

**World Heritage Cultural Landscapes:
Concept and Implementation
Regional Thematic Expert Meeting on Vineyard Landscapes
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The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention) is a unique international instrument, which protects both the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value. The Convention itself does not include the word "landscape", however its implementation since 1992 embodies "landscapes" under cultural sites.

At an expert meeting convened in La Petite Pierre in France in October 1992 to review the criteria in the Operational Guidelines, the experts redrafted the cultural criteria and defined three categories of cultural landscapes. A total of twenty-three cultural landscapes have been inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1992. World Heritage cultural landscapes are justified for inclusion in the World Heritage List when interactions between people and the natural environment are evaluated as being of "outstanding universal value".

Table 1: The three categories of World Heritage cultural landscapes

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE CATEGORY	EXTRACT FROM PARAGRAPH 39 OF THE <i>OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION</i> ⁵¹
i	The most easily identifiable is the clearly defined landscape designed and created intentionally by man. This embraces garden and parkland landscapes constructed for aesthetic reasons which are often (but not always) associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles.
ii	The second category is the organically evolved landscape. This results from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/or religious imperative and has developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. Such landscapes reflect that process of evolution in their form and component features. They fall into two sub-categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a relict (or fossil) landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form. - a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. At the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time.
iii	The final category is the associative cultural landscape. The inclusion of such landscapes on the World Heritage List is justifiable by virtue of the powerful religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element rather than material cultural evidence, which may be insignificant or even absent.

⁵¹ Ce § est devenu 47 dans la version révisée de 2005 des *Orientations*.

Table 2: Cultural landscapes on the World Heritage List including vineyard landscapes*

NAME OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPE	COUNTRY	DATE OF INSCRIPTION	CULTURAL CRITERIA	NATURAL CRITERIA
Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park	Australia	1987/1994	v, vi	ii, iii
Hallstatt-Dachstein/Salzkammergut Cultural Landscape	Austria	1997	ii, iii, vi	
The Wachau Cultural Landscape*	Austria	2000	ii, iv	
Vinales Valley	Cuba	1999	iv	
Archaeological Landscape of the First Coffee Plantations in the Southeast of Cuba	Cuba	2000	iii, iv	
Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape	Czech Republic	1996	i, ii, iv	
Jurisdiction of Saint-Emilion*	France	1999	iii, iv	
The Loire Valley between Chalonnes and Sully-sur-Loire*	France	2000	i, ii, iv	
Pyrénées – Mont Perdu	France/ Spain	1997	iii, iv, v	i, iii
The Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz	Germany	2000	ii, iv	
Hortobagy National Park	Hungary	1999	iv, v	
The Costiera Almafitana	Italy	1997	ii, iv, v	
Portovenere, Cinque Terre, and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto) *	Italy	1997	ii, iv, v	
Cilento and Vallo di Diano National Park with the Archeological sites of Paestum and Velia, and the Certosa di Padula	Italy	1998	iii, iv	
Quadi Quadisha (the Holy Valley) and the Forest of the Cedars of God (Horsh Arz el-Rab)	Lebanon	1998	iii, iv	
The Curonian Spit	Lithuania/Russian Federation	2000	v	
Tongariro National Park	New Zealand	1990/1993	vi	ii, iii
Sukur Cultural Landscape	Nigeria	1999	iii, v, vi	
The Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras	The Philippines	1995	iii, iv, v	
Kalwaria Zebrzydowska: the Mannerist architectural and park landscape complex and pilgrimage park	Poland	1999	ii, iv	
The Sintra Cultural Landscape	Portugal	1995	ii, iv, v	
The Agricultural Landscape of Southern Öland	Sweden	2000	iv, v	
The Blaenavon Industrial Landscape	United Kingdom	2000	iii, iv	

Table 3: Cultural landscapes under evaluation in 2001

NAME OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPE	COUNTRY
Cultural Landscape of Fertő-Neusiedler Lake	Austria/ Hungary
Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Colline Royale d'Ambohimanga	Madagascar
Alto Douro Wine Region *	Portugal
Aranjuez Cultural Landscape	Spain
The Great Copper Mountain and its Cultural landscape in Falun	Sweden
Derwent Valley Mills	United Kingdom

Table 4: Cultural landscapes under evaluation for 2002

NAME OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPE	COUNTRY
Upper Middle Rhine Valley *	Germany
Tokaji Wine Region Cultural Landscape *	Hungary
Le paysage culturel des Monts-Sacrés du Piémont et de Lombardie	Italy

Table 5: Vineyard landscapes included on tentative lists of States Parties

NAME OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPE	COUNTRY
Upper Middle Rhine Valley	Germany
Tokaji Wine Region Cultural Landscape	Hungary
The Wine Region of the Alto Douro Zona da Cultura da Vinha do Pico	Portugal
Champagne Region	France
Wine Village Terraces	Cyprus
La Ruta del vino y la cultura en los pueblos mediterraneos	Spain

The World Heritage Convention became the first international legal instrument to identify, protect, conserve and transmit to future generations cultural landscapes of outstanding universal value. An Action Plan for the Future, which was adopted by the Committee in December 1993, recommended regional expert meetings be held to assist with comparative studies of cultural landscapes and that

thematic frameworks be developed for the evaluation of cultural landscapes to assist the World Heritage Committee in its decision making concerning cultural landscapes. Within an overall Global Strategy for a representative and balanced World Heritage List, different regional and thematic expert meetings were held on cultural landscapes and related issues.

Table 6: Cultural landscape expert meetings 1992- 2001

- Expert meeting on Desert Cultural Landscapes and Oasis Systems (Egypt, September 2001)
- Expert meeting on Sacred Mountains of Asia (Japan, September 2001)
- Expert meeting on Vineyard Cultural Landscapes (Tokay, Hungary, July 2001)
- Expert meeting on Cultural Landscapes in Eastern Europe (Poland, October 1999)
- Expert meeting on Cultural Landscapes of Africa (Kenya, March 1999)
- Expert meeting on Cultural Landscapes of the Andean Region (Peru, May 1998)
- Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value (Austria, April 1996)
- Asian Rice Culture and its Terraced Landscapes. Regional thematic study meeting (Philippines, March / April 1995)
- Asia-Pacific Workshop on Associative Cultural Landscapes (Australia, 27-29 April 1995).
- Heritage Canals (Canada, September 1994)
- Expert Meeting on Routes as Part of the Cultural Heritage (Spain, November 1994)
- International Expert Meeting on "Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value" (Germany, October 1993)
- Expert Group on Cultural Landscapes (France, October 1992)

These expert meetings were milestones in the implementation of the decisions of the Committee by identifying different methods that States Parties might choose to use when nominating cultural landscapes for inclusion on the World Heritage List. Methodologies for identifying cultural landscapes were developed and suggestions made towards the

classification and evaluation of cultural landscapes. Specific legal, management, socio-economic and conservation issues related to cultural landscapes were also addressed and examples of outstanding cultural landscapes discussed, which illustrated the aforementioned categories in the regions.

Table 7 : Links between the cultural heritage criteria and the cultural landscape categories

CULTURAL CRITERIA	CULTURAL LANDSCAPES CATEGORIES (EXTRACT FROM PARA. 39 OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES ⁵²)
(i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius; or	(i) The most easily identifiable is the clearly defined landscape designed and created intentionally by man. This embraces garden and parkland landscapes constructed for aesthetic reasons which are often (but not always) associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles.
(ii) exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design; or (iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared; or (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history; or (v) be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement or land-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; or	The second category is the organically evolved landscape. This results from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/ or religious imperative and has developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. Such landscapes reflect that process of evolution in their form and component features. They fall into two sub-categories: - a relict (or fossil) landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form. - a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. At the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time.
(vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance (the Committee considers that this criterion should justify inclusion in the List only in exceptional circumstances and in conjunction with other criteria cultural or natural);	The final category is the associative cultural landscape. The inclusion of such landscapes on the World Heritage List is justifiable by virtue of the powerful religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element rather than material cultural evidence, which may be insignificant or even absent.

52 Ce § est devenu 47 dans la version révisée de 2005 des *Orientations*.

The World Heritage Committee inscribed a number of agricultural landscapes, including the Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras as exceptional example of a 2000 year old tradition of rice production, or two plantation systems from Latin America (Vinales Valley and the Archaeological Landscape of the First Coffee Plantations in the Southeast of Cuba in Cuba).

Progress was also made with regard to Eastern Europe, as for example, Hortobágy National Park in Hungary was added: The Hungarian Puszta is an outstanding example of a cultural landscape shaped by a pastoral human society. The landscape of the Hortobágy National Park preserves intact and visible the evidence of its traditional use over more than two millennia and represents the harmonious interaction between human beings and nature. In this vast area of plains and wetlands, traditional forms of land-use, such as grazing domestic animals, have been continuously present in its pastoral society.

Two expert meetings were already held in Europe, which reviewed possibilities for nominating outstanding European cultural landscapes with a particular reference to rural landscapes. The first one in 1996 noted: It is evident that World Heritage conservation can perform a leadership role in the protection of diverse landscapes. The management of World Heritage cultural landscapes can be a standard-setter for the conservation of the environment as a whole and can establish exemplars of what is required elsewhere. It can help to reinforce the standing of heritage conservation at national and local levels. The conservation of World Heritage cultural landscapes can demonstrate the principles of sustainable land use and of the maintenance of local diversity. Landscapes have a function in the life of the people and their identity. The connection between the material and the non-material, the tangible and the intangible heritage is important. Landscapes also exist in people's memories and imaginations and are linked to place names, myths, rituals and folklore. In people's minds there is rarely a clear distinction between the visible and the invisible components of the landscapes.

The introduction of cultural landscapes into the application of the World Heritage Convention was a first step to open the Convention towards linking cultural and natural heritage beyond the notion of "mixed sites". I particularly think that the modes of production are important and vine is a product which has existed for thousands of years.

At a recent meeting in St. Emilion, the colloque "patrimoine et paysage culturel", (30 May to 1 June 2001) a number of important issues were raised concerning cultural landscapes and vineyard cultures:

1. Vineyard cultures are the result of human work
2. the traditional vineyard landscapes are located in territories with a long human presence using the natural conditions such as relief, soil, (micro) climate etc.
3. they illustrate a considerable human invention with the construction of terraces and creation of other systems of transport and drainage
4. they show the human response to disaster management (e.g. phylloxera) and long-term research to obtain the best production results
5. they are linked to various tangible and intangible elements, linked to cultural traditions and rituals
6. wine production is subject to globalization, economic and global market development, and consumer demands.

The collaboration with other instruments, including national and regional ones, could ensure a process of identification, recognition and protection of landscapes on all levels. It would enhance the conservation of this type of heritage which is at the heart of the people's identity and which is more fragile and thus more threatened than other types of sites by rapid social, economic and cultural development, this was in particular highlighted by the seminar on Eastern European cultural landscapes (Poland 1999). The World Heritage Committee welcomed the initiative by the Council of Europe for the new European Landscape Convention. The Committee noted specifically that parallel initiatives and opportunities for collaborative approaches to World Heritage cultural landscape conservation such as the European Landscape Convention and other European legal instruments have to be encouraged. Whilst it is recognised that there is a strong political imperative to ensure the balance of the World Heritage List by not including too many more European properties or cultural landscapes in the World Heritage List, Europe is particularly well endowed with cultural landscapes. Only a selection of these landscapes can be inscribed in the World Heritage List. Cultural landscapes of European, national or regional value will need to be protected by other means, including additional national legal protection.

The European Landscape Convention deals with all the territory, including urban, pristine natural even degraded areas. It was an attempt to recognise landscape as such including the transformation of rural landscapes though the active role of citizens as part of their everyday work and life.

The adoption of the revised criteria for the inclusion of cultural landscapes on the World Heritage List is one of the great success stories of the implementation of the Convention. It provided new opportunities for the protection of the "combined works of nature and of man" as defined in Article 1 of the Convention.

The World Heritage Committee, after years of discussion has ensured that the World Heritage Convention became the first international legal instrument to recognise and to protect cultural landscapes of outstanding universal value.

This meeting will contribute to the following:

1. it provides inputs to the ICOMOS Global Study on vineyards (see Henry Cleere's paper)
2. it encourages States Parties to identify, to protect with appropriate measures and to include appropriate vineyard cultural landscapes on their tentative lists, mainly from other parts than Western Europe
3. it assist the World Heritage Committee in its deliberations on the theme of agricultural landscapes and to ensure that they receive appropriate recognition and conservation at the international level.

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