

Australia ICOMOS E-Mail News No. 154

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1) Message by the President of ICOMOS, Michael Petzet, concerning the earthquake and ensuing tsunami in the Indian Ocean

Paris, 7 January 2005

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

ICOMOS joins the international community in deploring the tragic loss of life due to the tsunami which hit the coasts of several countries across Asia and Africa on Sunday 26 December 2004 and expresses its heartfelt sympathy to the populations and governments struck by this tragedy.

In these days all of our members are asking how we with our professional network can help those countries affected by the Tsunami disaster, and I am very grateful for the many constructive suggestions and ideas we have received. After the disaster of 26 December we tried at once to take up contact with the National Committees of the countries concerned and were extremely relieved to hear that, as far as we could find out, our colleagues had survived this gigantic human catastrophe and had already started making active contributions to saving their endangered cultural heritage. We received the most comprehensive news from ICOMOS Sri Lanka, the country where my predecessor as President of ICOMOS International, Roland Silva, organised the General Assembly of ICOMOS in 1993 - for many of us an unforgettable experience. ICOMOS Sri Lanka intends to present a first damage report by the end of this month.

In the present situation the alleviation of human suffering must of course be first priority. We are touched by a human tragedy of inconceivable dimensions, but we also feel our professional responsibility to assist the countries hit by the floods to save the damaged and endangered cultural heritage. After all, we believe that this cultural heritage in the form of monuments and sites has a vital role to play in reconstructing lost places and communities and that also after a disaster the preservation of local building traditions is of great importance for the identity of cultural regions. Some of our committees in the affected countries have therefore already started surveying and identifying heritage at risk, - this is urgent work which will continue.

The consequences of the Tsunami disaster will also have to be on the agenda of the ICOMOS Executive Committee meeting in early February. At the same time there will also be a meeting of

the International Committee of the Blue Shield, a committee bringing together ICOMOS with ICOM (the International Council of Museums), ICA (International Council on Archives) and IFLA (the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions). For future actions in the regions harmed by the flood catastrophe a close co-operation with our partner organisations, in particular ICOM, makes sense, but of course as always in such cases we wish to work under the guidance of UNESCO, and we are also in contact with ICCROM (the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property in Rome), as well as with IUCN, the World Conservation Union, the latter two being our partners as advisory bodies of UNESCO within the framework of the World Heritage Convention.

Dear Colleagues and Friends, our new Heritage at Risk Report 2004/2005, which will come out in the coming weeks, will show once again that many monuments and historic sites are threatened world-wide even if they are on the World Heritage List and that the losses caused not only by natural disasters but also by man are immense. Faced with the gigantic Tsunami catastrophe, which hit mankind exactly one year after the terrible Bam earthquake (26 December 2003), we have to concentrate for the time being on compiling information in order to then be able to start actions under the guidance of the relevant National Committees. No doubt, some of our International Scientific Committees, eg the Committee for Earthen Architecture, will also be able to make contributions. So I sincerely hope that with the help of all of you the professional network of ICOMOS will prove to be successful even in view of this tremendous challenge.

The International Monuments Day on 18 April 2005, initiated by ICOMOS, will offer many of our committees an extra opportunity to point out the consequences of the Tsunami disaster for the cultural heritage.

Michael Petzet
President of ICOMOS International

******Australia ICOMOS also expresses profound grief and concern for all those affected by the earthquake and following tsunami. We will be issuing a special bulletin of our e news with further information for our Australia ICOMOS Members later today. This bulletin will contain a summary of what has emerged so far and what you can do to assist.**

2) Australia ICOMOS National Cultural Tourism Committee Call for Nominations for Chairman

The Australia ICOMOS Cultural Tourism Committee is the national committee that reflects the work of the ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Committee and seeks national opportunities to reinforce the philosophies of the *ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter*. Members are drawn from WA, Queensland, SA, Tas and NSW. More members are always welcome.

Unfortunately our Chairman, Sharon Veale, has been forced to relinquish her post for personal reasons. This is a great loss for the Committee, given her dedication and hard work in establishing the Committee in the early months of 2004.

The Committee members have requested that there be a national call for expressions of interest for the position of Chairman of the Committee. To date the Committee has met about every three to four months and has utilised telephone hook-ups to achieve greater efficiency. Its greatest success to date has been to support the outstanding outcomes of the November 2004 "Loving it to Death" Conference in Port Arthur.

As Chairman of the International Committee, I have accepted the position of Deputy Chairman of the AI National Committee. Since I am ineligible to stand for the position, I have assumed the role of reviewing nominations and discussing them with the AI Executive Committee.

Please send your personal nomination, accompanied by a short statement of capacity, interest and commitment to:

Australia ICOMOS Secretariat
Nola Miles
Secretariat Officer
Ph: 61 3 9251 7131
Fax: 61 3 9251 7158
Email: austicomos@deakin.edu.au

Nominations close on 22 February 2004.

*Thank you
Graham Brooks*

3) Margaret Birtley leaves Deakin for the Collections Council of Australia

[from the Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific, Deakin University]

Margaret Birtley leaves Deakin University in February 2005 to take up the role of Chief Executive Officer for the new Collections Council of Australia (CCA). This new position grew out of collections research work for the Cultural Ministers Council completed by the Cultural Heritage Centre at Deakin University in 2001. The research identified a need for a national coordinating body for heritage collections.

The new CCA is a national advisory body which is independent of government and will represent the shared interests of galleries, libraries, archives and museums i.e. the whole collections sector in Australia. It will develop strategies to address the issues facing collections; develop support from industry and build closer links between collecting institutions.

Margaret Birtley joined Deakin University in 1994 and, since 2000, has designed and delivered the Museum Studies program together with colleagues from the Cultural Heritage Centre in the Faculty of Arts. She has been course director of the Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies programs since 2003.

Professor William Logan, Director of the Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia and the Pacific said: "We are sad to lose a colleague who has played a key role in developing the centre and its programs, a devoted academic and a great friend. Nevertheless the position as inaugural CEO of the new Collections Council of Australia is a great opportunity for Margaret and one that could not be missed. We congratulate her wholeheartedly and wish her great success in the position as well as in the move to Adelaide where the CCA is to be based. We will maintain close working links with Margaret and continue to benefit from her professional expertise."

The Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies suite of courses has recently been re-accredited for the next 5 years, and there is a strong cohort of new students enrolled to commence in February 2005 bringing the total number of students in Australia and overseas to almost 200. Professor Logan will stand in as course director until such time as a permanent replacement for Margaret Birtley is made. New staff will be brought into the Cultural Heritage Centre team to take up Margaret's units, and students will continue to enjoy close working relationship with other team

members involved in course design and teaching and with museum links.

More information

1. Collections Council of Australia media release

http://www.dcita.gov.au/arts/councils/cultural_ministers_council/media_releases_and_publications/a_collective_voice_for_the_collections_industry

2. Collections Council of Australia Terms of Reference

http://www.dcita.gov.au/arts/councils/cultural_ministers_council/collections_council_of_australia

3. More information on Margaret Birtley

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts/Staff/index.php?UserId=265&StaffDetail=true>

Australia ICOMOS offers sincere congratulations to Margaret - we look forward to working with her in this important new role.

4) From ICCROM News: Staff Changes at ICCROM

Staff retirement

Marie-Christine Uginet retires after 32 years as ICCROM Librarian.

http://www.iccrom.org/eng/news/iccrom/2004/various/12_01StaffMCUginet.htm

New Staff - Paul Arenson joins ICCROM as new Manager of Documentation, Library and Archives.

<http://www.iccrom.org/eng/news/iccrom/2004/various/10PaulArenson.htm>

Aparna Tandon joins ICCROM as new Project Specialist, Collections Unit.

<http://www.iccrom.org/eng/news/iccrom/2004/various/11AparnaTandon.htm>

Gamini Wijesuriya joins ICCROM as new Project Manager, Heritage Settlements Unit.

<http://www.iccrom.org/eng/news/iccrom/2004/various/11GaminiWijesuriya.htm>

5) Commonwealth and National Heritage List Workshops

Date and time: Wednesday 16 February 2005, 1pm - 4.30pm

Venue: Rippon Lea Ballroom (and other venues and dates around Victoria tbc)

Victoria now has 3 places on the National Heritage List, and numerous places on the new Commonwealth Heritage List. Both of these lists are relatively new Australian Government initiatives, and the places on them are now afforded a similar level of protection to World Heritage sites under the Australian Government's Environment Protection and Environment Conservation Act, or the EPBC Act.

The National Trust of Australia (Victoria), in conjunction with WWF Australia and the Tasmanian Conservation Trust, is pleased to be hosting a FREE workshop on both of these new National Heritage lists on the 16th February 2005 in the Rippon Lea Ballroom, 192 Hotham Street, Elsternwick, Melbourne from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. The workshop will include information about the new National Heritage system including:

- How heritage listing under the new National Heritage system works (the criteria and thresholds for listing)
- How places on the lists are protected

- Opportunities for community involvement in the new system (nomination to the lists is open to anyone, and there are numerous opportunities for comment)
- How places on the lists are required to be managed
- Funding opportunities for listed places
- How the national heritage system integrates with State / local heritage systems

Please contact Nathan O'Brien on (03) 9656 9826 or nathan.obrien@nattrust.com.au to find out more or reserve a place at the 16th February workshop.

Other similar free workshops are currently being organised around the State, and National Trust members are welcome to attend. Venues include Ballarat, the Grampians, Wangaratta and Sale. Contact Tracey Rich on (02) 6257 4010 [trich@wwf.org.au] to find out more about these sessions.

6) 2005 UNESCO Heritage Conservation Award and New Heritage Awards Jury Prize for Innovation Announced

Bangkok, 5 January 2005 Entries are now being accepted for the 2005 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. The awards programme, in its sixth year, recognizes the achievement of individuals and organizations within the private sector, and public-private initiatives, in successfully restoring structures of heritage value in the Asia-Pacific region. The deadline for receipt of materials is 30 April 2005.

Complete programme information, including an entry form, is available on the web at <http://www.unescobkk.org/culture/heritageawards>.

Projects involving buildings more than fifty years old and which were completed within the last ten years are eligible for consideration. Houses, commercial, cultural, religious, industrial or institutional buildings, gardens and bridges, for example, are all eligible for consideration. Public-private partnership projects such as historic towns, urban quarters and rural settlements where the essential elements are more than 50 years old are all eligible.

In addition to the established awards, a new awards category is being launched in 2005. The Jury Prize for Innovation will recognize newly-built structures which demonstrate outstanding standards for contemporary architectural design which are well integrated into historic contexts. Projects should have been undertaken within the framework of a larger conservation project or within a conservation zone whose essential elements are more than 50 years old. Building annexes, new buildings, new public spaces, and new structures such as bridges, for example, are all eligible for consideration.

In 2004, Baltit Fort (in Karimabad village in the Hunza region of Pakistan) has been honoured with the Award of Excellence. The three Awards of Distinction went to Lakhpat Gurudwara (Lakhpat village in the state of Gujarat in India); St Ascension Cathedral (Almaty, Kazakhstan) and the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Mullewa, Australia).

Five Awards of Merit were awarded in 2004 as follows: Dorje Chenmo Temple (Shey Village, Ladakh, India); Dadabhai Naoroji Road Heritage Streetscape Project (Mumbai, India); St. Thomas Cathedral (Mumbai, India); Phra Racha Wang Derm (Bangkok, Thailand); Vietnamese Traditional Folkhouses, (Dinh Bang in Bac Ninh Province; Hoi An in Quang Nam Province; Bien Hoa Dong Nai; Xuan Hong in Nam Dinh Province; Vinh Tien in Thanh Hoa Province; and Dong Hoa Hiep in Tien Giang Province).

Eight Honourable Mention prizes were also awarded in 2004 as follows: Female Orphan School (Sydney, Australia); Gong'zi'ting in Tsinghua University (Beijing, China); Suzhou River Warehouse (Shanghai, China); Tak Seng On Pawnshop (Macao SAR, China); Zhangzhou City Historic Streets (Fujian Province, China); Elphinstone College (Mumbai, India); Zargar-e-Yazdi House, (Yazd, Iran); and Namuna Ghar, (Bhaktapur, Nepal).

Entries for the 2005 awards programme must be submitted with an official entry form, drawings, photographs and project description to the UNESCO Office of the Regional Advisor for Culture in Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok.

Winners will be announced in September 2005. One entry will receive the "Award of Excellence", a number of entries will receive an "Award of Distinction", a number of entries will receive an "Award of Merit" and a number of entries will receive an "Honourable Mention". A number of special Jury Prizes for Innovation will also be awarded at the jury's discretion.

For more information, contact:

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UNESCO Bangkok Office
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7) CALL-FOR-PAPERS

Second International Congress on Construction History Queens' College, University of Cambridge

29th March - 2nd April 2006
(www.chs-cambridge.co.uk)

Deadline for Submission of Abstracts, 30th April 2005

The First International Congress on Construction History (which was held in Madrid in 2003) attracted speakers from all around the world and established itself as the leading outlet for all aspects of the history of building construction. Speakers are now sought for the Second Congress to be held at Queens' College, University of Cambridge hosted by the Construction History Society.

Abstracts of 300-600 words are sought for papers on any topics relating to any aspect of the history of building construction, including (but not limited to):

- * Structural analysis and the development of structural forms
- * History of the building trades
- * Organisation of construction work
- * Wages and the Economics of construction
- * The development of Building Regulations
- * Trade unions and Guilds
- * Development of construction tools, cranes, scaffolding, etc
- * Building techniques in response to their environments
- * Building materials, their history, production and use
- * History of services (heating, lighting etc.) in buildings
- * The changing role of the professions in construction

- * Building Archaeology
- * Computer simulation, experimentation and reconstruction
- * Use of construction history for dating of historic fabric
- * Recording, Preservation and Conservation
- * Construction in architectural writing
- * The role of construction history in education
- * The bibliography of construction history

All accepted papers (which will be 4-6000 words) will be published and available at the conference. The writers will be asked to give short 15 minute summaries of their papers. All papers and abstracts must be in English, but delegates may present at the conference in English, French, Italian or Spanish.

Papers to be submitted by post to: Malcolm Dunkeld, Chair Organising Committee, Construction History Society, 147 Leslie Road, London, N2 8BH. United Kingdom. or by e-mail to: abstracts@chs-cambridge.co.uk.

Fees, registration and details of accommodation are available at the Congress web site: www.chs-cambridge.co.uk

8) Call For Topics - National Railway Heritage Conference

28-30 September, 2005 - Tamworth, NSW, Australia

The Heritage Futures Research Centre of the University of New England is organising a major conference about the past, present and future of Australian railways.

Themed, "Thinking Rail: Lessons from the Past, the Way of the Future - The Past, Present and Future of Australian Railways", the conference will be forward-looking as well as historical and commemorative. It will concentrate on the important role railways have played, and ought to play, in the social and economic development of the nation. The ultimate objective of the conference will be to set up an on-going research project and national research network to help build the future of railways. Two topics, future strategic planning and regional sustainability, will be major issues to be addressed by the conference and further research.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE...

Colin Divall, Professor of Railway Studies at the University of York and Head of the Institute of Railway Studies and Transport History, run jointly by the University and the British National Railway Museum. Professor Divall's research embraces railway and transport history, the social history of engineering and technology in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and the public history of transport and technology.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The event will attract a diverse range of delegates from the railway industry, professionals and academics to policymakers and those in the wider community with an interest in railway heritage and a continuing railway presence. The conference is allied with the 150th anniversary of the beginning of Railways in NSW and will precede the celebrations associated with the official opening of the Australian Railway Monument (ARM) and Railway Museum at Werris Creek, NSW - 1-3 October, 2005. The conference patron is the Hon. Mr. Tim Fischer, former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and an enthusiastic advocate of railways.

HAVE YOUR SAY IN SHAPING THIS CONFERENCE!

Currently many of the ideas that relate to how to present and preserve the rich exciting story of Australian railways and their creation are scattered, limiting the use of past experience for future development. We are seeking a broad participation from such groups and are calling for ideas on the conference sessions and speakers. Provision will also be made for those with a special interest in an aspect of railways to meet during the conference.

Topics for conference sessions should be sent by email to Dr Andrew Piper, Heritage Futures Research Centre, University of New England, <HFRC@une.edu.au> by 1 February 2005 with an abstract. The organising committee will then call for papers in these sessions, with a deadline for abstracts of 1 May 2005.

To learn more about the conference, please visit <http://www.une.edu.au/campus/confco/nrhc2005/>

Please bookmark the website (site best viewed in 1024 x 768 display) and check regularly for updates!

*Conference Secretariat
UNE Conference Company
University of New England
ARMIDALE NSW 2351
Ph 02 6773 2154 Fax 02 6773 3766
Email: confco@une.edu.au*

9) Statewide Movable Heritage Project - NSW

The Department of Environment & Conservation (NSW) is pleased to announce an exciting statewide movable heritage project. The project requires a suitably qualified and experienced professional/s to provide an inventory, assessment & recommendations for the Department's movable heritage collections within NSW National Parks.

For a copy of the project brief and further information please contact:

Dave McBeath (Mon, Tues, Weds)
Historic Heritage Project Officer
Cultural Heritage Division
ph: (02) 9585 6463
dave.mcbeath@environment.nsw.gov.au

Sharon Veale (Mon, Tues, Weds)
Historian
Cultural Heritage Division
ph: (02) 9585 6468
sharon.veale@environment.nsw.gov.au

The National Parks & Wildlife Service is now part of the Department of Environment & Conservation

If you would like to suggest an event, story, course etc for the Australia ICOMOS E-Mail News or submit an article, send an e-mail to the Australia ICOMOS Secretariat at: austicomos@deakin.edu.au

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The Australia ICOMOS Email news serves solely as an information source and aims to present a wide range of opinions which may be of interest to readers.



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