claim the remains; consequently, it was agreed that the project committee should take ownership of the remains, and that more information was needed to provide answers: in other words, permission was given to excavate further. Scientific analysis by the Department of Anatomy, Pretoria University, was permitted, but the remains had to be brought back for re-burial at a time convenient to the community and according to their custom. (This procedure was later taken-up in the new South African heritage legislation.)

Who should decide and what kind of burial – traditional or modern/Christian? – were also issues, with the community divided on the matter; in the end it was a combination that included plac-



Aerial photograph, Royal Enclosure:
Thulamela Heritage site, Kruger
National Park, South Africa



Thulamela: main wall, western or
public entrance

ing Christian crosses on the re-burials. The process culminated in a major ceremony and was a huge success, and what could have potentially been a conflict between archaeologists, park officials, museum people and communities, turned out to be a wonderfully positive contribution to archaeology in practice and to park management.

The crosses stood for a time, but were eventually removed after consultation with the project committee because they were found to be inappropriate and not authentic. The bones are at rest as they were before.

This best-practice resolution in archaeological heritage management was possible because cross-cultural communication and involvement of neighbouring communities was implemented prior to the official launching for the Goldfields Thulamela Archaeological Project in 1993, long before the sensitive issue of human burials came up. A set of basic principles and objectives was debated and negotiated by the different stakeholders in the project; these formed the common ground, as well as steering guidelines for the proposed investigation and development of the site. Stakeholders included the South African National Parks Board, the sponsors (Gold Fields and Transvaal Employment Bureau), the South African Nature Foundation, neighbouring communities, regional political interests, the academic fraternity, and the archaeological research team. The Principles and Objectives accepted by the group included:

- Community involvement and participation during all phases, i.e. research, conservation, and environmental education programme development and implementation.
- Scientific investigation by means of archaeological excavation – including conservation, preservation, scientific interpretation – which will underpin the development of the resource.
- The broader scientific investigation and contextualisation of related sites in the region – including Mozambique and Zimbabwe – for further enhancement of historical perspective and history reconstruction.

A decision-making structure was also agreed-on that enabled the full representation and participation by the communities; it assured involvement and co-responsibility, with a Project Committee, aided by a Technical Working Group plus an Educational Working Group.

The main aim of the project was the recognition of the cultural assets and the extension of the Park's curatorship to cultural heritage, leading to better and harmonious regional co-operation, as well as enhanced self-esteem and pride among the people whose roots lie in Thulamela. These aims are being achieved, with the bonds between park and neighbouring communities strengthening and surviving unscathed throughout the political changes in South Africa since 1993. In addition, South Africa National Parks, as a nature conservation body, has taken great strides to establish Cultural Resource Management as a responsibility.

Community leaders visit Grave I, Thulamela, during consultations to decide on further excavations and ownership

ICAHM thanks Johan Verhoef, Cultural Resources Manager, South African National Parks, and former Thulamela Project Manager, for his assistance with this case study.

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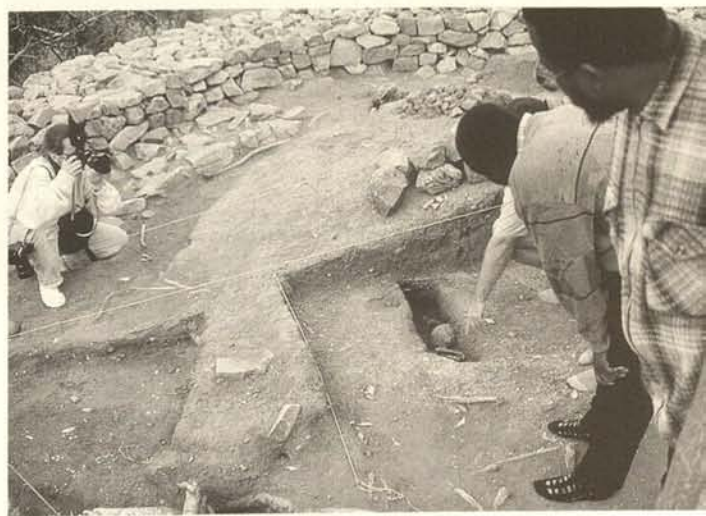
International archaeological association codes/standards

- European Archaeological Association – Code of Practice (www.e-a-a.org/Codeprac.htm)
- World Archaeological Congress – Code of Ethics - concerning Indigenous peoples (www.wac.uct.ac.za/archive/content/ethics.html)

Archaeological heritage conservation publications

- Bell Guide to International Conservation Charters, Edinburgh 1997 (Historic Scotland Technical Advice Notes 8)
- Getty Conservation Institute publications on conservation including archaeological sites (www.getty.edu/bookstore/indexes/subs_conservation.html)
- One World Archaeology Series, published by Routledge (www.routledge.com)

ICOMOS Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management



DAMS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

This article has three aims: first to present the World Commission on Dams (WCD) and its findings with a focus on cultural heritage; second to provide insight to the WCD's new framework for decision-making; and third, to draw recommendations from the WCD Report that relate to heritage at risk from dams.

A Unique Process in Global Public Policy Making – The World Commission on Dams (WCD)

Dams are at the centre of many controversies related to the management of water resources and proposals to relieve water scarcity. Contrasting experiences and positions underlie the intense debate on dams that ultimately led to the establishment of the WCD in May 1998. The Commission was comprised of twelve members with differing perspectives and a broad range of backgrounds. Its mandate was to review the development effectiveness of past projects and propose recommendations for an appropriate process that societies could follow to minimise conflicts in the planning, design, operation and decommissioning of projects.

Over the past two years, the WCD has conducted the most comprehensive, global and independent review of large dams, and used this review as a basis for its recommendations. One of the Working Papers that was submitted by Steven Brandt and Fekri Hassa (eds) to the WCD was entitled 'Dams and Cultural Heritage Management'. All WCD reports are available on its web site: www.dams.org and on CD Rom. The Commission launched its Final Report *'Dams and Development: A New Framework for Decision-Making'* on 16 November 2000.

There are more than 45,000 large dams around the world that together have played a role in helping communities and economies manage water resources for food production, energy generation, flood alleviation, and domestic and industrial use. Current estimates suggest that some 30–40% of irrigated land worldwide now relies on dams, and large dams are estimated to support approximately 12% to 16% of global food production. Hydropower projects generate 19% of world electricity and account for over 50% of electricity generated in 63 countries. These are considerable contributions. However, the projects in the Commission's knowledge-base showed a high degree of variability in meeting predicted water and electricity services – and related social benefits. A considerable portion fell short of projected physical and economic targets, while many continued to generate benefits beyond their projected economic life. Extensive impacts on ecosystems were evident, including the loss of habitats, species and aquatic biodiversity. In many cases, the measures explicitly designed to mitigate such impacts proved ineffective. An estimated 40 to 80 million people were displaced by dam projects and although some compensation was invariably provided, the Commission found that the full range of social impacts were frequently neither addressed nor accounted for. In particular, the impacts on the lives, livelihoods and health of the affected communities upstream and downstream of the projects were not considered. The report concludes that although dams have delivered many benefits, in too many cases the price paid to secure those benefits has been unacceptable and could have been avoided.

Cultural Heritage – the Findings from the WCD

Large dams have had significant adverse effects on heritage through the loss of local cultural resources (temples, shrines and sacred elements of the landscape, artefacts and buildings) and the submergence and degradation of archaeological resources (plant and animal remains, burial sites and architectural elements). Dams can also cause loss or damage of cultural heritage through land reclamation and irrigation projects and the construction of power lines, roads, railways and workers' towns.

In most cases, no measures have been taken to minimise or mitigate the loss of cultural and archaeological resources. Affected communities repeatedly raised the treatment of burial sites at the WCD Regional Consultations and other public hearings. During the construction of the Inanda dam in South Africa, remains of human bodies buried under the reservoir site were exhumed and all buried in one hole, profoundly disturbing local communities. The Grand Coulee Case Study records the submergence of Native American burial sites by dam waters. The tribes used funds provided by the authorities, and their own means, to relocate burial sites exposed by receding reservoir waters. The risk of submerging ancestral graves is one of the main reasons the Himba people in Namibia oppose the planned Epupa dam.

The assessment of lost or buried cultural heritage resources not directly linked to local people has been at least equally significant, but often more difficult to estimate. The difficulty lies in the fact that no investigation of cultural and archaeological resources has taken place as part of the planning process of most dams. Given that river valleys often hosted the most ancient civilisations, the importance of losses from existing dams can be assessed by default, on the basis of the quality and quantity of finds in areas affected by dams where some cultural heritage assessment did take place. When the Madden dam in Panama dropped to its lowest historical limit in 1998, it exposed thousands of artefacts, cultural features and human burial sites. In 1988 in India, reconnaissance surveys in 93 of the 254 villages to be submerged in the Narmada Sagar dam impoundment area yielded hundreds of archaeological sites, ranging from Lower Palaeolithic to historic temples and iron smelting sites.

From the WCD Case Studies, it was seen that two dams – Pak Mun and Aslantas – were redesigned to avoid impacts on cultural and archaeological resources. The Aswan High dam, admittedly an exceptional case, illustrates not only how important potential losses of cultural heritage can be, but also how efforts to conserve cultural resources can improve understanding of cultural heritage.

Although improvements have been noted in recent years, potential losses of cultural resources due to dam construction are still not adequately considered in the planning process. In Turkey, for example, only 25 of 298 existing dam projects have included surveys for cultural heritage, and of these only five have had systematic rescue work conducted. The India Case Study reveals that although projects like Narmada Sagar, Tungabhadra, Bhadra, and Nagarjunsagar have paid some attention to major temples and places of worship, almost all the dams built so far suffer from lack of cultural heritage studies (let alone mitigation measures). The combined problems of time constraints, under-budgeting, and a shortage of qualified personnel are seriously hampering the salvation and preservation of the impressive archaeological and cultural sites in the areas to be affected.

WCD Recommendations on Cultural Heritage

WCD's proposed decision-making framework: a 'window of opportunity' for risk minimisation

The Commission provides a new framework for decision-making aimed at preventing and resolving conflicts, and minimising potential risks associated with development interventions. This framework is based on recognising rights (including the rights of people of their cultural resources) and assessing risks of all stakeholders, including risk to cultural heritage. The notion of risks is an important dimension to understanding how, and to what extent, a project may have an impact on people's rights, on the environment, and on the archaeological and cultural resources of local communities, of a nation or humanity as a whole, or of one group. The 'rights and risks' approach introduces a departure from a traditional 'balance sheet' approach where losses have been traded off against gains to others (actual or anticipated).

Seven strategic priorities and corresponding policy principles for water and energy resources development are proposed that build on the rights and risks approach. They are shown in Figure 1.

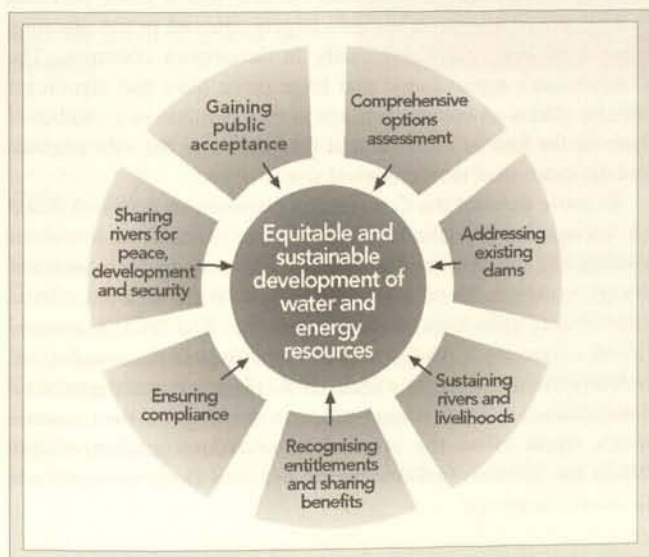


Figure 1: The WCD's Seven Strategic Priorities

Source: World Commission on Dams, 2000. *Dams and Development: a New Framework for Decision-Making*, Earthscan, London.

Practical advice for implementing these priorities is provided through a set of criteria for five key decision points in the planning and project cycles, together with 26 advisory guidelines based on examples of good practice from around the world.

The guidelines have, for example, included using both Strategic Impact and Project-Level Impact Assessment for environmental, social, health and cultural heritage issues.

WCD's specific recommendations for cultural heritage issues

The two advisory guidelines that directly affect cultural heritage issues emerge from the 'Comprehensive Options Assessment' Strategic Priority within the WCD's 'New Framework for Decision-Making'. These guidelines are:

- Strategic Impact Assessment (SA)
- Project-Level Impact Assessment (IA).

Strategic Impact Assessment (SA) is a relatively recent tool that can be used to provide a new direction to planning processes. It provides an entry point that defines who is involved and maps out the broad issues to be considered. The Commission proposes that the SA process starts by recognising the rights to be accommodated, assessing the nature and magnitude of risks to the environment and affected stakeholder groups, and determining the opportunities offered to these groups by different development. It should also identify where conflicts between various rights exist and require mediation.

SA takes the concept of project level impact assessment and moves it up into the initial phases of planning and options assessment. It is a broad assessment covering entire sectors, policies, and programmes, and ensures that environmental, social, health, and cultural implications of all options are considered at an early stage in planning.

The general goals of SA include:

- recognising the rights of stakeholders and assessing the risks;

Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

Cultural heritage resources are the cultural heritage of a people, a nation or humanity as a whole, and can be on the surface, underwater or underground. They comprise:

- cultural practices and resources of current populations – religions, languages, ideas, social, political and economic organisations, and their material expressions in the forms of sacred elements of natural sites, or artefacts and buildings;
- landscapes resulting from cultural practices over historical and prehistoric times;
- archaeological resources, including artefacts, plant and animal remains associated with human activities, burial sites and architectural elements.

Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) requires adequate time for successful completion and should be looked at in two stages. First, where regions and river valleys are known to be rich in cultural resources, landscapes, or archaeological resources, consideration of these elements should be included in Strategic Assessments and used as a criterion in selecting options and avoiding impacts. Second, a project level mitigation plan is developed where a dam option proceeds to full feasibility phase.

The following procedural aspects need to be considered:

- financial resources should be specifically allocated to CHIA;
- the assessment team should include archaeologists and, if necessary architects and anthropologists;
- where cultural assets have spiritual or religious significance, all activities should be planned with the consent of relevant communities;
- assessments should culminate in a mitigation plan to address the cultural heritage issues identified through minimising impacts, or through curation, preservation, relocation, collection or recording;
- a separate report should be produced as a component of the overall IA process.

- incorporating environmental and social criteria in the selection of demand and supply options and projects, before major funds to investigate individual projects are committed. These social criteria include social, but also health and cultural (e.g. cultural heritage) aspects;
- screening-out inappropriate or unacceptable projects at an early stage;
- reducing up-front planning and preparation costs for private investors and minimising the risk that projects will encounter serious opposition due to environmental and social considerations;
- providing an opportunity to look at the option of improving the performance of existing dams and other assets from economic, technical, social, and environmental perspectives.

Project-level impact assessment (IA) is already standard practice in many countries, and the term is used here to include environmental, social, health, and cultural impacts. Deficiencies in past implementation have been identified, and improved processes are needed.

IA should include an Environmental Impact Assessment, a Social Impact Assessment, a Health Impact Assessment, and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (see boxed text) as explicit components and should comply with international professional standards. The assessments should be sufficiently detailed to provide a pre-project baseline against which post-project monitoring results can be compared.

Apart from the planning stage of the project cycle, cultural heritage issues are also important during project implementation. In order to ensure compliance, the Commission recommends that an independent panel is set-up to review and endorse the implementation of social, environmental, health and cultural heritage mitigation measures. This refers directly to the Commission's advisory guideline on 'Independent Review Panels for Social and Environmental Matters'.

Independent review panels (IRP) should be established for all dam projects. They differ from tribunals, commissions, judicial reviews or other recourse mechanisms as their principal task is reviewing assessment of impacts and the planning, design and

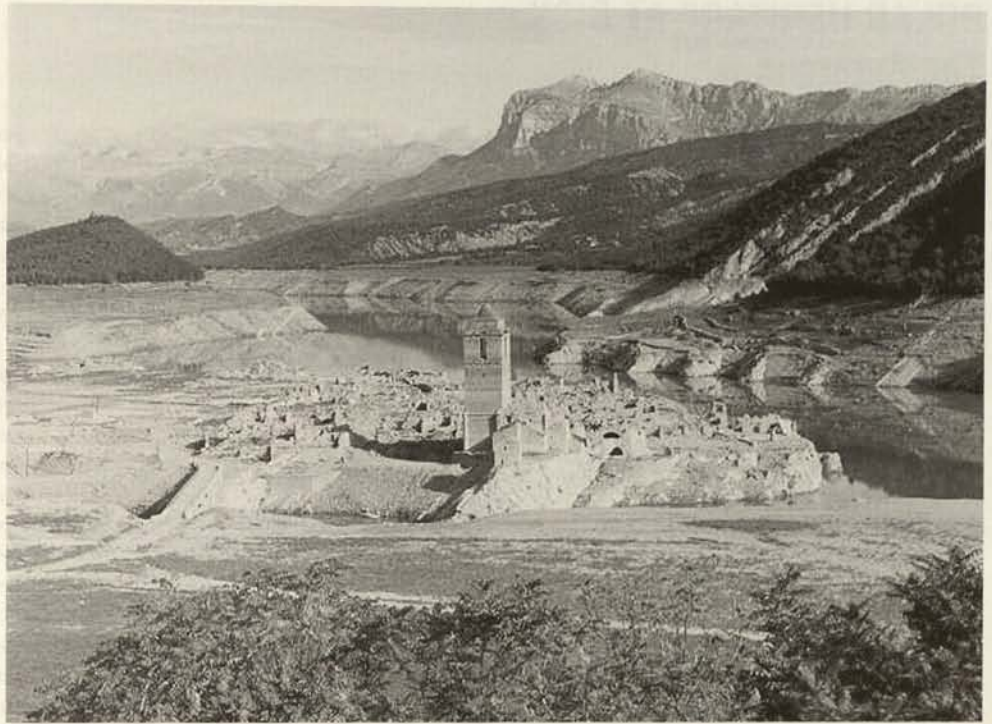
implementation of social and environmental mitigation plans. In some countries their recommendations can be binding on all parties. In others they are only advisory. The scope of the IRP powers is laid out in its terms of reference. They report to the regulator, developer, consultants, affected peoples and financing agency to help ensure the best possible social and environmental outcomes. The IRP is not a dispute resolution mechanism, but may assist in bringing issues to the attention of the relevant body for resolution.

IRPs offer independent assessments of the issues that should be dealt with in project level impact assessments and project implementation, while also providing a mechanism to transfer best practice from one project to another, both nationally and internationally. IRPs further provide a quality control function to assure the developer, regulator, financing agency and affected groups that the necessary standards are being met and that laws or guidelines are complied with, as laid out in the Compliance Plan.

Conclusion

Although improvements have been noted in recent years, potential cultural heritage impacts are still largely ignored in the planning process of large dams, especially in developing countries. The Commission's report found that large dams have had significant adverse effects on cultural heritage as they resulted in a number of cases in the loss of local cultural resources and the submergence and degradation of archaeological sites.

To move forward the Commission proposes an approach based on 'recognition of rights' and 'assessment of risks' as a tool for guiding the future planning and decision-making for water and energy resources. Good practice is promoted through the criteria and advisory guidelines of the Commission. The WCD has established a framework for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and if followed could lead to a reduced level of heritage degradation and improved mitigation approaches. In the long run, the Commission's report offers the opportunity to reduce conflict, reduce delays and lower overall costs to the operator, the government and to society in general.



Spain, Mediano reservoir prior to inundation

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POLAR HERITAGE AT RISK

The Antarctic

Why is it so important?

Antarctica was the last frontier on earth to be explored. The discovery and exploration of this largest continent on the globe is associated with remarkable stories of human endurance and sacrifice. These events have led to some of the extremely valuable scientific research that continues to this day.

In historic terms, the sites and the material associated with them are relatively young when it is considered that the first to set foot on the continent did so little more than a century ago. The activities related to these historic sites have been reasonably well documented and many first-hand accounts of these events are available, including those related to very recent events. As a consequence, many of the sites involved are also relatively well documented. This gives us a unique opportunity to capture and preserve the human history of this exceptional continent from the time of humankind's first contact with it.

Regrettably, the popular view that the historic material located on the continent is permanently preserved by the icy climate is far from the truth. The fact remains that the remaining structures and their contents are threatened by severe winds that drive ice particles and grit, by ice heave, and by corrosion in the marine environments where many are situated.

Examples of Sites

Over 50 sites are recorded by the Antarctic Treaty System as being historic. The majority of these are in the Ross Sea region where the most co-ordinated programme of conservation is being conducted by the Antarctic Heritage Trust – a New Zealand based international organisation which has undertaken the responsibility for this task.

The range of sites includes the huts built by the early explorers as shore bases. Some remain sturdy and secure while others are in a state of collapse. The contents of some remain as a testimony to the living conditions endured by their occupants, but variation of the interior environments is steadily destroying them.

In addition to the base huts, there are a number of sites of supply depots, camp sites, monuments and graves – all irreplaceable historic resources.

Threats

Because the Antarctic continent is a truly international territory and controlled in many respects by a consensus system under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, there is a lack of clear responsibility for the preservation and protection of its historic resources. Although conservation work is being conducted by a number of independent groups, they rely on finance and resources that they must raise themselves. It is much too easy for government agencies of the nations associated with the sites to claim that preservation is an international responsibility and ignore the fact that without their tangible commitment these sites will be lost.

Even when work programmes can be financed and resourced, the times when work can be done are limited to short periods in the summer. Logistic difficulties make access to many of the sites problematic and working conditions on site make all tasks painstakingly challenging.

The icy climate does not permanently preserve the sites – it is slowly destroying them. Windblown ice and sand is blasting away the wood, the high ultra-violet light from the long hours of summer sunlight bleaches and breaks-down organic materials, variation in humidity within the huts accelerates corrosion, and moulds and fungi are also active.

Antarctica has a very dynamic terrain, and wave action, glacial action and ice heave all present very real threats.

Although there is much expertise in the various disciplines of conservation, few people have the knowledge and experience required to undertake the necessary work in the field. Most techniques for conservation of various materials have been developed for controlled situations such as museums and art galleries. Once treated, such items can often be held in controlled environments, but this cannot be achieved in polar situations.

Finally, many of the hut sites are being 'loved to death'. Visitation by the increasing number of tourists and other personnel who live and work 'on the ice' also endangers the sites. In spite of improved management procedures, there are recurring instances of carelessness causing damage and even occasional theft. The cumulative effects of the movement of people around the sites also takes its toll. However, it must be remembered there are many advantages from such visits because those privileged enough to see the sites frequently become some of the greatest advocates for their protection, and they provide continuing support for the various conservation programmes.

The Arctic

Similarities

The cultural heritage we find today – the result of earlier visitors to the Arctic – is in many ways very similar to that of the Antarctic. The explorers, scientists, hunters, trappers and miners brought with them their own methods and solutions for living and working, or simply surviving in the northern polar area. They left behind them small wooden buildings, stranded vessels, graves, cairns, mining equipment and other signs of foreign impact, which are today not only keys to the historical events themselves and to human adaptation – or indeed to failure to adapt – to the hostile environment, but also can be uniquely preserved remains of a 'home' culture poorly documented in the country of origin.

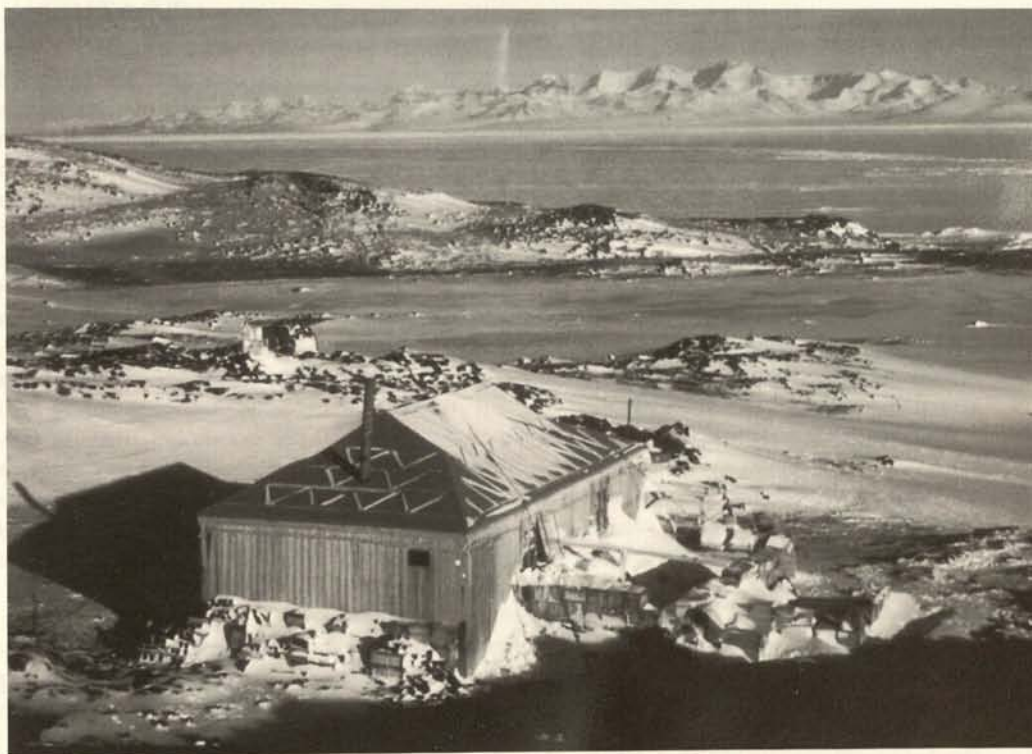
Combined with the existing records already found in archives, libraries, artistic representations and photographic collections, the cultural monuments and sites help to unfold the details of life and work, suffering and death, at and beyond the northernmost boundaries of human habitation. At the same time, they are a magnet to modern visitors to the 'pristine' Arctic wilderness, who seem to see no paradox between the concept of 'untouched nature' and the thrill of finding historical sites scattered across the wilderness.

The Political Situation

The political situation in the Arctic is different from Antarctica as there is no part of the Arctic land area that does not belong to a national State: USA, Canada, Greenland/Denmark, Norway and Russia, all with their own legislations and understandings of the

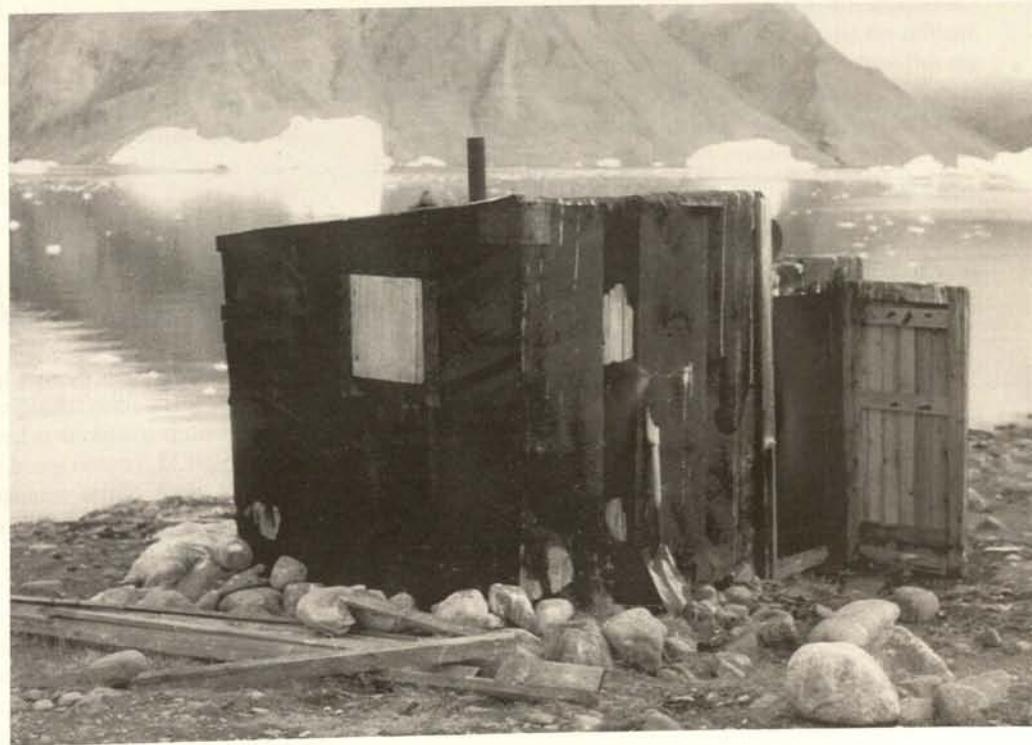
SHARED COLUMN

Ernest Shackleton's hut at Cape Royds, Antarctica (1907-09), one of the historical monuments from the "Heroic Age" of Antarctic exploration



Ernest Shackleton's hut at Cape Royds, Antarctica (1907-09), one of the historical monuments from the "Heroic Age" of Antarctic exploration

A Norwegian trapper's hut in North-east Greenland, erected in 1938. This was the standard size and type for such huts used as subsidiary living accommodation out in the hunting territory in connection with a slightly larger main cabin.



A Norwegian trapper's hut in North-east Greenland, erected in 1938. This was the standard size and type for such huts used as subsidiary living accommodation out in the hunting territory in connection with a slightly larger main cabin.

heritage question. National boundaries are, however, relatively new in the High Arctic. Consequently, historical monuments and sites, even as recent as the 20th century, can today lie in the Arctic territory of a nation other than their country of origin. Thus the cultural heritage of many nationalities is included in the common Arctic heritage, as is the case in the Antarctic.

Threats

The myth of the freeze-drying preservation of sites in extremely cold climates is also applied to the Arctic – although there is some measure of truth in it. Organic matter, including human corpses several centuries old, can be found amazingly well-preserved, as can buildings and building foundations when the conditions have been optimal. However, the harsh natural conditions contain a number of threats that it is not always possible to counteract. Many sites were placed near the coast for ease of access and are now threatened by coastal erosion. As in Antarctica, wind and ice break down buildings and wooden materials, while ice-heave destroys graves and depots and causes posts and markers to fall. The annual freeze/thaw of the surface layer causes wooden foundations to rot, while snow blown into buildings in the winter melts in the summer, again causing rot, fungus and then ice pressure during the next winter. Unlike the Antarctic, the Arctic heritage also has to withstand the ‘bulldozer’ effects of curious polar bears, which go through plank walls like they were paper, leaving the buildings even more exposed to the weather.

Other threats have more human origins and possible solutions. National authorities are not always aware of the value of heritage

from other nations’ early visits to their territory – such an awareness needs to be awakened and stimulated. Fieldwork is logistically expensive and the season is short, as in the Antarctic. In order to make the work more efficient, scientists working on specific problems of conservation in the Arctic need to be encouraged and assisted to contact those working with similar problems in other parts of the Arctic as well as the Antarctic. And as with the Antarctic, the tourist challenge needs to be met, controlled and stimulated to move in the right direction, for the best interests of the polar heritage. When one person visits a site, there may be no impact at all, but when repeated groups of people walk to and around a site, even with apparent respect and care, this can in the course of even one season leave irreparable marks in the fragile vegetation. In addition to detracting from the aesthetic value of the site, the damage to the vegetation may also lead to further damage to the thin surface soil layer and, in the worst case, cause a few footprints to develop into a deep meltwater channel. Not least of the issues is the need for an education programme and dissemination of information about the unusually modest appearance of many of the cultural heritage objects and sites in the Arctic, which leads to damage and destruction simply from lack of knowledge or understanding of their historic value.

The ICOMOS Polar Heritage Committee (IPHC) has recently been formed to attend to these challenges and threats facing the visitor heritage of both polar areas. Inevitably, many historical remains and sites will gradually disappear from natural causes, but we believe that any assistance we may be able to give to scientists, conservation agencies, government bodies and others dealing in some way with the cultural heritage of the Arctic and Antarctic, will be a positive contribution towards facing the various threats.

Susan Barr and Paul Chaplin
ICOMOS Polar Heritage Committee

SHARED COLONIAL HERITAGE

Introduction

This brief report has been prepared on behalf of the ICOMOS International Committee on Shared Colonial Heritage. It discusses the nature of the Shared Colonial Heritage resource and then briefly examines the risks posed to that heritage. It concludes that many of the risks facing the shared heritage from a variety of Colonial experiences are similar to those identified elsewhere in the ICOMOS Heritage at Risk research.

The Shared Colonial Heritage Committee is a relatively recent addition to the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee network, being formed in 1998. It held its first formal meeting during the ICOMOS General Assembly in Mexico in 1999. Much of the early work of the Committee has been undertaking the necessary background research for a publication to coincide with the ICOMOS General Assembly in 2002.

The Nature of the Resource

The nature of the Shared Colonial Heritage is represented by the architecture, urban planning and infrastructure introduced by various European Colonial regimes throughout the world, during the period between the late-15th century and World War II. There are many other examples throughout history where a nation State, or another political or economic entity, has imposed its economic and military might on an area beyond its traditional borders, not only in Europe but throughout Asia and elsewhere; however, the Committee has determined that it shall concentrate on the influence of the various European powers in the nominated period. Generally the Committee as part of its focus has not adopted the other main cultural influence throughout history, that of religion in forms such as Islam or Buddhism.

Colonial regimes were established by Portugal, Spain, Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Italy, the Scandinavian nations and, in the early decades of the 20th century, the United States. Their colonies were located in Africa, the Americas, across south, east and north Asia and in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

In essence, the significance and primary characteristics of the Shared Colonial Heritage are the responses made to the local situation and conditions that are reflected in the architectural and planning influences imported from the home country. In many cases, the architectural and planning themes across many different Colonies remain recognisably associated with the governing Colonial regime, but typically there is a degree of difference that expresses and responds to the individual local context.

Colonial regimes typically erected buildings and other infrastructure that enabled them to control and manage the Indigenous populations and to exploit the resources of the Colony to the benefit of the homeland. Buildings typically included churches, administrative, judicial and education buildings, defensive works, housing, prisons, communications infrastructure such as roads and railways, trading facilities such as ports and warehouses and agricultural, manufacturing or extractive industrial facilities.

The planning and architectural responses can be summarised as follows:

- The planning approach for a new town or urban area often over

layered the cultural landscape of a pre-existing Indigenous settlement. One of the clearest examples was the imposition, in the early 17th century, of a typical Dutch water town layout on the existing settlement at Jayakarta, in what became Batavia, the capital of the Dutch East Indies (now Jakarta in Indonesia). The mid-16th century Spanish settlement that became Manila in the Philippines is another example.

- The planning approach for a new town or urban area was often set-out adjacent to a pre-existing Indigenous settlement, such as the late-19th century French quarter in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- The planning approach for a new town or urban area often overlaid the pre-existing urban settlement from a previous Colonial occupation, such as in Melaka, Malaysia or Colombo in Sri Lanka.
- The nature of the topography and the characteristics of the particular site, for example a river crossing, coastal port or natural defensive position, often dictated amendments to the theoretical planning layout for a typical new settlement.
- The local building materials and construction techniques were often absorbed into the architectural expressions imported by the Colonial settlers.
- The climate and prevailing weather conditions often generated responses that altered the specific architectural expression of Colonial buildings.
- Local craftsmen and women were often employed in the construction and decoration of buildings erected by Colonial regimes. Local artistic and craft traditions and expressions were often added to the buildings or intertwined into the decoration.
- Economic conditions in the Colonial outposts and the difficulties in transportation and communication often meant that the architectural influences from the Colonial power took longer to reach the remote Colonies or lasted longer there than at home. Many key people in the Colonial societies or regimes often embraced or preserved stylistic influences from home as a nostalgic response to their isolation.
- Many individual architects, engineers and planners established themselves in Colonial outposts and developed bodies of work that became particular to the locality and the time, by extending the architectural, planning or design traditions from the homeland.

Depending on the length of time that a Colonial regime remained in power, the influences summarised above were absorbed into the visual and physical character of the settlements and cultural landscapes of the colonies. Often the influences from the overseas colonial experience were absorbed or adopted in buildings and landscapes of the mainland cities and towns.

Many of the people who managed and defended the colonies or who traded with them would move from colony to colony or be aware of the nature of nearby colonies of other powers. The influences are therefore notable for their dynamic nature and cross-fertilisation.

Major Threats to the Shared Colonial Heritage

There is no doubt that the period since the end of World War II has seen the break-up of most of the established Colonial regimes. This period has also seen both considerable economic progress in some former colonies and severe economic and social or ethnic

problems in others. In many cases the former Colonial power was driven out and was reluctant to return in any formal manner for some decades, in others the links remained and other cultural influences such as language, administrative or trading patterns remained to enrich the Indigenous societies.

While many of the threats to the Shared Colonial Heritage are similar to those faced by other aspects of the historic built environment, some influences are specific to this form of heritage. They can be summarised as follows:

- Emerging nationalism and the need to establish an independent identity has often encouraged former Colonies to reach back to their Indigenous traditions at the expense of the remaining Colonial-period architecture and infrastructure.
- Deliberate destruction of the remnant expressions of Colonial regimes can occur in the search for a new identity. At times this destruction has been caused by armed conflict, civil war or invasion as post-colonial societies establish control over their geographic locality.
- Some places, such as Central Manila, were heavily damaged during World War II or during liberation struggles and were not repaired or rebuilt.
- Neglect and decay caused by economic difficulties in the post-colonial period often leads to the gradual destruction of Colonial-period buildings.
- The departure of Colonial regimes often meant that some buildings – such as churches – fell into disuse.
- Economic pressures for social and urban development often lead to the destruction of colonial period buildings that are not of sufficient scale to match the demands of an emerging urban conglomeration. The development of high-rise urban buildings often causes the destruction of traditional urban settlements.
- Rural migration to urban areas and huge population increases in urban areas often place enormous pressure on traditional towns or Colonial settlements.
- Changing agricultural practices that replace Colonial regimes can lead to a change in the cultural landscape of whole regions.
- Adverse weather conditions, earthquakes, drought, cyclones and floods are often a feature of former Colonies, and can result in the destruction of Colonial-period buildings and other works.
- International aid and development programmes, especially those in urban areas or the provision of large-scale infrastructure can destroy Colonial-period buildings and other structures, as well as Indigenous settlements and cultural landscapes.
- Urban improvement programmes or responses to increasing levels of traffic in towns, can lead to the demolition of Colonial-period buildings to ease development pressures.
- The smaller-scale features of modern life, such as electrical wiring, plumbing, air-conditioners, satellite dishes and TV aerials, security screens, in addition to commercial advertising signs can disfigure or obscure the architectural expression of colonial buildings.
- The typical pressures of modernisation, slum clearance and the desire to match western urban development or architectural imagery can generate redevelopment pressures on older buildings.

The ICOMOS International Committee on Shared Colonial Heritage shares the concerns of other ICOMOS Committees and individuals in the need to recognise the risks to cultural heritage and to develop an awareness of the need to respond to those risks in an appropriate manner.

ICOMOS International Committee on Shared Colonial
Heritage

Prepared on behalf of the Committee by Graham Brooks,
Australia ICOMOS

HISTORICAL PARKS AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AT RISK

'Everything of value is vulnerable'. This was written by a Dutch poet and artist several decades ago. The words encapsulate a reality that is familiar to everyone. If they apply in general, they are certainly valid in respect of our natural and cultural heritage. In particular, they are true for our historical gardens, parks and landscape heritage.

Gardens and parks are particularly at risk by their very nature – due to the change of the seasons and the passing of time. Or, as it is put in the *Florence Charter* (1981), which was drawn up in respect of historical gardens and parks:

Its appearance reflects the perpetual balance between the cycle of the seasons, the growth and decay of nature and the desire of the artist and craftsman to keep it permanently unchanged (Article 2).

Landscapes usually change gradually, but sometimes quickly and radically, particularly in the West. 'Designed landscapes' experience change and are touched up in the course of time or are transformed into new ones through irreversible environmental intervention.

Due to the process of globalisation, 'associative landscapes' are at risk of increasingly being unable to retain their hidden significance in contemporary society. They are losing their religious, artistic and cultural values. This changes the manner in which they are perceived and experienced, and consequently their appreciation is also fundamentally altered.

Throughout the world, the traditional links between increasingly urbanised communities and their natural surrounding are being severed. Old, traditional cultures are being transformed into new phenomena. In ever larger parts of the world, 'organically developed landscapes' are increasingly yielding ground to land that is designed and rendered functional with the aid of a drawing board or computer. How to integrate relict or fossil landscapes is still an open, unanswered question.

What is the overall position of gardens and landscapes within monuments conservation?

More is written and spoken about this heritage and more conferences are held to discuss it than professional conservation projects are executed. However, in various parts of the world, there is growing public interest in gardens as an expression of the art and culture of bygone civilisations and generations.

Its primary focus is on a number of acknowledged accomplishments. In Europe and Asia, international cultural tourism is intensively frequenting a number of gardens and parks from the past that have been pronounced to form a canon.

Conservationists usually direct their attention to historical buildings. That a garden, park and building are closely linked to each other compositionally and iconographically as a concept and design, and that a garden or park can constitute an 'architectural and horticultural composition' (*Florence Charter*, Article 1) in its own right, appear to be unfamiliar territory to them or to escape them. Town planners view public parks more as open and public areas within urban patterns, rather than inquire into their artistic or aesthetic significance or what their import is to the identity of the locality or the image of the city or town in question.

Several reasons may be cited as to why gardens, parks and landscapes are virtually defenceless against rationalised administration and regular garden maintenance, against land-price politicking, against dynamically expanding towns and cities, or in the

case of landscapes, against the global search for sources of energy.

With some exceptions, historical garden culture is seriously threatened virtually everywhere. In actual fact, these monuments are constantly in great danger everywhere and most are at risk of obliteration.

Risks and Threats

When is there a threat? And what is threatened? Are material conditions at stake or is it the loss of authenticity or integrity? Or is the entirety of the design at risk of disappearing? Or is the historical nature of the place, the *genius loci* endangered?

This begs the question as to how one can measure all of this. Often it is not possible to draw firm boundaries, except where an intervention has occurred that can be clearly described in terms of size and time. Change, decay and loss usually follow each other stealthily in the course of time. Usually, their transition can only be determined in retrospect.

There are many different kinds of threats. Almost everywhere, parks and gardens occupy a subordinate position in the ranking and practice of monument conservation. For the most part, inventories and registries mention and describe buildings and their past. A single word suffices to refer to any accompanying historical garden. However, garden adornments such as pavilions or statues are given a bit more attention, certainly if one can link them to the name of an architect or artist.

Most countries do not provide active, systematic protection for historical gardens and parks, nor for heritage landscapes (unlike the systematic designation of areas of nature as national parks). Not only are the legal instruments required to do this often lacking, so is the expertise. The landscaping curriculum represents an exception in this respect as it covers tuition devoted to the restoration of these monuments.

There is also an internal threat to this heritage in that it comprises living organisms. Parks can die of old age. A lack of maintenance can soon transform parks and gardens, letting nature have free rein.

Nature conservationists often regard an old, preferably overgrown park as an important biotope that should be conserved. The public cherish old trees, rejecting moves to chop them down and replant on emotional grounds. They do not realise that by doing this, a historical park can be lost to future generations. The subject does not rate high on the political scale.

Nowadays, historical gardens and parks are usually open to members of the public, who use them for walking and recreation. They are often places of initial, hasty, furtive human contact.

Although they are not designed for this purpose, historical parks are increasingly used for public demonstrations, concerts, exhibitions of contemporary sculpture, shows and mega-shows, fairs, meetings, processions, sport or 'love parades'. People imagine themselves in natural surroundings, in the middle of an inviting décor. Organisers do not listen to anyone who raises the question as to whether such a park is capable of hosting events of this nature. Only the available space and the nature of the surroundings count. In the most favourable situation, financial compensation is forthcoming if any damage occurs.

The situation is rendered even more difficult by the stratification of landscapes. Only in the past 10 years has landscape as a form of cultural heritage been placed on the international agenda

(UNESCO World Heritage; European Landscape Convention; Charter of Krakow 2000). Around us we can see that landscapes alter due to their own dynamics and changing functions. Initially, we often respond emotionally and reject this. But how should one act?

In the case of national parks, the emphasis is more on nature, habitats and ecosystems rather than culture. It is certainly clear that cultural landscapes are not to be seen as open-air museums.

The ICOMOS-IFLA Committee has noted that there are 'poor levels of appreciation, understanding, information and care, among those who, in one capacity or another and at all levels, are responsible for looking after them, from government administrators to gardeners'.

It also mentions that there are inadequate standards of education, training and readily accessible information about:

- the principles and concepts that operate in connection with the ideas of 'heritage', 'culture', 'landscape' and 'conservation';
- the preparation of appropriate policies and management plans;
- the process and skills of management and upkeep.

Generally speaking, there is also 'inadequate explanation of the garden and landscape heritage to the public and insufficient engagement of them in its conservation'. This threat is also evident in 'poor levels of understanding of the relationship between the garden and landscape heritage and broader issues such as the quality of life for people, the quality of the human and natural environment'.

In this respect one must consider what is the social significance of a garden or park from the past. The Florence Charter refers to it:

as the expression of the direct affinity between civilization and nature, and as a place of enjoyment suited to meditation or repose, the garden thus acquires the cosmic significance of an idealized image of the world, a 'paradise' in the etymological sense of the term, and yet a testimony to a culture, a style, an age, and often to the originality of a creative artist (Article 5).

The World Heritage Committee described heritage landscapes as 'combined works of nature and of man', which

are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal (Operational Guidelines Implementation, World Heritage Convention, Article 36).

In many places, the large parks that were once part of regal palaces have become part of the fabric of modern cities. They are used intensively; in fact, so intensively that an admission fee is charged (Giardini di Boboli, Palazzo Pitti, Florence). In Vienna and Madrid the parks Schloss Schönbrunn (UNESCO World Heritage) and the Parque del Retiro respectively, are very popular with both the citizens of those cities and tourists. Millions of people visit them every year. One can imagine how a park suffers as a result.

Facilities need to be established in order to cope with such large numbers, which can change the historical structure of a park, for example, by paving and widening paths. Maintenance costs are high. It is but a small step to start considering hosting major events so as to be able to cover operating costs.

Should one actually allow fairs and similar attractions to be accommodated at the edge of a park designed by André Le Nôtre (the Jardin des Tuileries, Paris, France)? In Amsterdam (the Netherlands) the Vondelpark, a park that enjoys protection as a

monument, is facing the threat of sinking into the soft, swampy subsoil a few centimetres every year.

Even parks and gardens that UNESCO has designated to be World Heritage sites can face direct threats or ones that are not directly visible. Relatively few sites of this nature are included in the World Heritage List, including the Classical Gardens of Suzhou, and the Summer Palace and Imperial Garden in Beijing (China), the gardens and castle in Kromeriz (Czech Republic), the parks of Versailles and Fontainebleau (France). In Germany there are the Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust in Brühl, and the palaces and parks of Potsdam and Berlin, such as the Park an der Ilm of classical Weimar. Then there is the immense park of the 18th-century Royal Palace in Caserta, in Italy, as well as the gardens of ancient Kyoto and ancient Nara in Japan. In Spain there is the Alhambra, Generalife and Albayzin in addition to the Parque Güell in Barcelona. As well, we have the Royal Domain of Drottningholm in Sweden and the Studley Royal Gardens of Fountains Abbey in the United Kingdom. In the past year the World Heritage Committee has placed the Shalimar Gardens in Pakistan on the List of World Heritage Sites in Danger.

For years now, great care and expertise have been devoted to the recovery and restoration of the chain of parks and gardens in Berlin and Potsdam (Glienicke, Babelsberg, Sanssouci, Neuer Garten and Pfaueninsel) situated alongside the Havel River. Where this heritage landscape was once threatened with the impact of the construction of a large building complex (Potsdam Centre), Germany is still developing plans for high frequency shipping on the Havel using boats with a length of some 200 metres. And all this in the heart of a heritage landscape of 'exceptional universal significance'.

By way of conclusion, mention can be made of other random but illustrative examples of acute threats in various places. Portugal boasts an extremely interesting heritage of gardens. Even in the case of a park that is protected as a monument – in this case the Quinta da Bacalhoa in Azeitao that dates from the 16th century – it appears to be possible for a new owner to destroy and remove not only historical vegetation but also the historical irrigation system. The ICOMOS-IFLA Committee has approached the Portuguese government in connection with this.

In addition, the examples below from Argentina, Bulgaria and Germany show potential outcomes of a similar nature.

Argentina: Cultural Landscapes and Historical Gardens¹

Argentina originally possessed an outstanding landscape heritage. This was due to its position, climatic variety and range of geographical features: mountains, rainforests, ocean and river coasts, lakes, prairies, deserts, valleys, waterfalls, glaciers, and our immense and characteristic 'Argentinean pampa'.

With the Spanish conquest and the subsequent urbanisation of the territory, ancient and contemporary generations have depredated, degraded, polluted, contaminated and destroyed different natural properties. The pioneer actions of Charles Thays and Francisco P. Moreno in the beginning of the 20th century, which proposed and created the first Natural National Parks, have not been followed by example.

Our original landscape also included humans: the indigenous population that was decimated to 'enlarge the borders of the civilisation'. The resulting great empty space was partially replenished with the arrival of our direct ancestors – immigrants – who came from very different regions and contributed to the creation of a culturally diverse society. The idea of 'one' Argentinean identity

ignored the diverse landscape heritage as well as the cultural variety of the new inhabitants. (In fact, the Argentine Republic is a sum of regional identities.) The result was the concretion of an imported urban pattern across the whole territory that was based on attempts to establish a cultural and spatial 'standardisation'. Some transformations of our original landscape, due to the development of human settlements, produced cultural landscapes representative of our everyday life. Due to their scale and type of intervention, the character they had impressed on the land was retained over time: for example, farming, bridges and roads, and some urban coastal avenues. However, today we are also losing landscapes such as these.

The public-space pattern based on Spanish plazas without vegetation, followed by the adoption of a French-park design that included plantings, gave our cities a similar image to those we wanted to imitate overseas. As a result, Argentinean people were graced with a relative abundance of parks and plazas of great heritage value, most with enough value and history to be defined as historical gardens. Unfortunately, they were not taken care of or given appropriate respect. Consequently, the gardens that still exist no longer reflect the form and expanse of the original examples.

Today we face a harsh reality regarding our heritage in general and our landscape in particular. The main problems are:

1. Lack of a historical garden and landscape inheritance culture.
2. Ignorance of our natural and cultural heritage values.
3. Lack of knowledge of and non-compliance with the criteria established in international documents that the country has previously adopted.
4. Ineffective, non-professional, politicised, and non-transparent management of landscape and garden heritage by public agencies.
5. Incorrect maintenance of Listed Monuments.
6. Insufficient and incorrect legislation.
7. Absence of relevant trained professionals and technicians in public agencies.
8. An insufficient number of landscape and historical gardens listed as protected heritage. We only have the following examples: one park because of its landscape values, four squares because of their historical values, and several gardens adjoining listed buildings. Incredibly, none of them were included in the recent edition of the National Historical Monuments' Guide.

In addition, we face a number of challenges to the protection of our landscape and garden heritage.

Alarming decrease of green surface area

This is primarily caused by illegal usurpation and legal but confusing concessions of land in public spaces: almost all our public parks have been invaded by private clubs and institutions that take up enormous surface areas that must be returned to the public. These appropriations facilitate the loss of land integrity and result in a shrinking of fragile properties that deserve specific and specialised care. As a consequence of incomplete projects, even more numerous than those that have reached completion, all our parks suffer a constant over-use. The result is spatial suffocation and the deprecation of our flora and fauna at an alarming rate. The direct sale of public historical gardens to private parties is well illustrated in the recent case of Salvador María del Carril Square in Buenos Aires city, which will now be developed to build a market place.

Loss of original design

This is being brought about by usurpations, incorrect maintenance by public agencies, and lack of surveillance of maintenance by

sponsors. Unsympathetic elements have been included, altering the original design and features: for example – fences, wastebaskets, lighting, non-aesthetic monuments, publicity material. Neither the original style nor quality has been respected. Some years ago, a City Mayor demolished the most important part of Burle Marx's unique public masterwork.

Incorrect maintenance

There is often a failure to include the WHOLE property with its different components (design, vegetation, art masterworks, equipment, services, uses, signification, toponymy). Proper maintenance requires the efforts of multidisciplinary professional groups, which are not available in the public agencies so there is a need for ongoing consultation with NGOs. Providing lighting to a fountain, or the unveiling of a new statue, must be considered as parts of a guided professional project – not the results of political or diplomatic pressures or the whim of a government office. All historical gardens must have a professionally designed Master Plan that has been approved by appropriate government agencies, specialised professionals, NGOs and local community groups.

Unsuitable uses

Enormous musical or sports gatherings held in historical gardens and without proper preparation cause unforgivable damage. Motor vehicle transit in historical gardens and parks should be prohibited, minimised, or only allowed if at low speed. The construction of underground car parks beneath historical gardens has turned them into giant 'flowerpots', because the concrete car-park roof acts to prevent and obstruct root growth.

Incorrect organisation of government agencies responsible for public promenades

Public Parks Agencies have lost the centralised authority they had in the past, and today several different agencies participate in garden maintenance. The results are characterised by lack of consultation and overlapping responsibilities. Public Parks Agencies need to centralise and co-ordinate all maintenance actions, employing both regular surveillance and protection measures authorised through legislation. In addition, financial resources should be used with common sense.

Lack of correct legislation

Historical gardens constitute the majority of our public parks and urban squares. Only the Parque 9 de Julio (Tucumán City) is protected by national legislation that takes into account its landscape values. Private examples simply do not exist. Parks, gardens and squares are not included in the National Law of Protection.

Action

The following actions must be taken urgently:

1. Introduce adequate protective legislation at national, provincial and municipal levels.
2. Engage specialists with extensive experience in heritage protection and conservation theory and practice.
3. Include experts in different heritage fields in the National Commission of National Historical Monuments.
4. Prepare a scientific Historical Gardens Inventory and Catalogue as a first step to their legal protection.

5. Enhance the functions of government agencies by means of public, open and transparent contests for executive, counselling and technical positions in all Public Parks Agencies.
6. Organise local specialisation courses and seminars and offer scholarships to study overseas projects as we have very few experts in historical gardens and cultural landscapes.

Properties at risk

Cultural landscapes

- Iberá Lagoon (Corrientes Province): savage exploitation of natural resources and risk of construction of a bridge that will alter ecosystems without an environmental impact study.
- Martín García Island (Buenos Aires Province): jurisdictional incompatibilities are causing a disruption in the site's natural-cultural equilibrium.
- Costanera Sur Natural Park and Ecological Reserve (Buenos Aires City): more than 300 preventible fires, alteration of water salinity, plans to undertake 'cultural gardening' in a natural site.
- Río de la Plata (Buenos Aires City): environmental alteration, loss of the open river view.

Historical parks

- Independencia (Rosario City): usurpations, replacement of 'soft' materials with 'hard' ones, inappropriate uses.
- San Martín (Mendoza City): usurpations, inappropriate uses.
- 3 de Febrero (Buenos Aires City): usurpations, spatial desegregation, insufficient and incorrect maintenance activities, inappropriate uses, overuse.
- 9 de Julio (Tucumán City): over-use, inappropriate uses of a National Historic Landmark.
- General Mitre (Corrientes City): usurpations, inappropriate uses.
- Pereyra Iraola (Buenos Aires Province): intention of sale of an enormous section of land, almost 30%.

Historical gardens

- Numerous squares throughout the country (at least 50).
- Costanera Norte of Buenos Aires City: construction of an airport with coast refilling.
- Costanera of Corrientes City: loss of cliffs, inappropriate uses.
- Palacio San José and its gardens (Entre Ríos Province): incorrect conservation works at a National Historic Landmark.
- Villa Ocampo and its garden (San Isidro, Buenos Aires Province): National Historic Landmark, lack of maintenance by UNESCO, disagreement between government and NGO groups, incorrect recycling projects.

Bulgaria

Vrana Park

Vrana Park, formerly the property of the royal family, situated 11 kilometres from Sofia, occupies a total area of 80 hectares. The composition is shaped in a landscape style that was created by foreign specialists – Joul Lochot, landscape architect (France); Jochen Kelerer, rock-garden specialist and botanist (Austria); Anton Kraus, landscape gardener (Czech); and Wilhelm Schacht, landscape architect (Germany).

Its spatial and colourful arrangement, its valuable and exotic vegetation (skillfully used in its open spaces), periphery massifs

and groups of trees, and strongly vertical and colourful effect, combine to make Vrana Park an outstanding and artistic example of park design. The effect of the composition is further strengthened by the style and placement of the pool and rock gardens.

More than 100 conifers, either free-standing or forming the basis of skilfully composed groups of trees, must urgently be cut down. They are all seriously affected by forest decline, compounded by the prolonged drought, polluted air and high temperatures of last summer.

Unfortunately, neither the political nor financial situation is sufficiently strong to guarantee the survival of the park.

Evksinograd Park

Evksinograd Park, the summer residence of the royal family, is situated on the Black Sea, 8 kilometres to the north of Varna. In 1894 Prince Alexander I Batemberg invited Karl Eduard Petzold to design the residential park. Unfortunately, the completion of the project was interrupted by the dethronement of the Prince.

His successor, King Ferdinand Sax-Coburg, charged Eduard André with the completion of the park. The territory of the park was enlarged to 55 hectares and the central part reconstructed in the French style.

The elegant composition of the park is a skilful harmony between French and English styles. The spatial composition is remarkable, characterised by impressive light and shadow effects and the seasonal dynamics of both local and exotic vegetation. There are more than 45 coniferous varieties, 26 deciduous tree varieties and 22 evergreen shrub varieties, all native to southern France, Hungary, Algeria and Syria. The surrounding Black Sea landscape serves to further intensify the already magnificent visual perspectives.

The state of vegetation that is more than 100 years old is very deteriorated. The period of internal social change coincided with the time when regeneration was urgently needed. Underestimation of the problem, lack of tradition, and the lack of skilled personnel and regional authorities, compounded by a severe lack of financing, have resulted in a crucial situation that puts the existence of the park in jeopardy.

Germany

The Berlin Tiergarten endangered by the Mega-event 'Love Parade'

The Berlin Tiergarten has been a listed park since May 1991. Covering 220 hectares, it is the largest, oldest and most historic park in Berlin. Since as early as the 1980s, comprehensive historic garden restorations and renewals have been undertaken that are intended to secure and strengthen the park in its traditional experience and recreation quality, as well as in its art historic and ecological importance.

The Tiergarten is renowned far beyond the borders of Berlin as an extraordinary work of garden architecture for the German-speaking nation. The State monument authority has applied an enormous amount of effort and funding. Despite this unique importance, since 1996 potentially destructive mega-events, the so-called 'Love-Parades', have been allowed to take place in the Tiergarten.

We are aware today that 10% of the 220-hectare large terrain has already been destroyed, which equates to approximately 0.5 hectares per 'Parade'. In the vicinity of 1.3 million 'ravers' roll through the Tiergarten during each annual 'Love-Parade', causing

damage worth millions. The ecological development of the listed park has already been thrown back by 10 years, so that all concerned groups are demanding an urgent stop to the parades that are destroying both the natural and cultural heritage.

Planned conservatory in the park of castle Benrath

Art historians consider castle Benrath near Düsseldorf, finished in the last third of the 18th century, as a culmination of the princely *Maison de plaisance*. Not only the castle, but also the park and garden, are legitimately praised as masterpieces of the late Rococo and were designed by the architect Nicolas de Pigage who was born in Lorraine and educated in Paris.

Although neglected for a long time, the Land Nordrhein Westfalen together with its capital Düsseldorf have increased their efforts to bring the park and castle Benrath back to the conscience of the general public and to the attention of interested experts through various activities within the framework of the Euroga 2002. These initiatives from State and communal institutions that aim at the revaluation, reconstruction and revitalisation of the historic garden aspects that have been neglected for a long time, are of special significance today with the application for the listing of Benrath in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

It is therefore of critical concern that the district council of the

town of Düsseldorf have planned the construction of an oversized 'glass orangery' in the Benrath park. The placement of a large, modern orangery building at the nominated location must be considered very questionable, within the context of a significant and highly sensitive architectural, art and garden historic ensemble.

It is rightly feared that the size and incongruity of design of the orangery cold house – to be presented as a glass sculpture – would impose a totally unsympathetic element among the historic building and garden environment. Far from being visually integrated, it would result in an optic explosion.

While some consider the new structure to be a positive addition to the Benrath grounds, experience teaches us that it will lead instead to irreparable damage of the cultural values of the castle and its garden, as well as destroying the specifically rural quality of the ensemble. The disruptive effect of a new building with such design characteristics must be considered in advance.

With the large number of pot plants at Benrath, it makes practical sense to have a so-called cold house in the castle area. However, the aim should be for a restrained orangery building that does not interfere with the high quality of the monument. In the unhappy event that the decision is given to go ahead, and the modern glasshouse will still be placed at Benrath, it should be located outside the central area of Benrath at a site that does not interfere so dramatically with the monument and its garden.

ICOMOS-IFLA International Scientific Committee of Historic Gardens-Cultural Landscapes

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HERITAGE AT RISK FROM TOURISM

Introduction

At the 1999 General Assembly in Mexico, ICOMOS adopted the revised *ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter*, which had been prepared by the Cultural Tourism Committee in the period since the 1996 General Assembly in Sofia.

The specific aim of the *Charter* was to improve the relationship between conservation practitioners and the tourism industry. Previously the relationship had been one primarily focused on minimising the negative effects of tourism on sites and places of cultural significance. The *Charter* recommends that one of the primary reasons for undertaking any conservation works is to make the significance of the place more accessible to visitors and members of the host community, in a well-managed way.

The work currently being undertaken by ICOMOS in examining the wide-ranging risks faced by cultural heritage is an important international initiative and is commended by the International Cultural Tourism Committee. Given that tourism is one of the largest economic activities in the world, and accounts for the largest international and domestic movement of people, tourism can and does place considerable pressure on the world's heritage resources. In the company of armed conflict, economic development and environmental pollution, tourism can be regarded as one of the major factors that places Heritage at Risk.

This paper takes the various issues covered in the *ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter* and examines them as risks to the world's cultural heritage.

What is Cultural Heritage?

The *Charter* defines Heritage as a broad concept that includes the natural as well as the cultural environment.

- It encompasses landscapes, historic places, sites and built environments, as well as biodiversity, collections, past and continuing cultural practices, knowledge and living experiences.
- It records and expresses the long processes of historic development, forming the essence of diverse national, regional, indigenous and local identities and is an integral part of modern life.
- It is a dynamic reference point and positive instrument for growth and change.
- The particular, the heritage and collective memory of each locality or community is irreplaceable and an important foundation for development, both now and into the future.

The Dynamic Interaction between Tourism and Conservation

Domestic and international tourism continues to be among the foremost vehicles for cultural exchange, providing a personal experience, not only of that which has survived from the past, but also of the contemporary life and society of others. It is increasingly appreciated as a positive force for natural and cultural conservation. Tourism can capture the economic characteristics of heritage and harness these for conservation by generating funding, educating the community and influencing policy. It is an essential part of many national and regional economies and can be an important factor in development, when managed successfully.

Tourism itself has become an increasingly complex phenomenon, with political, economic, social, cultural, educational, bio-physical, ecological and aesthetic dimensions. The achievement of a beneficial interaction between the potentially conflicting expectations and aspirations of visitors and host or local communities presents many challenges and opportunities.

Natural and cultural heritage, diversities and living cultures are major tourism attractions. Excessive or poorly managed tourism and tourism-related development can threaten their physical nature, integrity and significant characteristics. The ecological setting, culture and lifestyles of host communities may also be degraded, along with the visitor's experience of the place.

Tourism should bring benefits to host communities and provide an important means and motivation for them to care for and maintain their heritage and cultural practices. The involvement and co-operation of local and/or Indigenous community representatives, conservationists, tourism operators, property owners, policy makers, those preparing national development plans and site managers is necessary to achieve a sustainable tourism industry and enhance the protection of heritage resources for future generations.

Threats from Tourism to Cultural Heritage

The threats from tourism to natural and cultural heritage of a particular place or community can be many and diverse. They include:

- A lack of adequate or appropriate presentation and communication of the significance of a place to both the visitor and members of the local or host community can lead to a lack of understanding and appreciation of the culture and heritage of the place within the wider community. This lack of awareness can hinder or prevent the development of public, political and governmental support and funding to protect and conserve the place.
- An improper or inequitable balance in programmes for the interpretation and presentation of the physical attributes of a place including its intangible aspects, contemporary cultural expression and the broader context of minority cultural or linguistic groups, can lead to an unbalanced or narrow understanding of the cultural heritage in the mind of the wider community.
- Inadequate integration of cultural heritage protection and management laws and practices into social, economic, political, legislative, cultural and tourism development policies at national and regional level can diminish the protection and conservation of cultural heritage over time.
- Inadequate recognition of the potential conflicts between tourism projects and activities and the conservation of cultural heritage can lead to poor planning and adverse impacts on the heritage and lifestyles of the host community.
- Conservation, interpretation and tourism development programmes that are based on an inadequate understanding of the complex and often conflicting aspects of significance of a place can lead to a loss of authenticity and reduced appreciation of the place.
- Tourism development can have adverse impacts on a place if it does not take account of the aesthetic, social and cultural dimensions, natural and cultural landscapes, bio-diversity characteristics and the broader visual context of heritage places.

- Excessive, poorly planned or unmonitored tourism activities and development projects can impose unacceptable levels of change on the physical characteristics, integrity, ecology and biodiversity of the place, local access and transportation systems and the social, economic and cultural well-being of the host community.
- Visitors who show little respect for the sanctity of spiritual places, practices and traditions by conducting themselves in an irresponsible manner can have an adverse impact on those places and the communities that regard them as important parts of their cultural identity.
- Tourism activities that consciously or inadvertently encourage trade in stolen or illicit cultural property can have an adverse effect on the cultural resources of the host community.
- Poorly planned, designed or located visitor facilities can have an adverse impact on the significant features or ecological characteristics of heritage places.
- Disrespect on the part of visitors for the rights and interests of the host community, at regional and local levels, property owners and relevant Indigenous peoples who may exercise traditional rights or responsibilities over their own land and its significant sites, including restriction of access to certain cultural practices, knowledge, beliefs, activities, artefacts or sites, can lead to conflict and have an adverse impact on the host community.
- Lack of consultation with host communities or Indigenous custodians in establishing goals, strategies, policies and protocols for the identification, conservation, management, presentation and interpretation of their heritage resources, cultural practices and contemporary cultural expressions, in the tourism context can lead to conflict and have an adverse impact on the host community.
- If the economic, education, employment, social and cultural benefits of tourism are not distributed to the host communities in an equitable manner, both in terms of gender and geographic coverage, conflicts can arise in those communities against tourism. This can, in turn, limit the distribution of income derived from tourism for the conservation of heritage places.
- The use of guides and interpreters from outside a host community can minimise opportunities for the employment of local people in the communication of the significance of the place to visitors. This can discourage local people from taking a direct interest in the care and conservation of their own heritage.
- A lack of integrated education and training opportunities for policy makers, planners, researchers, designers, architects, interpreters, conservators and tourism operators can hinder the resolution of the, at times, conflicting issues, opportunities and problems encountered by their colleagues.
- Tourism promotion programmes that create unrealistic expectations and do not responsibly inform potential visitors of the

specific heritage characteristics of a place or host community can encourage them to behave inappropriately.

- Promotion and management of heritage places or collections that do not minimise fluctuations in arrivals and avoid excessive numbers of visitors at any one time can adversely impact both the significance of the place and the visitor experience.
- Tourism promotion programmes that do not encourage visitors to experience the wider cultural and natural heritage characteristics of a region or locality can limit the wider distribution of benefits and relieve the pressures on more popular places.
- The poorly managed promotion, distribution and sale of local crafts and other products can prevent a reasonable social and economic return to the host community, or potentially degrade their cultural integrity.

The Role of the ICOMOS Cultural Tourism Charter

The *ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter* can play a major role in managing the risks that tourism places on the cultural heritage. These roles are summarised in the stated Objectives of the *Charter*:

- To facilitate and encourage those involved with heritage conservation and management to make the significance of that heritage accessible to the host community and visitors.
- To facilitate and encourage the tourism industry to promote and manage tourism in ways that respect and enhance the heritage and living cultures of host communities.
- To facilitate and encourage a dialogue between conservation interests and the tourism industry about the importance and fragile nature of heritage places, collections and living cultures including the need to achieve a sustainable future for them.
- To encourage those formulating plans and policies to develop detailed, measurable goals and strategies relating to the presentation and interpretation of heritage places and cultural activities, in the context of their preservation and conservation.

In addition:

- The Charter supports wider initiatives by ICOMOS, other international bodies and the tourism industry in maintaining the integrity of heritage management and conservation.
- The Charter encourages the involvement of all those with relevant or at times conflicting interests, responsibilities and obligations to join in achieving its objectives.
- The Charter encourages the formulation of detailed guidelines by interested parties, facilitating the implementation of the Principles to their specific circumstances or the requirements of particular organisations and communities.

Graham Brooks
ICOMOS International Committee on Cultural Tourism

TRAINING AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF RISK PREPAREDNESS

The ICOMOS *Guidelines on Education and Training in the Conservation of Monuments, Ensembles and Sites*, prepared by CIF (Committee International Formation) and adopted by the Colombo General Assembly in 1993, emphasise that:

Conservation of cultural heritage is now recognised as resting within the general field of environmental and cultural development. Sustainable management strategies for change, which respect cultural heritage, require the integration of conservation attitudes with contemporary economic and social goals including tourism.

Furthermore, the object of conservation is seen in prolonging the life of cultural heritage and, if possible, in clarifying the associated artistic and historical messages without the loss of authenticity and meaning. The Guidelines also highlight the importance of including disaster preparedness in conservation training programmes.

Training in disaster preparedness and in methods of mitigating damage to cultural property, by strengthening and improving fire prevention and other security measures, should be included in courses. (Art. 9)

Improving Awareness

The importance of *awareness raising and training* has been further emphasised in other documents related more specifically to risk preparedness. The Canadian summit, held at Quebec in 1996, stressed the links between heritage protection and clear identification of heritage values in the built environment. The Kobe–Tokyo meeting on risk preparedness (January 1997) listed several *target groups* whose sensitivity should be increased in terms of the benefits and requirements of risk preparedness for cultural heritage: heritage specialists, site managers, policy and programme administrators, politicians, property owners, occupants and users, military personnel, volunteers, media and the public in general. The declaration further stressed the need to integrate appropriate training within existing educational systems, institutional frameworks and relief efforts, to continue preparing and diffusing practical guidelines and training packages. After the earthquake that struck central Italy in 1997, the final declaration of the ICOMOS seminar in Assisi (February 1998) again specified that risk assessment and emergency response require people with adequate training, and that the target groups particularly include site managers and those who are responsible for the care of properties. (These documents are appended to: Stovel 1998.)

Hazards

There are obviously many types of *hazards* that can affect heritage sites and properties. Prof. G. De Angelis used to distinguish between natural and human-caused problems, dividing the effects into sudden and prolonged. The prolonged actions can generally be kept under control through regular maintenance programmes and timely repair. Sudden disasters include those caused by earth-

quakes, tidal waves, landslides, volcanic eruptions, cyclones, floods, avalanches, and fires. In addition, there are damages caused by armed conflicts, wars, or terrorist attacks. In sudden actions, such as these, the problem is often that they tend to come as a surprise, and it is only too human to forget the previous event. Nevertheless, even sudden actions can be mitigated through appropriate *preventive management strategies*. Bernard Feilden has always stressed the importance of routine *inspections*, undertaken even more often during the year, and in the case of emergencies, after heavy rains, winds, or disasters. There should be a more thorough inspection and report every five years, as recommended for public buildings in Great Britain. The findings of the inspections should be assigned *priorities* in accordance to their urgency: immediate action, urgent problems, necessary, desirable, keep watch, and future liabilities (Feilden 1998: 31). The necessary actions should then be integrated into *annual work plans*.

'Between Two Earthquakes'

According to a recent study in India and Nepal, the inhabitants of Bakhtapur and Punjab, which suffered from serious earthquakes, have generally tended to return to their old houses, repairing and adjusting the ruined structures with hardly any effort toward structural improvement to attempt to mitigate the next seismic action. Even in Italy, for example, in the case of the earthquake of Umbria and Marche in 1997, much of the damage was due to *lack of preparedness*. This could have arisen from a combination of poor structural condition due to *lack of maintenance, poor technical planning and execution* of anti-seismic measures (legally prescribed), and *lack of appropriate site control* – itself partly due to a limited understanding of the behaviour of existing structures. Furthermore, there were problems caused by the *lack of preparedness* in providing the population of endangered sites with temporary accommodation; this brought additional suffering to families, as well as wounding the surrounding landscape, where large areas were flattened and covered with concrete to provide a foundation for temporary shelters and infrastructures.

It is not by chance that Sir Bernard Feilden named his small guideline dealing with preparedness in relation to earthquakes *Between Two Earthquakes* (Feilden 1987). An important part of disaster preparedness is in *learning from previous events*, as well as improving and anticipating actions for the future. Preparedness should, however, go even further and be proactive. In this regard, the Italian Istituto Centrale del Restauro has provided an innovative model with the *Risk Map of Cultural Heritage* at the national level. The map identifies areas of concentration of heritage resources, as well as the various types of hazards – from air pollution to floods, landslides and earthquakes – and presents the different layers of information using GIS (ICR 2000). It is worth noting that Dr. Hans Foramitti introduced similar ideas into training within the International Architectural Conservation Course (ARC) of ICCROM in the 1970s. In addition to training the relevant personnel responsible for heritage resources, Foramitti emphasised the importance of defining *alternative access routes* to all critical places. He stressed the importance of indicating all hazards of a particular site on the relevant *inventory cards* as a basis for preventive action.

Towards Integrated Management

Herb Stovel, in his *Management Manual* (1998), notes that there is often certain reluctance in accepting the impact of hazards on cultural heritage and to act accordingly. It is obvious that any training will only become feasible if it is *motivated and accepted* psychologically and politically as an integrated part of management. Stovel stresses the need to strengthen collaborative working habits and a more serious and professional attitude to preparedness by all those who work in the heritage field. There is need to integrate all the related fields in the preparedness plans, including built heritage, collections, and the environment. We can articulate our actions in relation to disasters in three main phases: 1) *preparedness*, 2) *response*, and 3) *recovery*. It would be logical that *the main emphasis in training* should be given in the phase of preparedness. Here the aim should be in mitigating risks, integrating relevant hazards in management and routine maintenance strategies, as well as preparing the necessary response plans.

During or immediately after a disaster, actions must be undertaken according to plans involving properly trained teams of people. Nevertheless, in the phase of recovery, there is again the possibility to introduce training addressing particular target groups. At the same time, of course, *the recovery phase should be seen as a new preparedness phase*, i.e. 'between two earthquakes'. For example, in the event of the Montenegro earthquake in 1979, the heritage authorities were able to mobilise teams for the assessment of heritage properties in the destroyed sites, using clearly articulated criteria and categories that facilitated the programming of subsequent reinforcement, reconstruction and rehabilitation. Unfortunately, the engineering criteria had been developed in relation to new constructions, and did not fully recognise the value and special character of historic structures, thus causing unnecessarily heavy interventions and even further destruction. In the same context, ICCROM with the help of UNESCO also organised technical advisory missions and training seminars addressing conservation professionals as well as the authorities responsible for the definition of engineering criteria.

Advance research in the behaviour of historic structures, and the *integration of sympathetic building and planning norms into the legal framework* are obviously fundamental conditions for a reasonable success in such recovery efforts. Another aspect is the need for *involved persons and institutions to be properly prepared* for their tasks. Following the Montenegro earthquake, an international planning commission undertook the responsibility of co-ordinating recovery efforts, which lasted several years, and included the development of planning criteria to be implemented in future constructions. In many countries, there have since been serious efforts to improve the understanding of the behaviour of historic structures. It is important that the results of such research be made available and that these be integrated into training programmes in all relevant fields. Special attention should be given to structural issues, and particularly to those institutions responsible for testing and confirming the relevant standards and criteria of intervention. The failure to reach a positive result in the safeguard of historic resources can depend on the lack of understanding and appreciation of the significance of a site by the team, but often it also depends on the lack of appropriate legal norms and standards to sustain conservation-oriented recovery, rather than opting for clearing the ground for new constructions. Therefore, training is required for specialist teams as well as for administrators to sensitise legislators in their tasks.

Being Prepared

Training in risk preparedness in heritage resource management fundamentally means thinking and acting in advance. General guidelines exist for the preparation of action plans, in terms of types and methodologies of actions. It is important that such training also includes consideration of temporary interventions, because these can be harmful or hinder later actions if not done properly. However, preparedness also means clearly understanding the significance and character of each site, an issue that must necessarily be based on prior research and surveys of the sites concerned. Such issues will need to be integrated into conservation policies, general master plans, relevant management programmes, and maintenance strategies, so as to identify the tasks, responsibilities, and financial and human resources. It is also essential to establish close collaboration between the different institutions responsible for disaster preparedness and risk mitigation; these particularly include those working with the community, such as the Red Cross and other voluntary organisations, so as to better co-ordinate relevant tasks and duties. Such collaboration should be subject to organised workshops or seminars.

The purpose of training in relation to risk preparedness is to prepare persons and institutions so as to be able to strike at key issues at strategic moments, foreseen in the strategic planning process. Training should not only focus on technical aspects – special attention should be given to understanding the significance of the heritage resource. It is on this foundation that action plans should be prepared. The forms of training can vary. Teams responsible for site management and routine maintenance are important target groups. These people and institutions will be in the best position to act when required. At a more general level, however, mitigating risks is essential in order to inform the site management of hazards, but also to take necessary precautions to take preventive action in a larger context: for example, to avoid landslides, to prevent flooding, to take necessary precautions to prevent fire, as well as to provide information about effective means of consolidating structures in seismic zones. The issue is about attitudes based on understanding, as well as about the skills and know-how to be capable of acting. It is here that international collaboration, such as the platform provided by the Blue Shield programme, can be useful and necessary. In any case, training must not remain an isolated phenomenon, but it should be clearly integrated into the whole process of preventing damage to heritage and society.

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THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE BLUE SHIELD (ICBS)

Working for the Protection of the World's Cultural Heritage

The Blue Shield is the cultural equivalent of the Red Cross. It is the symbol specified in the 1954 Hague Convention for marking cultural sites to give them protection from attack in the event of armed conflict. It is also the name of an international committee set up in 1996 to work to protect the world's cultural heritage threatened by wars and natural disasters.

The International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) covers museums and archives, libraries, and monuments and sites. It brings together the knowledge, experience and international networks of the four expert organisations dealing with cultural heritage: an unrivalled body of expertise which is now available to advise and assist in responding to events such as war in former Yugoslavia and hurricane damage in Central America. ICBS is international, independent and professional.

The Mission of the ICBS is to work for the protection of the world's cultural heritage by co-ordinating preparations to meet and respond to emergency situations. Its objectives are:

- to facilitate international responses to threats or emergencies threatening cultural property;
- to encourage safeguarding and respect for cultural property especially by promoting risk preparedness;
- to train experts at national and regional level to prevent, control and recover from disasters;
- to act in an advisory capacity for the protection of endangered heritage;
- to consult and co-operate with other bodies including UNESCO, ICCROM and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

It achieves this by:

- collecting and sharing information on threats to cultural property world-wide;
- raising public awareness about damage to cultural heritage;
- promoting good standards of risk management among those responsible for cultural heritage at all levels, from institutions to national governments;
- working to make decision makers and professional staffs aware of the need to develop prevention, preparedness, response and recovery measures;
- providing professional expertise to help meet emergencies;
- identifying resources for disaster prevention and for rapid intervention in emergencies encouraging the establishment of national Blue Shield committees.

The vital work of the ICBS was recognised in the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention agreed in April 1999 by 84 countries. This gives ICBS a new role, to advise the inter-governmental Committee for Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Local Blue Shield Action

It is vital that the international initiative is taken up and supported by local initiatives. Blue Shield Committees are being formed in a number of countries. They bring together the different professions, local and national government, the emergency services and the

armed forces. They provide a forum for them to improve emergency preparedness by sharing experiences and exchanging information. They provide a focus for raising national awareness of the threats to cultural heritage. They promote the ratification and implementation by national governments of the Hague Convention.

ICBS is formed by four non-governmental organisations:

- ICA – the International Council on Archives
- ICOM – the International Council of Museums
- ICOMOS – the International Council on Monuments and Sites
- IFLA – the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions.

Requirements for National Committees of the Blue Shield

The following requirements are to be met by national initiatives that wish to seek recognition as national Blue Shield committees.

1. Initiatives for establishing a national committee of the Blue Shield should fully recognise the ICBS Charter as adopted by ICBS in Strasbourg, 14 April 2000:
In order to protect endangered cultural heritage, the International Committee of the Blue Shield has been created in 1996 by the four non-governmental organisations, which represent professionals active in the fields of archives, libraries, monuments and sites, and museums.
In the framework of the Hague Convention (1954) for the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, ICA (International Council on Archives), ICOM (International Council of Museums), ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), and IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) have taken up the emblem of the Convention as symbol of the International Committee of the Blue Shield.
The four organisations have decided to work together to prepare for, and respond to, emergency situations in case of armed conflict or natural disaster that could affect cultural heritage. They respect the following principles:
 - joint actions
 - independence
 - neutrality
 - professionalism
 - respect of cultural identity
 - work on a not-for-profit basis.
2. Initiatives for establishing a national committee of the Blue Shield should have the support of the national representatives of all four non-governmental organisations listed above, which together form the ICBS. In case of doubt, the bureaux of the four non-governmental organisations will decide on the respective representational claims.
3. An appropriate representative of initiatives to establish a national committee of the Blue Shield should inform the ICBS of the membership, contact addresses, meeting schedules and agendas and relevant national events of the proposed national committee.

4. An appropriate person or organisation on behalf of initiatives to establish a national committee of the Blue Shield may request the ICBS to grant official recognition. The ICBS has the sole right to decide whether to accord such recognition.

Approved by the International Committee of the Blue Shield at its meeting in Paris, 8th June 2001.

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LE COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DU BOUCLIER BLEU (ICBS)

Pour la protection du patrimoine culturel mondial

Le Bouclier Bleu est l'équivalent de la Croix Rouge pour le domaine culturel. C'est le symbole choisi par la Convention de La Haye (1954) pour marquer les sites culturels à protéger en cas de conflit armé. C'est également le nom d'un comité international créé en 1996 pour protéger le patrimoine culturel mondial en cas de guerre ou de catastrophe naturelle.

Le Comité international du Bouclier Bleu (ICBS) regroupe les musées, les archives, les bibliothèques, les monuments et les sites historiques. Il réunit le savoir, l'expérience et le réseau international de chacune de ces organisations oeuvrant en faveur du patrimoine culturel: il constitue un vivier exceptionnel d'experts disponibles pour conseiller et porter assistance lors d'événements tels que la guerre en Yougoslavie ou les ouragans en Amérique Centrale. L'ICBS est une organisation de professionnels elle est internationale et indépendante.

ICBS a pour mission de protéger le patrimoine culturel en coordonnant les actions préventives afin de pouvoir faire face et répondre aux situations d'urgence.

Les objectifs:

- faciliter l'intervention de la communauté internationale lorsque le patrimoine culturel est menacé ou lors de situations d'urgence;
- encourager la sauvegarde et le respect du patrimoine culturel et plus particulièrement la prévention des risques;
- former des experts au niveau national et inter-régional capables de prévenir et maîtriser une catastrophe puis d'assurer un retour à la normale;
- intervenir en tant que consultant pour protéger le patrimoine culturel en danger;
- travailler en liaison avec d'autres organisations notamment l'UNESCO, l'ICCROM et le Comité international de la Croix Rouge (CICR).

Les actions:

- collecter et partager les informations sur les risques menaçant le patrimoine culturel à travers le monde;
- sensibiliser le grand public aux dommages causés au patrimoine culturel;

- communiquer les règles de bonne gestion des risques aux différents responsables du patrimoine culturel (institution, gouvernement...);
- inviter les décideurs et les professionnels à prendre les mesures nécessaires pour la prévention et l'établissement d'un plan d'urgence, ainsi que l'intervention en cas de sinistre et la remise en état;
- offrir l'expertise de professionnels en cas d'urgence;
- identifier les ressources nécessaires à la prévention des catastrophes et à une intervention rapide en cas d'urgence;
- encourager la formation de comités nationaux du Bouclier Bleu.

Le travail essentiel du Bouclier Bleu a été reconnu en avril 1999 dans le Deuxième Protocole à la Convention de La Haye par 84 Etats membres. Cette reconnaissance renforce le rôle de l'ICBS qui agit dorénavant comme conseil auprès du Comité Intergouvernemental pour la Protection du Patrimoine culturel en cas de conflit armé.

Les comités nationaux du Bouclier Bleu

Il est vital que les initiatives internationales soient relayées et encouragées par des initiatives locales. Des comités du Bouclier Bleu ont été créés ou sont en cours de constitution dans plusieurs pays. Ils rassemblent des professionnels d'horizons variés, des instances gouvernementales locales et nationales, des services d'urgence et l'armée. En permettant l'échange d'expériences et d'informations, ces comités constituent un forum pour mieux réagir aux situations d'urgence. Ce sont pour chaque pays des foyers de sensibilisation aux dangers encourus par son patrimoine culturel. Ils encouragent la ratification et l'application par les Etats membres de la Convention de La Haye.

L'ICBS est constitué par les quatre organisations non gouvernementales suivantes:

- ICA – Conseil International des Archives
- ICOM – Conseil International des Musées
- ICOMOS – Conseil International des Monuments et des Sites
- IFLA – Fédération Internationale des Associations de Bibliothécaires et des Bibliothèques

MUSEUMS AT RISK

ICOM Museums Emergency Programme: Prevention and Recovery in Emergency Situations

Human and natural disasters are a major threat to cultural heritage. Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, land slides, volcanoes, wind effects, fires, war and other catastrophes wreck havoc on the environment and sometimes completely destroy entire areas of cultural heritage, both moveable and immovable. The objective No. 8 of the *ICOM Triennial Programme 1998–2001* was 'to defend the heritage in danger'. In August 1999, ICOM sent a questionnaire concerning disasters to its National Committees. Around 40 countries answered and provided useful information and references for the development of a long-term programme (see report from the USA below). This programme could be considered within the framework of the concerns of the International Committee of the Blue Shield, which was established to facilitate international response to threats or emergencies through co-operation at a global level. The programme could also be considered as a response to the needs expressed by museum professionals all over the world. Collaboration with specialised institutions at international and local level will be a priority in order to avoid superposition of actions in the same field. The Blue Shield National Committees network, together with the National and relevant (Conservation: ICOM-CC and Security: ICMS) International Committees of ICOM, UNESCO, ICCROM, GCI, ICOMOS, ICA, IFLA and Red Cross and other humanitarian organisations will become an active part in the implementation of the programme.

The aim of the programme is to advance understanding and awareness of the nature of disaster phenomena and of how to limit and contain damage by using preventive conservation measures and rapid interventions, in order to save cultural heritage and avoid the development of a crisis. The programme will contribute through increased knowledge from case studies and empirical research:

- to show how rescue, salvage and aftermath operations can be co-ordinated to achieve maximum performance under intense pressure;
- to improve research and strengthen the capacities of museum professionals in the field of emergency planning, disaster preparedness and recovery by taking into account all ecological implications, community-involvement aspects and by respecting local traditional techniques and methods;
- to compare strategies, and share knowledge and insights on a world wide scale;
- to enable the creation of a pro-active climate where contingency planning is a central element in the prevention and mitigation of disasters;
- to produce, translate and disseminate tools in the form of examples of specific web sites, handbooks/guidelines on emergency planning, disaster preparedness and recovery for museums, also available on the web, and so on;
- to train museum professionals with theory and field exercises to be able to prevent and react to disasters;
- to publish and disseminate surveys results and the diagnostics of National/Regional resources on disaster preparedness;
- to enable the creation of regional groups of experts specialised in disaster prevention and recovery for museums and able to train other colleagues in their region;
- to equip those groups of experts with basic instruments and reference material for disaster prevention and recovery;

- to launch an awareness and fund raising campaign to make regional groups self sustainable;
- through the evaluation of the whole programme, to identify new actions to disseminate the knowledge acquired.

Phases of the Programme

The first phase of the programme will be an International Conference to increase public awareness of movable heritage vulnerability, disaster preparedness and recovery. Its objectives will be:

- to sensitise the participants of the Conference and the public invited to the problems connected to movable heritage disasters;
- to improve their awareness and raise their specific knowledge in this field;
- to create a network of specialists on movable heritage emergencies all over the world that could collaborate in disaster situations, especially in co-ordination with the ICBS (International Committee of the Blue Shield);
- to produce a document with guidelines and recommendations on moveable heritage emergencies, which will give emphasis on legal and government decisional aspects and public involvement.

Participants will be invited from all over the world, and include museum and heritage professionals (conservation and management); senior police members; fire, ambulance and medical emergency planning officers; health and safety professionals (Red Cross, Medecins sans frontières); mechanical and civil engineers, environmental scientists, and representatives of insurance companies.

The second phase of the programme will include at least nine thematic workshops that will be organised all over the world in the following subjects and their related disasters: armed conflict, tropical storms (hurricanes, typhoons), earthquakes, flooding, fire, volcanoes, industrial and energy pollution, inadequate maintenance and training, and vandalism, theft and looting. The workshops will bring together museum professionals coming from regions affected by the same 'disaster' – for example, earthquakes: Japan, Italy, Pacific Islands, Central Asia, California Central and South America. By the end of the workshops, participants will have an advanced understanding of the nature of their specific subject (armed conflict, tropical storms, earthquakes, flooding etc.) and have learnt how to limit and contain damage, and will have produced thematic draft support didactic materials for the other phases of the programme.

The third phase concerns the publication, translation and diffusion of handbooks on disaster preparedness and recovery, which will be also available on the web. These publications will contain guidelines and recommendations on moveable heritage emergencies, with emphasis on legal and government decisional aspects and public involvement. Glossary, bibliographies, a list of organisations acting in the world in this specific field (with complete addresses and web pages), legal instruments already available, a list of instruments and technical support companies and other useful documents will be included. The publications will be produced

at least in English, French and Spanish. If necessary or suitable, translations in other languages will be possible with local funds and support. The publication will be available on the web and at least distributed to all participants in the training activities and to heritage institutions throughout the world.

The fourth phase will focus on the creation of regional and/or thematic (for example, specialised in earthquakes or hurricanes) groups of experts, specialised in disaster prevention and recovery for museums, able to train other colleagues in their region. In the countries where the National Committees of the Blue Shield already exist, they will serve as a reference point.

The fifth phase concerns the launch of the awareness and fund raising campaign in order to make regional groups self sustainable. This type of action could, for example, include the 'Museums at risk day' including differentiated fundraising activities at a local level.

The sixth phase will include the organisation and implementation of Training Workshops on Disaster Preparedness and Recovery at the regional level (with a snowball effect: trained professionals could train others, and so on) for professionals related to museums. This training activity will have a practical approach and exercises. The Training Workshops will contribute to the creation of professional expertise to create emergency plans and design, co-ordinate and rescue activities of museum collections in emergency conditions, as well as preventing disasters in exceptional situations. It is intended to make available, if necessary, the Handbook on Disasters preparedness in the language of the country that hosts the workshop and to publish the diagnostic of national/regional resources in disaster preparedness and make this available to all heritage institutions in the region at least.

In order to give sense and continuity to the programme, and to ensure the sustainability of the programme in the different regions, themes addressed by the project (such as emergency planning, preventive conservation, and so on) should be introduced into relevant university training-curricula. Legislation to support emergency planning should also be improved or introduced. Professionals trained through this programme could then act as trainers and organise additional training activities in their region for other professionals.

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The Effect of Natural and Anthropogenic Disasters on Museums and other Cultural Resources

Cultural heritage, like human life, is inevitably and irreversibly affected by natural and anthropogenic disasters. The bombing of the Uffizi Museum in Florence in 1993, the transportation of objects from the National Museum of Kuwait to Baghdad in 1990, and Japan's Kobe earthquake in 1995 all caused the destruction or loss of irreplaceable links to our cultural heritage. The protection of cultural heritage is the primary responsibility of all museum professionals. Therefore, on 1 June 1999, the ICOM Executive Council formed a working group to address the issues noted in Objective 8 of the 1998–2001 Triennial programme. Objective 8 is

designed to defend heritage in danger through the following initiatives:

- increase solidarity between museums and professionals;
- improve response to urgent needs expressed by professionals facing situations of armed conflict or natural disaster;
- support and encourage national participation in, and respect of, relevant international cultural protection Conventions and other international instruments;
- improve general information about the extreme vulnerability of the world's natural heritage;
- fight against the illicit traffic in cultural property;
- collaborate with police, customs officers and other relevant authorities;
- continue ICOM's participation in the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS);
- collaborate with UNESCO and the States party to the Hague Convention of 1954 in the revision of the Convention, and in its subsequent promotion;
- create a structure for interaction between museum professionals and the scientific community for the purpose of generating and disseminating information relating to ecological and cultural degradation.

In accordance with the Objective 8 initiatives, the Executive Council prepared a questionnaire to determine the effects of disasters on member countries' cultural institutions. The questionnaire focuses not only on museums, but also on cultural heritage as a whole. The Executive Council distributed the questionnaire on 13 August 1999 and urged each country to complete it as fully as possible.

US Responses

The first step for AAM/ICOM, the US National Committee, in completing the questionnaire, was to gather statistics on disasters by consulting government publications such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Storm Data Report, the FBI's Bomb Data Center Report, and the United States Fire Administration's Fire in the United States. The World Wide Web was an invaluable resource; many of the governmental websites have links to vast databases of information.

The statistics on disasters in the United States are startling. Each type of disaster is singly capable of destroying numerous lives and millions of dollars in property each year.

- Tornadoes average about 1100 deaths a year and cause between \$400 and \$750 million in damage annually.
- Floods are the US's number one weather related killer, as well as the weather disaster that causes the most property damage. Floods caused over \$6 billion in damage in 1997 alone.
- In the period between 1990–1999, 18 hurricanes landed on the US mainland. Hurricanes caused over \$49.5 billion in damage between 1990–1999.
- From 1990–1999, the US experienced over 28,000 earthquakes, ranging in magnitude from 0.1–7.9 on the Richter Scale.

The US is affected by more than just natural disasters. The FBI report 'Terrorism in the United States' describes the international and domestic terrorist attacks against the US. The report shows an average of about 3 incidents a year from 1990–1997, with a high of seven attacks in 1990 and a low of zero attacks in 1994.

The FBI Bomb Data Center collects and reports bombing information; its reports reflect the unlawful use of explosive and incendiary devices in the United States. The Bomb Data Center reports an average of 2000 bombings in the United States each year.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) shows an average of 102 fires in museums and 212 fires in libraries each year. The direct property loss from all fires is about \$9.8 billion a year; however, the indirect costs of fires reach over \$100 billion annually. Of the 22 industrial nations that are examined by the World Fire Statistics Centre, the US fire death rate was higher than all but two – Finland and Hungary. One reason for this disparity is that the US emphasises the use of advanced fire suppression technology and fire service delivery mechanisms, while other nations emphasise fire prevention.

Effects on Cultural Institutions

United States cultural institutions are not unaffected by the numerous disasters that strike the country each year. However, identifying cultural institutions affected by a disaster was a challenge. No formal records are kept on US disaster-affected institutions. Neither the American Association of Museums (AAM) nor any of the regional associations keep records on institutions in their jurisdiction that have been damaged by disasters. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) assistance records do not define recipients by type and are therefore ineffectual in determining the effect of disasters on the nation's cultural heritage. Many museum professionals knew of institutions within their region that had been damaged or destroyed. Because this information was kept and communicated in an ad hoc manner, a notice was posted on Museum-L and in museum association newsletters asking for information on disaster affected museums. None of these listings elicited significant responses. Therefore, a one-page survey that included the museum's address and contact information, the type of disaster experienced, the resulting damage, what actions were taken to prevent and recover, and what assisting organisations were involved was sent to the 2893 institutional members of AAM.

The results were overwhelming. A total of 796 surveys were returned, a response rate of 28%. The response demonstrates the importance museum professionals place on protecting their institutions from disasters. Thirteen additional institutions, whose disasters were published in newspapers or other media, were also included, bringing the total number of documented institutions to 809. The survey results show the devastating effects disasters have on cultural institutions. Of the institutions examined, 303 (37.5%) had at least one disaster between 1990–2000. Thirteen respondents (1.6%) reported damage by disasters before 1990. Therefore, 493 (60.9%) were not affected by disasters.

Types of Disasters and Extent of Financial Damage

The following numbers and percentages reflect disasters occurring in examined museums between 1990–2000, as requested in the ICOM questionnaire.

- Some institutions had more than one disaster; the total number of disasters that affected museums was 384.
- The disaster that affected the most responding museums was the hurricane; 49 museums were damaged by these storms.
- Vandalism and flood both damaged 48 museums, and severe thunderstorms damaged 32.
- Seventy-five museums selected the 'Other' option on the survey and specified various types of disasters, including: Helon release, avalanche, building collapse, hail, ice storm, insect infestation, shooting, and volcanic ash fall.

Museums that reported disasters were also asked if they had an emergency preparedness plan in effect at the time of the disaster; 47% responded in the affirmative. Forty-eight percent did not have an emergency preparedness plan and 5% did not respond.

The disasters that affected US museums during the 1990–2000 period caused significant financial damage.

- Fire, although it affected only 11 museums, caused the most damage; it accounted for between \$3.5 million and \$5.7 million in loss.
- Floods caused between \$2.3 million and \$5.0 million in damage.
- Hurricanes cost the cultural community between \$2.0 and \$4.1 million.

The total estimated damage of all disasters that affected museums in the decade, 1990–2000, was between \$13 and \$27 million. This total indicates an average damage amount of \$43,000 to \$88,000 per institution. The broad range of financial damage reported reflects the bracketed valuations used in the survey.

Responsibility for Protection

Although the issue of the protection of cultural property is one of concern at the national, regional, and state levels, currently, no national organisation is charged with the specific role of the 'safeguard and evacuation of cultural property' as defined in the ICOM questionnaire. The responsibility to protect the US's 1500 botanical gardens and arboreta, 185 zoos and aquaria, 122,000 libraries, 8000 museums, and countless archives is addressed by institutional-specific organisations and informal, localised agreements. For example, the National Park Service maintains two event teams that protect National Park areas. Both teams secure and protect curatorial collections from damage, are composed of federal law-enforcement officers, and are activated 24 hours after an event begins. The teams are focused primarily on NPS sites, but will assist other federal land-management agencies when requested.

Non-federal institutions that require assistance to protect and evacuate their cultural property rely on loosely structured arrangements within their region or state. They may pool and share resources or offer transportation, storage, or support services to other museums in the collaborative network. The absence of a formal organisation or national policy that addresses the safeguard and evacuation of cultural property does not indicate, however, a disregard of the importance of preserving the cultural heritage of the United States. The National Task Force on Emergency Response, formed in 1994, is a group of more than 80 cultural service organisations and federal agencies. Their goal is to ensure that in future disasters, cultural institutions better anticipate problems and quickly find the help necessary to speed recovery. Many national, regional, and state museum and library organisations, as well as regional conservation alliances, work to develop and provide disaster training for cultural institutions. Topics in training sessions include the development of practical emergency preparedness plans, evacuation procedures, and disaster recovery steps. In this manner, cultural heritage institutions become their own resource for the safeguard and evacuation of cultural property.

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LIBRARIES AT RISK

Ever and again libraries have been or are at risk and not a month goes by without IFLA (International Federation of Libraries Associations and Institutions) being warned of a new catastrophe. To list all the libraries that have sustained damage for one reason or another, or that are immediately threatened, would be a fastidious task and would only attract a limited interest.

Knowing those dangers, how to confront them, and how to minimise their causes and their effects in the future seems to be a more efficient process if the great number of libraries throughout the world is taken into account – along with the importance of their contents for collective memory.

When speaking of the dangers that threaten libraries it is important to make a distinction between the buildings, the collections, and the information they possess, each of these being the target of different and often specific risks.

Natural versus Human Threats

A clear line must be drawn between unavoidable natural risks, and the catastrophes resulting from human actions. In the first category are found the great natural disasters: earthquakes, floods, fires, landslides, tidal waves, tsunamis, tempests, hurricanes, cyclones or typhoons. Even when appropriate preventive measures have been adopted, significant damages are seldom avoided. For example, IFLA has been brought-in to look at the destruction of a large part of the collections from the Franciscan library of Arequipa in Peru.

Among human-made catastrophes, armed conflicts are differentiated from disasters due to neglect. Wars between nations, civil wars and terrorism have represented, and keep doing so, a constant danger for libraries. Unfortunately, we can now observe the resolution of different warring factions to strengthen their military actions through the destruction of libraries. Libraries are considered to be the testifiers of an opposing culture, kept within books and other media. Libraries then become primary targets. Sarajevo has been a good example of this. However, in most cases, danger is encountered on a daily basis, usually the result of carelessness or of lack of means. It also comes from politicians' absence of concerns, and even more simply from the disrespect shown to cultural heritage. Floods, leakages of all kinds, fires and thefts that regularly damage and mutilate our libraries are all too common.

In regard to this worrying situation, it is important to make a distinction between libraries located in permanent risk areas, and libraries found in temporary risk areas. In the first case vigilance must be absolute, and preventive measures should be taken in order to limit unavoidable damages as extensively as possible. This is the case of every library situated in an earthquake area or in a region threatened by hurricanes. In the second case, the danger faced by libraries, although important, remains nonetheless momentary. This is the case of armed conflicts, and multiple examples have recently been encountered – whether in Kosovo, in Macedonia, in Sierra Leone or in East Timor, and Afghanistan of course.

International Strengths – the ICBS

Are we then powerless to face these threats? Not really. From the end of World War II, and after having established the tremendous losses sustained by cultural heritage and by libraries in particular ('Lost Memory', Joan van Albada), UNESCO proposed a convention for the protection of cultural goods in the situation of armed conflict (The Hague Convention 1954). At the same time cultural organisations representing archives (ICA – International Council of Archives), libraries (IFLA – International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), museums (ICOM – International Council on Museums), monuments and sites (ICOMOS – International Council on Monuments and Sites), decided to unite their strengths to create the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) in 1996 in order to preserve cultural heritage, not only in cases of armed conflict but also against natural disasters. Moreover, UNESCO has favoured the growth of a new programme intended to preserve the 'World Memory'. This programme aims at protecting and saving important world documents, as well as at facilitating their access to a greater public and is mostly due to an active policy of numerical indexing.

Of course, IFLA is actively involved with the Blue Shield committees and with the 'World Memory' programme. IFLA is conscious of the fact that co-operation and prevention are the spearheads of effective action regarding the protection of cultural heritage.

How will IFLA accomplish this policy of protection and preservation? First of all it is essential to save the contents, especially when for inescapable reasons the containers themselves cannot be saved. Action must be simultaneously conducted on several fronts:

- Duplication of information on a replacing medium, and most of all storage of the copies in a different place from the originals. Special attention must be given to numerically indexed documents as well as to oral tradition. The harsh example of NASA's loss of the first recordings of its original expedition to the moon does not cease to haunt librarians' minds. As Amadou Ampatheba put it: 'In Africa, when an old man disappears it is an entire library that burns down'.
- Drawing-up collection inventories is also an absolute necessity. Indeed, how can a vanished collection possibly be built-up again if there is no record left of its content?
- Finally, awareness programmes concerning potential and unexpected risks have to be undertaken. They should be directed toward the greater public and professionals, but also toward decision makers, politicians, civil societies and the military. Thus, in order to increase the chances of success, a narrow collaboration among all the parties that belong to the cultural sector and of the relief agencies is necessary. The creation of the national committees of the Blue Shield, the elaboration and the up-to-datedness of emergency response plans, as well as signature to The Hague Convention's Second Protocol by the greatest number of Member States will, in the long term, constitute the best prevention.

Marie-Therese Varlamoff
IFLA

A selection of press reports on *Heritage at Risk 2000*

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LE DEVOIR, LE MERCREDI 22 NOVEMBRE 2000

LE DEVOIR

CULTURE

ENSEMBLE CONTEMPORAIN
DE MONTRÉAL

29 novembre 2000, 20h

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PATRIMOINE

Merveilles en péril

Le Conseil international des monuments et sites publie un premier rapport mondial sur le patrimoine en péril

STÉPHANE
BAILLARGEON
LE DEVOIR

Comme la Vieille Ville de Québec, Pompéi figure sur la liste du Patrimoine mondial. La ville romaine détruite par l'éruption du Vésuve en 79 est fouillée depuis près de 250 ans. Chaque année, des masses et des masses de touristes visitent le site et injectent au passage des dizaines de millions de dollars dans l'économie italienne. Pourtant, Pompéi est en piteux état, pour ainsi dire détruit une seconde fois. Les fameuses fresques des résidences cossues se délabrent à vue d'œil parce qu'elles ont été mal restaurées. Le sel et l'humidité endommagent les structures anciennes, elles-mêmes ravagées par des ajouts de béton armé. La végétation s'infiltré sur le site mal entretenu.

En Afghanistan, c'est encore plus simple: il ne reste plus rien, ou presque. Deux décennies de guerre ont laissé le patrimoine de ce pays exsangue. Des joyaux mondiaux ont été laissés à l'abandon, d'autres carrément et volontairement endommagés ou détruits. Par exemple, les gigantesques statues de bouddhas de Bamian, da-

tant des VII^e et VIII^e siècles, vandalisées à la grenade. Ou le musée de Kaboul, frappé par une roquette en 1993, puis pillé. A Washington, le patrimoine bâti disparaît sournoisement derrière le «façadisme», cette technique, bien connue à Montréal, consistant à ne conserver d'un immeuble ancien que sa façade.

Ces tristes exemples figurent dans le premier *Rapport mondial sur les monuments et sites en péril* publié par le Conseil international des monuments et sites (ICOMOS), un organe consultatif de l'UNESCO, la branche culturelle et scientifique de l'ONU. L'organisme compte quelque 6000 membres regroupés en 107 comités nationaux et 21 comités scientifiques internationaux.

Le rapport canadien propose cinq études de cas, dont le patrimoine religieux du Québec et le mont Royal

Le document diffusé sur Internet (www.icomos.org) a été préparé par une petite équipe, le président de l'ICOMOS, l'Allemand Michael Petzel, l'Australien Sheridan Burke et Dinu Bumbaru, pivot du groupe de pression Héritage Montréal. «A Paris, au siège social de l'ICOMOS, nous recevons presque chaque jour des appels à l'aide et des rapports sur des monuments détruits ou menacés», explique le président Petzel. D'où



JACQUES GRENIER LE DEVOIR

Dino Bumbaru et Michael Petzel ont participé à l'élaboration du document.

l'idée de ce rapport mondial, qui veut un peu devenir l'équivalent patrimonial du rapport annuel d'Amnesty International.

L'équipe a lancé un appel à tous les comités nationaux en mars,

avec la consigne expresse d'illustrer l'état de la situation à l'aide de cas concrets. En juillet, à Munich, l'ICOMOS a commencé à synthétiser les études nationales. Les répondants ont préféré des

exemples méconnus à la centaine de monuments en danger identifiés périodiquement par le World Monument Fund. «Il n'existe rien de semblable dans le monde», dit fièrement M. Bumbaru.

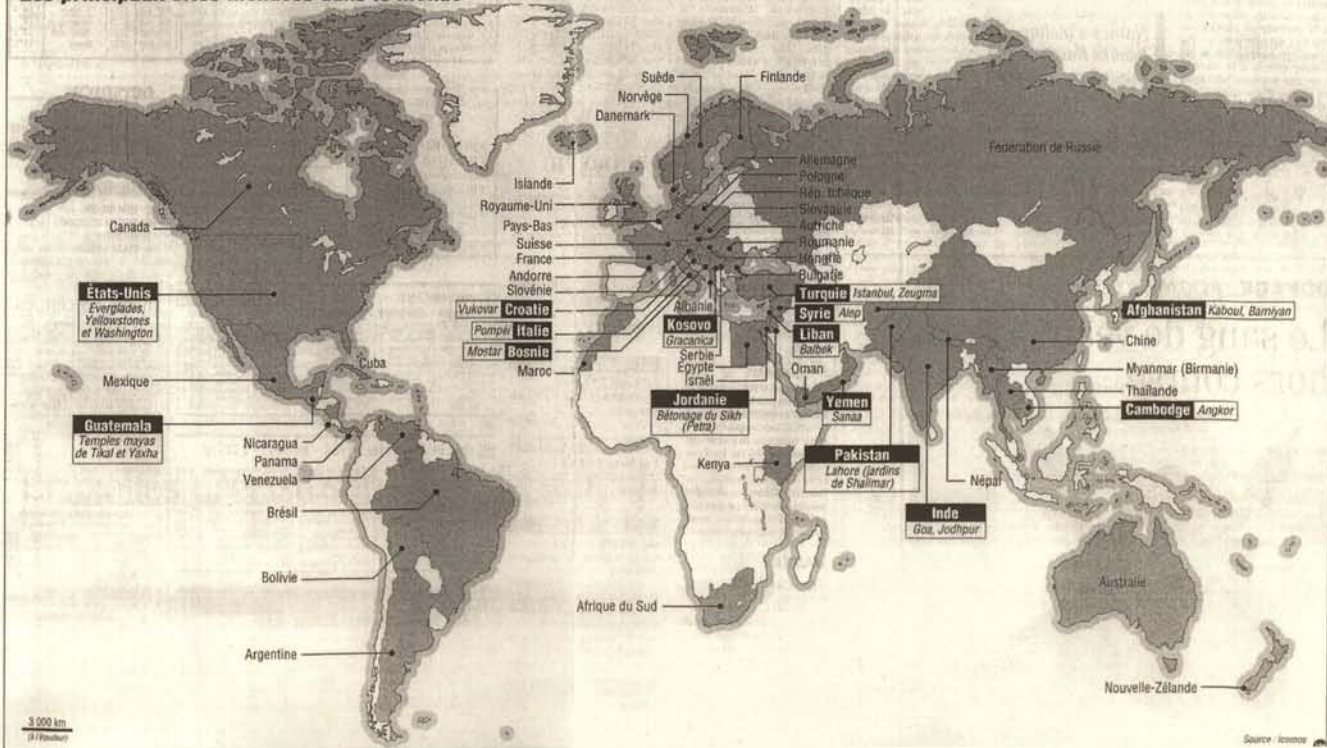
Le rapport canadien propose cinq études de cas: les sites historiques de Fort Prince de Wales au Manitoba et de Claybank Brick Plant en Saskatchewan, les totems d'Anthony Island dans l'Ouest, le patrimoine religieux du Québec et le mont Royal. A chaque occasion, le document décrit le problème, identifie les risques et analyse les solutions réelles ou potentielles.

La synthèse révèle des «tendances, menaces et risques» à l'échelle planétaire. Le désengagement croissant de l'Etat et l'insuffisance des ressources figurent parmi les «tendances lourdes qui affectent le patrimoine». Parmi les risques «liés au développement», le rapport cite le «tourisme incontrôlé» et les grands projets industriels mais énumère aussi des risques directs naturels (tremblements de terre, inondations, etc.) et d'autres découlant de «comportement collectifs et sociaux» (fanatisme, vandalisme, guerre, consumérisme ou démographie). Le document identifie aussi certaines catégories de biens et de lieux patrimoniaux plus vulnérables qui demanderaient une «attention particulière»: le patrimoine religieux, les palais, manoirs et résidences, les ensembles urbains, le patrimoine industriel, les paysages culturels, les sites archéologiques et même les objets et documents appartenant aux lieux patrimoniaux.

Culture

PATRIMOINE MONDIAL Cri d'alarme des principales organisations internationales

Les principaux sites menacés dans le monde



La mémoire en péril dans 60 pays

Anno-Marie Romero

Tel le zénith des Danaïdes, la conservation du patrimoine mondial régresse d'un côté, à mesure que de nouvelles productions sont prises de l'autre. Réuni, ces derniers jours, à Catraz (Autriche), le Comité ad hoc de l'Unesco vient en effet de porter à 691 sites son tableau d'honneur mondial, mais il a simultanément rajouté trois noms à une liste moins glorieuse, celle du patrimoine en péril - la ville de Zabid, au Yémen, le parc national des ét-

prolifération d'une foulerie aquatique dont on ne peut envisager l'expansion. Ces trois sites rejoignent bon nombre de parcs naturels d'Éthiopie, Guinée, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Ouganda, République centrafricaine, Congo, les palais royaux d'Obompi, au Bénin, la ville de Tombouctou, au Mali, les malheureux temples d'Angkor, au Cambodge, victimes éternelles de sous les maux, les sites archéologiques du Pérou, dont celui de Chan Chan, toujours la proie des « huasipiros », et - plus surprenant - les parcs des Everglades et de Yellowstone, aux États-Unis, en proie à la dégradation. L'appel de l'Unesco n'est pas isolé. Il y a juste au-dessus, le World Monuments Fund, une organisation privée créée en 1965 par un officier américain en retraite, s'alarmait du sort de « 100 monuments en danger de mort », et non des moindres : Pompeii, la Vallée des Rois (Égypte) et Teotihuacan (Mexique), compromis par la surfréquentation touristique, Tipaza (Algérie), les zigzags d'Irak, à l'abandon pour cause de guerre ou d'insécurité, et des dizaines d'autres sites d'intérêt universel, maltraités ou oubliés. Et il y a trois semaines, l'Unesco (Conseil international des monuments et des sites), une ONG qui joue le rôle d'organe consultatif de l'Unesco en la matière, publiait son premier



Le temple Pagan-gyi à Pagan, Birmanie. (Photo V. Maitourné)

La France est épinglée, pour l'« abandon de son patrimoine rural et la méconnaissance de celui du XX^e siècle »

seaux du Djoud, au Sénégal, et le fort et les jardins de Shalimar, à Lahore (Pakistan) - portant à 30 le nombre des sites gravement menacés dans le monde. A Zabid, ancienne capitale yéménite au XIII^e siècle, 40 % des maisons sont désormais remplies par des habitations de béton. A Lahore, le fort et les jardins de Shalimar, témoignages raffinés de la brillante civilisation moghole, ont été partiellement détruits. Un dernier, pour élargir une route. Quant au parc des oiseaux du Djoud, sanctuaire vital pour le pélican blanc et le héron pourpre, il est menacé par la

rapport mondial sur le patrimoine en péril, un document à la fois moins spectaculaire et plus dramatique que les annonces de l'Unesco : 240 pages de texte serré et de photos en noir et blanc, pour dénoncer soixante pays - dont la France - qui ne respectent pas leur « héritage ». Ses 6 000 membres, regroupés en 197 comités nationaux ont silencieusement le globe pour dresser la liste des malheurs qui frapent le patrimoine - catastrophes naturelles, bien sûr, conflits armés, pollution, démographie et urbanisation galopantes, manque de volonté politique des pays, spéculation, restes urbains à bon marché ou trop luxueux, qui déstabilisent le monument, pillage de sites archéologiques pour alimenter le trafic international d'objets d'art.

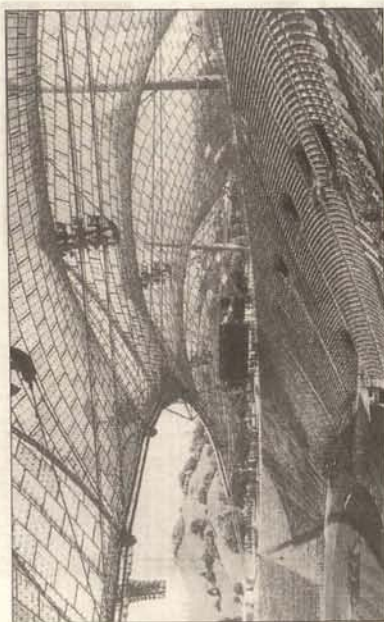
Mais l'Unesco en veut surtout au tourisme. « L'industrie touristique », écrit son président, le professeur Michael Petzel, représente désormais, avec ses milliards de chiffre d'affaires, le premier secteur économique de l'échelle planétaire. Elle exploite le patrimoine culturel par une utilisation abusive, parfois destructrice (certains tombeaux égyptiens, par exemple), mais n'apporte en

retour aucune contribution financière notable à sa protection. En première ligne de ces critiques : l'Égypte et l'Italie. L'Unesco leur reproche d'être prêts à tous les accommodements avec la démolition de la Chartre de Venise pour multiplier encore le nombre des touristes. Mais la France aussi est épinglée, non seulement pour l'abandon de son patri-

monie rural et la méconnaissance de celui du XX^e siècle », mais pour la fréquentation excessive de certains « fleurons de son histoire » et « l'absence de capacité et de complétude de la majorité des intervenants ». Parmi les pays riches qui négligent ou méprisent leur héritage historique, on note encore la Nouvelle-Zélande, qui fait passer des autoroutes sur les sites maoris, l'Afrique du Sud, qui laisse envahir de cars de touristes les sites sacrés des Bushmen, le Luxembourg, où régnent « manque de connaissance et besoin étranger d'assainissement », et les États-Unis, où le « façadisme » menace de transformer Washington en décor de théâtre. On ne s'attend guère, non plus, à voir mis au pilori l'Autriche, jadis exemplaire, qui délaisse son architecture rurale, le Canada et l'Allemagne où les administrations fédérales et provinciales se renvoient la balle, l'Argentine, qui laisse périr son patrimoine urbain du XIX^e siècle, à cause de « l'absence des institutions qui en sont chargées ». Dans un autre registre, rien de surprenant à voir figurer sur la liste rouge de l'Unesco des pays comme l'Afghanistan, dont les Bouddhas géants de Bamiyan ont été criblés de balles et de roquettes et le musée national vidé, en vingt ans de guerre, le Liban ou la Bosnie, qui a perdu le centre historique de Mostar et des villages entiers dans la région de Trnovo. La Yougoslavie, outre les

diminutions de guerre, est accusée de « mentir à propos des risques réalistes qu'elle encourt ». De ce fait, poursuit le rapport, « elle est devenue une des zones les plus dangereuses d'Europe ». Le séisme de Mionica, en 1998, y a endommagé quantité de sanctuaires, dont ceux de Bogovadja et de Mionica, et les fresques du monastère de Budjani souffrent de l'infiltration des eaux du Danube. On ne s'étonne pas, non plus, de la désertion du patrimoine dans les pays pauvres : les gravures rupestres de Samniala, en Bolivie, les temples mayas du Guatemala, les merveilleuses villes indiennes de Jodhpur, Goa, Ajanta, à l'abandon, le patrimoine baroque de la région de Puebla (Mexique), gravement endommagé par le tremblement de terre de juin 1985, et l'inévitable disparition des maisons de bois de Pagan, en Birmanie. Parmi les pays autoritaires et les ex-dictateurs, enfin, figurent la Chine qui a sauvagement rasé aujourd'hui toutes les destructions, la Roumanie trop pauvre pour agir sur un énorme patrimoine, la Slovaquie où les églises sont systématiquement volées, ou les pays arabes, comme Oman, qui sacrifie son passé au profit d'un modernisme luxueux et navrant de banalité.

arts



War and natural disasters have taken a devastating toll in the past 20 years

of British Columbia, the historic village of Hazelton, which was destroyed by a wildfire in 1982, is being rebuilt. The village is being rebuilt on the same site as the original village, but with modern amenities and a new layout. The village is being rebuilt on the same site as the original village, but with modern amenities and a new layout.

protection or excavation. Experts are looking for a site to move the 3rd century Temple of Zhang Fei, which will disappear under the sea. The temple is located in the coastal town of Suifu, China. The temple is located in the coastal town of Suifu, China.

Another organization with an impressive record is the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, which has been instrumental in the restoration of the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. The trust has also been instrumental in the restoration of the Great Wall of China and the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet.



Under threat (clockwise from above): Hama in Turkey, due to siltback under a dam project; the Munich Olympic Stadium, facing redevelopment; elephant stables in Hampi, India, at risk from a bridge scheme

A heritage turned to dust

In the open landscape of Hampi, India, the ruins of the Vijayanagara Empire are being threatened by a massive dam project. The dam is being built across the Tungabhadra River, which will flood the ruins. The ruins are being threatened by a massive dam project.

Under threat (clockwise from above): Hama in Turkey, due to siltback under a dam project; the Munich Olympic Stadium, facing redevelopment; elephant stables in Hampi, India, at risk from a bridge scheme

removal. In the open landscape of Hampi, India, the ruins of the Vijayanagara Empire are being threatened by a massive dam project. The dam is being built across the Tungabhadra River, which will flood the ruins. The ruins are being threatened by a massive dam project.

to anyone with the slightest interest in the achievements of the great builders through human history. The site is under threat of destruction from makes depressing reading. Its diverse contents includes the ruins of the ancient city of Mohenjo-daro in Pakistan, the Great Wall of China, and the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet.

The Munich Olympic Stadium, facing redevelopment; elephant stables in Hampi, India, at risk from a bridge scheme

ARCHITECTURE
The world risks losing some of its finest buildings, says Marcus Binney

Heritage at Risk is published by ICOMOS. Contact: www.worldmonuments.org

6 SECCIONES

68 PAGINAS

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LA NACION

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Buenos Aires, jueves 1° de febrero de 2001

Mejor contexto internacional

Favorece al país una nueva baja de tasas en EE.UU.

Edificios y sitios en peligro

Alarma por el estado del patrimonio cultural

• Según un documento del Consejo Internacional de Monumentos, es el más deteriorado de América latina • Y lo atribuye a la ineficiencia, falta de transparencia y politización

por Alicia de Arteaga
De la Redacción de LA NACION

Un *papel* firmado por Lucio García del Solar, embajador argentino ante la Unesco, con base en París, que circula por los pasillos del Palacio San Martín, erizó el ánimo de quienes se preocupan por el patrimonio del país. El trabajo, que toma como base el informe *Heritage at Risk* (Patrimonio en peligro) elaborado por el Consejo Internacional de Monumentos y Sitios (Icomos), es sumamente crítico respecto del estado del patrimonio cultural del país.

"El capítulo sobre la situación de la Argentina -dice García del Solar- es uno de los más largos y críticos. Comienza por considerarla a la misma como la peor de América latina."

El *papel* agrega que los edificios y sitios más valiosos del país, especialmente de Buenos Aires, "presentan un alto riesgo de perder su integridad y su autenticidad debido a una serie de razones, entre las que cita la ineficiencia, falta de profesionalismo, politización y manejo poco transparente de las reparticiones oficiales involucradas, así como la ineficiencia y la debi-

Continúa en la Pág. 7, Col. 1



Hernán Caffarone y Fabiana Benvenuto, el matrimonio argentino que murió en el atentado, en una playa de Brasil, en 1986

Nieve de verano



El atentado contra el vuelo de Pan Am en 1988

Lockerbie: doce años después, la condena

• Un tribunal en Holanda dictó la prisión perpetua para uno de los dos libios acusados • El otro fue absuelto • Los familiares de las víctimas argentinas criticaron el fallo

A 12 años de uno de los peores atentados aéreos de la historia, una corte escocesa condenó ayer a prisión perpetua al terrorista libio Abdel Basset Ali al Megrahi y lo encontró culpable de colocar una bomba en un Boeing 747 de Pan Am que estalló sobre la ciudad de Lockerbie, Escocia, en 1988, causando la muerte de 270 personas.

El fallo, que también incluyó la acusación de otros sospechosos libios, provocó desazón entre los familiares de las víctimas, ya que el único condenado podrá salir en libertad

condicional dentro de 20 años.

Entre los pasajeros de aquel fatídico vuelo 108 de Pan Am se encontraban Hernán Caffarone y Fabiana Benvenuto, un joven matrimonio argentino.

Consultada por LA NACION, Graciela Caffarone, madre de Hernán, dijo ayer que "se hizo justicia a medias" y afirmó que se trató de "un fallo políticamente arreglado para dejar contentos a todos".

"Esta justicia a medias no ayuda en nada a mitigar el dolor que sentimos", agregó

Pág. 11

El patrimonio cultural en peligro, según un informe

Continuación de la Pág. 1, Col. 2

lidad de las ONG interesadas en la conservación histórica".

El informe que motivó el cable de García del Solar -diplomático de extracción radical con una larga trayectoria, además de coleccionista de obras de fuerte acento regional-, es el primer balance orgánico sobre la situación del patrimonio en el mundo. El trabajo analiza la situación del patrimonio de 60 países. La Argentina está incluida y en nuestro caso, la recomendación es "para que esta alarma de patrimonio en peligro se difunda a la opinión pública".

En realidad, el Icomos ha puesto el grito en el cielo por los casos de descuido en el mundo. De paso, le ha dado un tirón de orejas a nuestro embajador en la Unesco por la situación en el país.

El Icomos es una organización no gubernamental, órgano consultivo de la Unesco, en materia de patrimonio cultural mundial. Las recomendaciones del Icomos son de importancia clave en el proceso de inscrip-

ción de bienes, como ha sido en el caso de Misiones Jesuíticas de Córdoba.

"El capítulo sobre la situación de la Argentina -dice García del Solar- es uno de los más largos y críticos. Comienza por considerarla como la peor de América latina."

El papel no termina allí. Sigue: "En dura y algo rebuscada analogía destinada a poner de relieve la gravedad de la conservación del patrimonio cultural edificado de la Argentina, compara la situación de algunos bienes inmuebles que forman parte del valioso acervo cultural del país, con casos límites en el panorama internacional, como el de la violación de los derechos humanos o la degradación del medio ambiente"; es decir, situaciones necesitadas de asistencia internacional.

Los puntos sobre las íes

El informe del Icomos, al enumerar los casos, alude, por ejemplo, a la destrucción (sic) del elevador de granos de Bunge & Born y del Banco Español: al "reciclaje abusivo" del

Mercado de Abasto, de los subtes y del Banco de Londres, y los proyectos "destructivos" sobre Villa Ocampo, las estaciones de ferrocarril, el Palacio Duhau, el Museo de Ciencias Naturales de La Plata, el Casino y el hotel Provincial de Mar del Plata, y las restauraciones "defectuosas" de la Casa Rosada y la Catedral de La Plata. La lista -siempre citando el cable de García del Solar- finaliza con el intento de inscripción de la ciudad de La Plata en la lista de patrimonio mundial, a la que califica de "fiasco internacional".

Conviene recordar que la ciudad de las diagonales no pudo conformar con los estándares por la grave contaminación visual que padece. Los culpables son los carteles y las marquesinas que proliferan de manera anárquica.

Mientras García del Solar mandaba este comunicado, anticipando el envío del informe completo con copia a la Secretaría de Cultura, el canciller Rodríguez Giavarini planteaba ante su colega francés Vedrine, en el marco imponente del Quai d'Orsay la

posibilidad de que las empresas francesas con fuertes intereses en la Argentina coloquen también sus inversiones del lado del patrimonio para poner en valor la arquitectura que le ha valido a Buenos Aires ser llamada *la París de Sudamérica*.

Algunos casos

En Buenos Aires sobran ejemplos del tipo de cuestiones que preocupan a los defensores del patrimonio. El alto valor patrimonial de la estación Retiro del ferrocarril Mitre, es uno. Se confirma con lo hecho con el patrimonio ferroviario en París, Budapest, Madrid, Milán, Florencia, Praga, San Pablo, Nueva York y Londres. Entre los varios casos de esta última ciudad se destaca el de "Liverpool Street", que sería la gran solución para Retiro.

Los actuales trabajos de restauración de la estación preocupan a los que miran con los ojos de la cultura y de la identidad. Han desguazado los pisos, boiserías y artefactos de la confitería original. Lamentablemente, se prevé desactivar el valio-

so edificio (madera y hierro) de la estación San Martín. Debería conservarse. Incluso, desmontarlo y remontarlo en el lugar de la tercera nave, nunca construida, de la Terminal del Mitre.

En cuanto al Palacio Duhau, la Asociación Amigos de la Avenida Alvear, presidida por Patricia Peralta Ramos y Germán Carvajal, resiste el proyecto shopping de lujo impulsado por el Grupo Exxel.

Las autoridades nacionales y de la Ciudad, que tienen la responsabilidad de las declaratorias de Monumento Histórico y Área de Protección Histórica para la embajada británica y otros edificios de similares características, no han avanzado para nada en la cuestión.

Tampoco han producido novedades en el caso de la embajada de los Estados Unidos. Esto sucede dos años y medio después de haberse gestionado el pedido por parte de las autoridades norteamericanas, ante la Comisión Nacional de Museos y de Monumentos y Lugares Históricos.

Notas

LA NACION / Página 17

Nuestro patrimonio, en peligro

Por María Sáenz Quesada

Para LA NACION



EN el informe *Patrimonio en peligro*, elaborado por el Consejo Internacional de Monumentos y Sitios (Icomos), sobre la situación en los países miembros de esa entidad, la Argentina fue mal calificada. Dicho informe tuvo la virtud de conmovir a sectores más amplios que los habitualmente interesados en estas cuestiones. La imagen del país en el exterior inquieta más a los altos funcionarios que las opiniones, las quejas o las propuestas de la propia ciudadanía. La tendencia viene de antaño y forma parte de las tradiciones, en este caso negativas, que convendría revisar.

El narcisismo argentino, esa suerte de conciencia de superioridad siempre a un paso de convertirse en complejo de inferioridad, suponía no hace tanto que la República Argentina era el más europeo de los países del continente. La capital, nuestra "cabeza de Goliath", merecía el calificativo de la "Paris de Sudamérica". De ahí la pregunta insistente formulada a los viajeros: "¿Qué le parece a usted Buenos Aires?", con la expectativa de recibir un comentario admirativo. Ya en el comienzo del siglo XXI, ese mismo narcisismo supone que estamos incorporados al sector VIP de las naciones desarrolladas. De ahí el disgusto con

Falta voluntad de observar los avances que otros han hecho en la preservación de la herencia cultural

que se recibieron las noticias emanadas del Icomos, precisamente desde su sede central en la capital de Francia.

Quizás a causa de ese alto concepto de nosotros mismos, falta la voluntad de mirar a nuestro alrededor y de observar los avances que otros han realizado en materia de patrimonio cultural. En efecto, desde 1945, gracias a los esfuerzos centrados en la Unesco, el tema se ha encarado desde una perspectiva que considera los valores estéticos, artísticos, científicos, históricos o arqueológicos, entre otros, que contienen distintos sitios naturales, obras de arquitectura, de arte, documentos, libros, artesanías, y también su íntima relación con la identidad de los pueblos y el derecho de estos a acceder a tales bienes.

Este impulso renovador llegó a fines de los años 80 a América Latina, donde, con excepción de México, era notable el descuido en materia de preservación del patrimonio cultural. Pronto se vieron los resultados de las nuevas tendencias en La Habana vieja; en el barrio de La Candelaria, de Bogotá; en la ciudad caribeña de Coro, en Venezuela, cuyo excepcional conjunto de edificios históricos de los siglos XVII y XVIII fue declarado patrimonio histórico de la humanidad en 1993 y tres años después se encontraba restaurado. La Colonia del Sacramento, en el Uruguay, constituye un ejemplo valioso de la voluntad de recuperar la memoria del pueblo oriental en su doble pertenencia hispana y portuguesa.

En el Brasil, las ciudades de Ouro Preto, Olinda, Recife, Paraty y Bahía se encuentran en unos ca-

los bien preservadas y en otros en vías de restauración. Pero incluso en aquellas megaciudades donde hasta hace poco solo se hablaba de lo nuevo, como es el caso de Río de Janeiro, se han emprendido numerosas acciones con la intención de recuperar, entre otros bienes culturales, la calidad del espacio público. En zonas deterioradas del antiguo centro de Río, víctimas de la pobreza, la prostitución y la inseguridad, la restauración de teatros, casas y plazas contribuye a mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes pobres. Y es la Secretaría de Cultura, y no la de Planeamiento Urbano, la que decide qué actividad promover o qué demolición impedir.

Esfuerzos y logros

Las malas calificaciones, como las obtenidas por la Argentina en el informe del Icomos, no se revierten de un día para el otro. Por cierto, no es conveniente dejar el tema librado a querrelas de funcionarios. Corresponde en cambio tener presentes los logros alcanzados, pero también las improvisaciones, los fracasos, los errores,

los horrores y los intereses en juego que afectan a bienes que no son renovables.

En diciembre pasado, la manzana de la Universidad de Córdoba y las estancias jesuíticas de esa provincia fueron incorporadas al patrimonio de la humanidad. Esto significa un reconocimiento a largos y sostenidos esfuerzos gubernamentales, y un espaldarazo para quienes procuran lograr esa calificación para otros conjuntos de valor artístico o natural. En esa misma provincia, se destacan mejoras en el tratamiento de bienes colectivos, como es el caso de la cañada del Río Primero, embellecida y hasta repoblada con patos, como los que nadan en el Tamesis o en el Sena. Las obras se hicieron entre 1980 y 1990. También en Córdoba, y esto por iniciativa privada, las localidades de Yacanto, San Javier y La Población preservan en su renovado impulso edilicio los materiales y la artesanías de la zona. Gracias a esa preocupación, el valle de Traslasierra constituye junto con el Camino de las Altas Cumbres un paisaje cultural singularmente atractivo.

En la ciudad de Mendoza, la Subsecretaría de Cultura del gobierno municipal se ha empeñado en recuperar la memoria de una ciudad castigada por los temblores y con un pasado colonial muy pobre. A partir de tareas iniciadas en la década del 80, se crea el Museo del Área Fundacional y se inicia la recuperación de las ruinas de San Francisco. Esta labor se armoniza con la acción de los establecimientos educativos, que tienen, gracias a tales obras, un ejemplo claro ante sus ojos.

En el conurbano bonaerense, es digna de elogio y de apoyo la preocupación del municipio de Tigre por preservar lo que lo diferencia y distingue. En cambio, la ciudad de La Plata fracasó en su candidatura a ingresar en la codiciada nómina de la Unesco porque en los últimos cuarenta años, según afirma el informe del Icomos, se verificó una completa desfiguración del paisaje urbano original. El informe censura a las autoridades que propiciaron esa candidatura y que sostuvieron su viabilidad.

Según una reglamentación reciente, en la ciudad de Buenos Ai-

res los temas de patrimonio se han incorporado al programa escolar de ciencias sociales. Pero son pocos los ejemplos concretos que los alumnos podrán estudiar *in situ*, como sería deseable.

La tendencia a dilapidar los recursos culturales no se ha revertido todavía en la orgullosa capital argentina. Hay logros, por supuesto, como el proyecto de restauración de la Avenida de Mayo, desarrollado en los años 90 en un eje urbano característico. Existe asimismo más conciencia en las autoridades de la importancia de cuidar la herencia recibida en materia de espacios verdes. Por su parte, los vecinos de Palermo Viejo ponen singular empeño en rescatar la fisonomía típica de la casa chorizo, fruto de una etapa del crecimiento urbano en que la clase media prosperaba.

Un bien social

Pero por lo general los proyectos oficiales son de corto alcance o su realización se prolonga más de lo esperado, como sucede con la restauración de las casas de Ezcurra, de Elorriaga y de Herrera, dependientes del Museo de la Ciudad. Las obras de Puerto Madero, si bien recuperaron para el uso público el muy popular paseo de la Costanera Sur, arrasaron el silo Bunge y

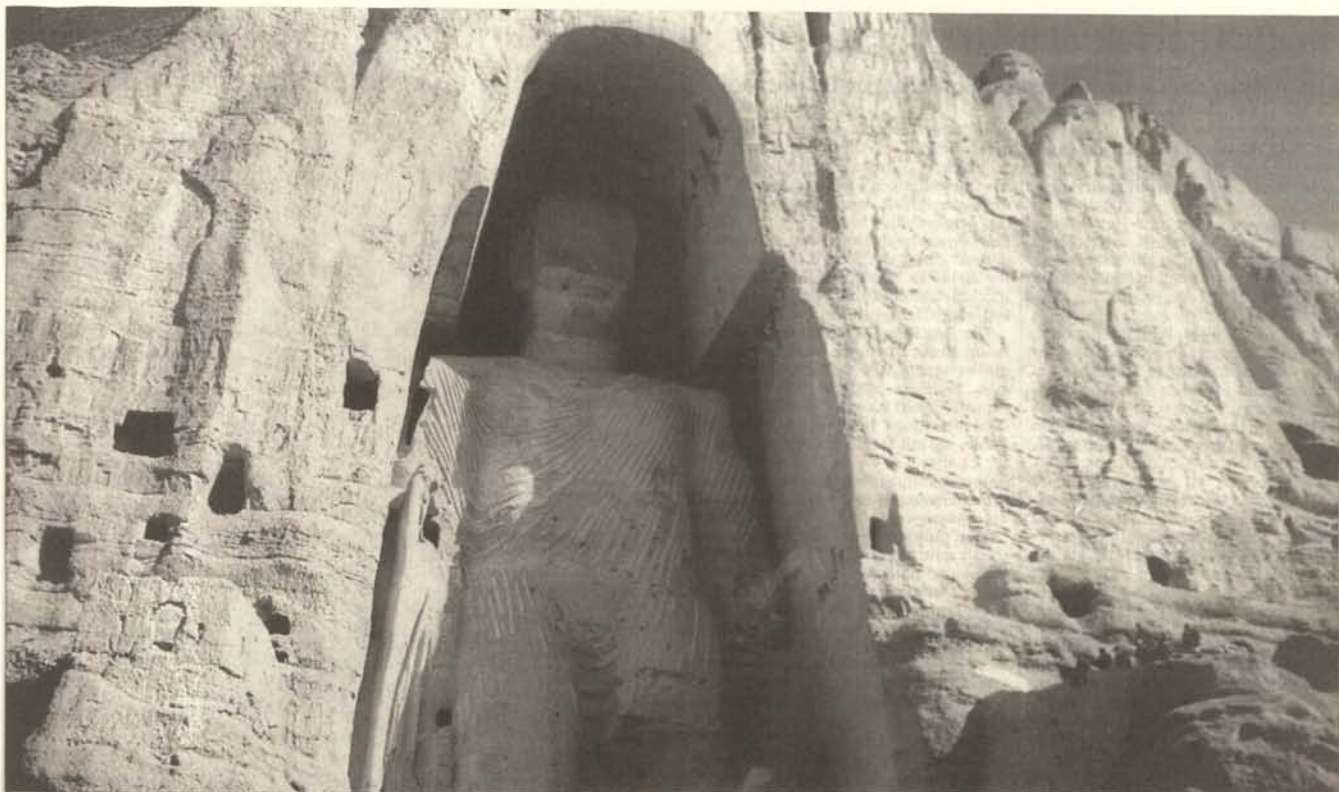
En general, los proyectos oficiales son de corto alcance o su realización se prolonga más de lo esperado

Born, reconocido internacionalmente por sus valores estéticos y constructivos. En cuanto al predio de la Sociedad Rural, conserva, es cierto, los edificios de la exposición, pero en un escenario cuyo uso ha sido completamente modificado.

La cuestión del patrimonio cultural implica tener en cuenta que este es un bien social que debe ser accesible a la población. Insisto, lo peor que podría ocurrirle a este debate es reducirlo a peleas de funcionarios, los cuales muchas veces tienen buena intención pero tropiezan con la valía de obstáculos acumulados desde hace largo tiempo y con formidables lobbies con acceso a los pasillos oficiales.

Por todo esto la tarea pendiente empieza por admitir con humildad el retraso argentino en relación con otros países de América Latina y trabajar para revertir ese estado de cosas; entender que no se trata de lujos, sino de recursos para el desarrollo y para mejorar la calidad de vida de la población; procurar que el tema se incluya en la agenda del Estado, darle un marco legislativo actual, aplicar las buenas normas existentes, asignarle un presupuesto adecuado; convocar el patrocinio privado y realizar campañas de sensibilización, según recomienda la Unesco. Pero el esfuerzo sería vano si no se lo vincula con la educación, con las industrias culturales y desde luego, con el respeto y el reconocimiento de las múltiples vertientes de nuestra cultura. © LA NACION

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So hat der Große Buddha in Bamian (Afghanistan) noch vor wenigen Tagen ausgesehen. Inzwischen wurde die Figur brutal aus dem Felsen gesprengt. Foto: AP

Die blinden Augen des Bildersturms

Afghanistan ist nur ein Beispiel: Im ersten Weltreport über gefährdete Kunstdenkmale tauchen auch München und Salzburg auf

Die Nachrichten-Agenturen melden das Endgültige: Taliban-Milizen haben die monumentalen Buddha-Statuen in Afghanistan aus der Felswand gesprengt. Der Befehl, alle vorislamischen Kulturzeugnisse zu schleifen, hat den Bildersturm legitimiert. Zu Füßen des Lächelnden Buddhas hatten die Kriegsherren ein Waffenarsenal eingerichtet – Munition für die finale Vernichtung. Nach diesem fanatischen Angriff sind nun auch die anderen Denkmale persischer, griechischer und buddhistischer Kultur in Afghanistan aufs höchste gefährdet.

So wie Amnesty International die Öffentlichkeit jedes Jahr mit einem Register des Grauens konfrontiert und damit die Einhaltung der Menschenrechte weltweit einklagt, so hat Icomos (*International Council of Monuments and Sites*) jetzt erstmals einen Weltreport über die Gefährdungen des kulturellen Erbes veröffentlicht. Darin dokumentieren die Denkmalschützer der Unesco auch die Verletzungen der 1954 verabschiedeten Konvention zum Schutz von Denkmalen während Kriegen.

Eine ausführliche Untersuchung der Schäden in Bosnien zeigt, dass auch dort die Zerstörung des kulturellen Erbes ein Teil der religiösen und ethnischen Kriegsführung war: 200 Moscheen wurden zerstört oder beschädigt, viele davon sind ohne Granaten oder Raketen einschlag von innen ausgebrannt; von 500 albanischen Geschlechtertürmen, den sogenannten Kullas, sind mehr als 90 Prozent zerstört; die Altstädte von Pec, Djakovica und Vucitrn wurden schwer verwüstet. Da beim schnellen Wiederaufbau notwendigerweise andere Prioritäten als die Wahrung örtlicher Bautraditionen gelten, verlieren viele Orte auf Dauer ihr Ge-

sicht und ihre Geschichte. Aus diesem Grund empfinden es die Denkmalschützer der Unesco wie einen Durchbruch, dass der Internationale Strafgerichtshof jetzt die Zerstörung der Altstadt von Dubrovnik durch die jugoslawische Armee 1991 auf die Liste der Kriegsverbrechen gesetzt hat. Zum ersten Mal seit den Kriegsverbrecherprozessen nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg werden damit Angriffe auf Kulturgüter von einem internationalen Gericht verfolgt.

Das Nationalkomitee der Türkei klagt vor allem über die Zerstörungen, die durch die großen staatlichen Staudammprojekte zu erwarten sind. Acht Jahre Aufschub sind zu wenig, um die fälligen Ausgrabungen, Dokumentationen und Translozierungen vorzunehmen. Dabei wird der Sinn von Translozierungen ohnehin angezweifelt: Isolierte Einzeldenkmale verlieren dabei ihren städtebaulichen und landschaftlichen Zusammenhang. Ihre Würde wird zerstört. So ist die mittelalterliche Felsenstadt Hasankeyf dem Untergang geweiht, wenn der Ilisu-Damm am Tigris gebaut werden sollte. Unterdessen beteuern die Chinesen, dass sie alle archäologischen Funde rechtzeitig bergen und die wichtigsten Denkmale versetzen können, bevor das aufgestaute Wasser des Jangtsiekiang sie verschlingt.

Immer wieder werden im ersten Icomos-Krisen-Report die rücksichtslosen Erneuerungsprozesse beklagt, denen Altstädte und traditionelle ländliche Architekturen zum Opfer fallen. Aus Oman wird von regelrechten Geisterstädten berichtet. Die ehemaligen Bewohner ziehen es vor, in naheliegenden Neubausiedlungen zu leben. Antiquitätenhändler demontieren Holztüren und Fenster.

Wie ein roter Faden ziehen sich Meldungen über Raubgrabungen und Plünderungen durch die Länderberichte. Die 230 Quadratkilometer große Anlage von Angkor Wat – eingetragenes Weltkulturerbe seit 1992 – fungiert seit langem als Steinbruch des Kunsthandels. Aber auch Italien ist nach wie vor ein Eldorado für Kunstdiebe.

Das Kapitel Italien zählt überhaupt zu den schockierendsten im gesamten Weltreport. Bezeichnenderweise sah sich das nationale Icomos-Komitee Italiens außer Stande, in der Vorbereitungszeit einen eigenen umfassenden Bericht vorzulegen. Die Kritik der Kollegen ist um so deutlicher: Lob zwar für restauratorische Leistungen an Meisterwerken, Klage aber über die mangelnde Sicherung und den schleppenden Wiederaufbau erdbebengeschädigter Städte und Dörfer in Umbrien; allgemeine Sorge über den erschreckenden Verfall alter Städte und Dörfer. Geradezu vernichtend ist das Urteil über den Zustand des Welterbes Pompeji: Durch falsche Sicherungsmaßnahmen, undichte Dächer, eingestürzte Betondecken und rostendes Tragwerk sind weltberühmte Wandmalereien Wind und Wetter ausgesetzt. Salze, Moose, Flechten und Ranken zersetzen die Bilder und Fußboden-Mosaik. Die Fotos dokumentieren einen eklatanten Verfallszustand.

Fast alle Icomos-Nationalkomitees beschwerten sich über die verheerenden Auswirkungen des Tourismus. Die prosperierende Reise-Industrie – so der Tenor – beutet Denkmale aus, ohne sich für ihren Erhalt zu engagieren. Es fragt sich, ob Icomos mit seinem Weltbericht den moralischen Druck so weit erhöhen kann, dass zumindest bei einigen Marktführern ein Umdenkprozess stattfindet.

Wie leicht selbst mitten in Europa Politiker ihre kulturellen Verpflichtungen vergessen, wenn es um Populistisches wie die Belange des Fußballs geht, zeigten in den letzten Monaten die Auseinandersetzungen um die Stadion-Planungen in München und Salzburg. In Salzburg betreibt der Landeshauptmann trotz internationaler Proteste weiterhin rücksichtslos den Bau eines Fußballstadions direkt vor der Toreinfahrt des Barockschlosses Klessheim. In München konnte die Zerstörung des Olympiastadions wenigstens fürs erste abgewendet werden.

Dennoch findet sich noch Einiges auf der Liste, die das deutsche Nationalkomitee für den Report „Heritage @ Risk“ angefertigt hat. Sorgenkinder sind beispielsweise die Dorfkirchen in den neuen Bundesländern, die archäologischen Grabungsstätten entlang der ICE-Strecke, die Kulturlandschaft zu Füßen von Neuschwanstein und die Völklinger Hütte, Welterbe seit 1986. Bagatellen, angesichts der Katastrophen weltweit? Oder Mosaiksteinchen zu einem düsteren Bild allgemeiner kultureller Ignoranz?

Die „Taskforce“, zu der sich die Icomos-Präsidenten des kanadischen, australischen und deutschen Nationalkomitees zusammengeschlossen haben, wird sich trotz der offensiven Namensgebung nicht wie Greenpeace-Aktivisten vor Bulldozer stellen. Moralische Appelle und die Veröffentlichung der Missstände sind die einzigen Druckmittel. Der Denkmalschutzrat Icomos hat kein Geld, um Hilfsmaßnahmen für akut gefährdete Denkmale in die Wege zu leiten. Der Appell an die Taliban, den Bildersturm zu stoppen, hat nur noch einmal die Hilfslosigkeit der internationalen Kulturorganisationen gezeigt. IRA MAZZONI

Most recent cause for concern: destruction of an 18th century Ottoman Castle (Al Jihad) near Mecca.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL EUROPE | Thursday, January 10, 2002 ^{1AM}

Saudi Plans to Destroy Fort Cause Outrage in Turkey

Policy Toward Monuments Highlights Kingdom's Stance on Islam

Castle to Make Way for Trade Center, Hotel and Residences for Muslim Pilgrims

By JAMES M. DORSEY
SPECIAL TO THE WALL STREET JOURNAL EUROPE

JIDDA, Saudi Arabia — A row between Muslim nations Turkey and Saudi Arabia over Saudi plans to destroy an 18th century Ottoman castle in the holy city of Mecca is refocusing attention on the kingdom's puritan interpretation of Islam.

Saudi authorities reportedly intend to demolish the Al Ajyad Castle, built in 1780 by Ottoman rulers, to allow for the construction of a trade center, hotel and residential towers to accommodate Muslim pilgrims. Other culturally sensitive buildings have already been destroyed in Saudi holy cities.

Saudi analysts and architects say the dismantling of the 23,000-square-meter Al Ajyad fortress, which overlooks Mecca's Grand Mosque, is part of a policy to destroy monuments from the period of early Islam to prevent them from becoming places of pilgrimage. Saudi government officials couldn't be reached for comment, but an unnamed foreign ministry official defended tearing down the castle in a domestic newspaper.

The move sparked outrage in Turkey, which, led by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, arose in its modern form in 1923 from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire. Turkish Culture Minister Istemihan Talay lodged a complaint with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the agency responsible for the preservation of cultural relics. In the complaint, Mr. Talay compared the plan to tear down the castle with the Taliban's destruction last year of two giant historic statues of Buddha in Afghanistan. The Al Ajyad fortress isn't on Unesco's World Heritage List of protected monuments.

"This is a crime against humanity, and Unesco should expose this disgraceful and ugly destruction and cultural massacre," Mr. Talay said.

Mr. Talay said Turkey was demanding that Saudi Arabia reconstruct the castle, believed to have been partly destroyed last week. He said the demolition activity violated a pledge given by Saudi Arabia last year not to raze the monument.

"Cultural heritage in every country is public property irrespective of what its origin is or the period in which it was built," he said. "Cultural heritage has to be protected." The Arabic-language Saudi newspaper Okaz, which often reflects government views, defended Wednesday the dismantling of the castle, arguing that it wasn't a vital Islamic monument. The paper said the castle could be rebuilt and incorporated into the hotel development.

Okaz quoted an unidentified foreign

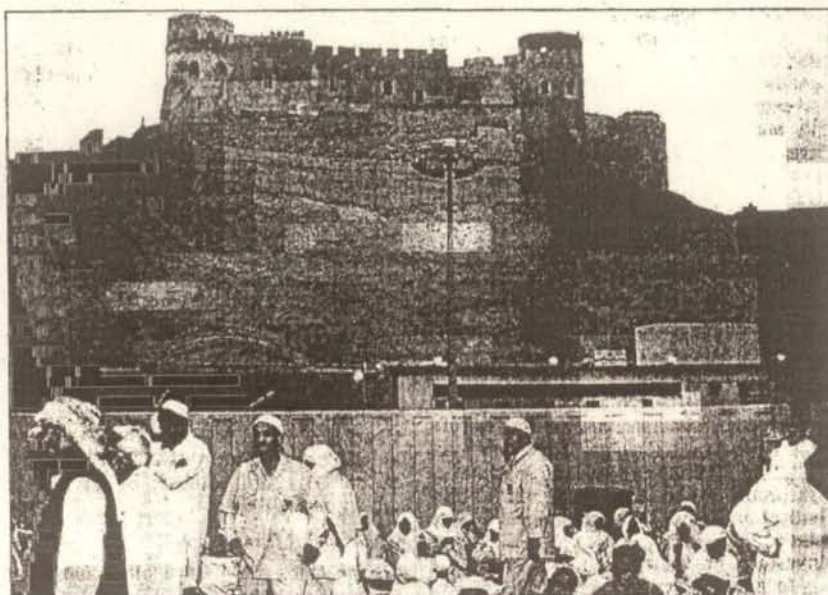


Photo: dpa

This file picture shows Muslim pilgrims sitting under an Ottoman fortress overlooking the Grand Mosque in Mecca. Saudi authorities plan to demolished the fortress, to build residential towers and a five-star hotel, provoking anger in Turkey.

ministry official as saying that the castle wasn't a holy site and that the Saudi government could tear it down if it wished.

Reflecting a widely held Saudi view of Turkey, Okaz stated in its article that "Turkey is the last country to talk about preserving Islamic or human heritage because Turkey did not hesitate to erase its history (and) . . . became a country with no identity." Okaz was referring to the replacement of Islam with a secular system by Ataturk.

People close to the \$120 million (€134.4 million) project said the dismantling of the castle had been halted and that the government was looking at integrating the monument into the project. The people said the government is revisiting the project, awarded to Saudi Oger Ltd. and the Bin Ladin Group, the winner of many construction contacts involving the holy sites in Saudi Arabia, following protests from residents of Mecca.

The castle "means a lot to us. We were used to seeing it standing there for a long time. It reminds us of our history," the Jidda-based Arab News quoted a resident of Mecca, which is off-limits to non-Muslims, as saying.

The Saudi government has embarked on plans to demolish other sites of early Islam. Four of seven early-period mosques in Med-

ina, which also is off-limits to non-Muslims, are believed to have already been demolished.

But local residents said they were seeing signs that the government may be bowing to pressure not to continue with the project. "There are no signs of bulldozers near the sites anymore. There appears to have been some kind of pressure," said a Medina resident reached by telephone, who asked not to be identified.

Analysts and architects said Saudi authorities in recent years had covered Bir al Khatem, a well where the Prophet Muhammad is said to have dropped a ring, with cement, and turned Uhud, the site of a major battle in Islamic history, which is near Medina, into a parking lot.

Saudi historians said the destruction of monuments from the period of early Islam had begun shortly before the establishment of the kingdom in 1932 with the 1928 demolition of the house of Khadija, the wife of the Prophet Mohammed, but had gathered pace in recent years. They said the campaign threatened to drive a wedge between Saudi Arabia and the Islamic world.

"The whole Islamic world is on one side and the hard-line Saudi Wahabis are on the other side," said one historian referring to the dominant Muslim sect in Saudi Arabia.

PUBLICATION GUIDELINES

Heritage at Risk: ICOMOS World Report on Monuments and Sites in Danger

Heritage at Risk: ICOMOS World Report on Monuments and Sites in Danger is produced regularly to assist in understanding and monitoring the health/state of cultural heritage through the active contribution of reports by the ICOMOS network of members, National and International Scientific Committees.

It is complementary to existing ICOMOS initiatives such as:

- ICORP – the International Committee on Risk Preparedness which has been established to develop professional guidance on risk management as an integral part of conservation practice; and
- ICBS – the International Committee of the Blue Shield of which ICOMOS is a founding partner, which co-ordinates response actions between the major cultural heritage NGOs to emergencies and disasters affecting heritage.

Who is it for?

The Report is not only conceived as a vehicle to share, among professional colleagues, information about risks to cultural heritage and to identify emerging conservation solutions. It is also a vehicle for analysing trends affecting cultural heritage worldwide that are of interest to a much broader audience.

It is distributed to international organisations and media by the ICOMOS Secretariat, with appropriate media releases. National and Scientific Committees are responsible for its distribution to relevant media and national organisations, government and key stakeholders.

How is it produced?

The production of the Report is the responsibility of a Taskforce of at least three mandated members of the ICOMOS Executive Committee. The Taskforce ensures the production of the report, with the support of an editorial board and a project manager who is responsible for:

- collecting and collating reports and illustrations
- editing reports to ensure the quality of the language (refer Styleguide) without changing the meaning or facts of the report.
- co-ordinating communication with the Taskforce and other individuals or groups as appropriate (e.g. the ICOMOS Secretariat Director)
- overseeing the print production.

The Report will be produced regularly.

Language

The common language used for the publication of the Report is English. There may also be versions in the other languages of ICOMOS (accompanied by Abstracts in English).

Content

The Report is an ICOMOS product. It includes all reports produced through a consultative process, and authorised by ICOMOS

National and/or International Scientific Committees. It can also include authorised reports submitted by partner organisations of ICOMOS.

Where there is no National ICOMOS Committee, an ICOMOS member may submit a report that can be considered for publication by the Taskforce. In exceptional cases individual reports from other professional specialists will be considered after review by a member of the ICOMOS Executive Committee.

Where a report is received which is not from the National Committee, it will be submitted to the relevant National ICOMOS Committee for comment, before being considered for publication by the Taskforce.

What material is expected?

All National and International Scientific Committees are responsible for submission of a report for each Report in due time and according to the following general guidelines. The format and content may depend on circumstances relevant to a committee in a given year. The following is intended, therefore, as a general guideline and not a prescribed formula.

Length:

Usually reports are around 3 pages of text.

Format:

Electronic is definitely preferable. IBM compatible, either as an electronic attachment, or a 3.5" floppy disc.

Content:

- Progress report on matters reported in the previous year's publication
- Analysis and overview of threats to heritage in the reporting year
- Illustrative case studies (2 or 3)
- Solutions to these threats, ideas that are emerging
- Heritage is broadly defined: buildings, sites, landscapes, neighbourhoods, parks, traditional activities and values etc.
- Threats are also broad in their scope, and include human-made threats (from development to armed conflict) and natural events.

References:

Necessary references or sources should be included at the end of the text.

Contact Information:

Contact for further information (e.g. email/web address) should be included.

Illustrations:

- A selection of images from which some examples could be chosen
- Preferably hard copy, Black & White prints or well-contrasted colour pictures (photocopies of illustrations cannot be used)
- Saved as .JPG files, not .TIF
- All illustrations to be accompanied by captions
- If authority to reproduce is required this must be provided with the illustration

- Photographic credits must be provided
- Tables, graphs etc. should be suitable to be reproduced in ONE colour.

Authorship;

Indicate if authorship is to be accredited to an individual, the committee, or individual/s on behalf of the committee.

Deadlines

To ensure that the *Heritage at Risk Report* is current and relevant, all material must be submitted to the Editor three months before its publication.

Further Information & Queries

All queries should be directed through the ICOMOS Secretariat:

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This version of the Guidelines was approved in Dubrovnik, October 2001. French and Spanish versions of the Guidelines are available on the Internet: www.international.icomos.org/risk

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UNESCO

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<http://www.unesco.org>



ΑΙΟΝΙΟΣ

ΤΡΟΦΟΣ

ΔΕΔΑΛΟΣ

ΕΙΚΑΡΗΣ

