

Recommendations

The members of the ICOMOS International specialized Committee for the conservation of buildings and structures in wood, and several members of the vernacular architecture Committee, met from June 13-18, 1983 in Bergen and various other areas of central Norway. This meeting was hosted by the Norwegian National Committee of ICOMOS.

The committee members would like to express their appreciation to the Norwegian Committee for their hospitality and superb organization of the conference and study tours to numerous monuments including three which are on the World Heritage List. We would also like to thank the Ministries of the Environment and of External Affairs for their financial support on this regard.

During their deliberations and site visits, it was agreed that a charter should be created to further develop certain parts of the Venice Charter specifically in relation to the conservation of wooden structures. This will enable the diffusion of general principles and methods used in the conservation of wooden buildings and structures.

The Committee discussed the question of authenticity in order to define its parameters under various circumstances:

- in respect for a monuments architectural value
- in adapting a structure to a new use
- in the protection of the environment in which it was built
- in the conservation of the original building fabric.

The Committee members also considered that craftsmanship for wooden structures should be encouraged and preserved thus guaranteeing the execution of work according to professional standards. More specialized training programs on conservation for craftsman should be developed.

Finally the Committee recommends that, when work is carried out on historic wooden buildings the buildings regulations should be adapted and administrated with flexibility and sensivity in order to preserve the integrity of the architectural Heritage.
Røros, Norway, June 17, 1983.