# 2017

## **US/ICOMOS 2017 Annual Report** to Members and Supporters



















## Introduction

"Much has been given us, and much will rightfully be expected from us. We have duties to others and duties to ourselves; and we can shirk neither. We have become a great nation, forced by the fact of its greatness into relations with the other nations of the earth, and we must behave as be seen as a people with such responsibilities."

— Theodore Roosevelt, March 4, 1905: Inaugural Address

The preparation of an annual report provides the opportunity to include the impulse to string together a series of often unrelated and independent events into a unified thematic narrative—a history—in this instance the history of a single year of a small non-profit with an ambitious mission. Recalibration may be the most appropriate singular theme to tell the story of US/ICOMOS in 2017.

Change of course is constant, but the imperatives of readjustment for US/ICOMOS in 2017 were omnipresent and palpable, at every level of activity. 2017 was the first year of the new Administration of President Donald Trump. *Disruption* is a good word to use to thematically capture the seismic challenges introduced by the Administration to such core legal structures of heritage conservation in the US, like the Antiquities Act; the announced intention to withdraw from UNESCO by the close of 2018; the uncertainties surrounding the policy with regard to the World Heritage Program; or the obstacles to the international exchange of people and ideas given shifting travel and immigration rules.

In 2017 we honored longtime US/ICOMOS Executive Director Gustavo Araoz as he concluded his third and final term as President of ICOMOS. We honored the distinguished longtime friend of US/ICOMOS, and departing



Left to right: Doug Comer, "Zinj" and Bill Pencek at the National Museum of Tanzania in Dar es Salaam during the 2017 ICAHM Conference. The discovery of 1.8 million year old Zinjanthropus boisei (now known as Paranthropus boisei) by Mary Leakey in 1959 was the Leakeys' first major discovery at Olduvai Gorge.

UNESCO Director General, Irina Bokova. We welcomed new ICOMOS President Toshi Kono of Japan and new UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay of France while knowing that we need, more than ever, to demonstrate that the United States can be a respected partner and trustworthy pillar to support the conservation of cultural heritage in all parts of the world.

Internally for US/ICOMOS, it was the first full year for a brand new Chair and Executive Committee of the Board, and a new Executive Director. It was a year with the first additions to the US World Heritage Tentative List since 2008; unprecedented major natural disasters in the US; a US/ICOMOS Board meeting at a US World Heritage Site 2,200 miles outside the Beltway; and US/ICOMOS and its members demonstrating incomparable leadership and contributions at the ICOMOS 19th Triennial General Assembly in Delhi, India.

We hope that you have been pleased with our efforts to lead the organization in this swirl of change. We value your perspectives as we work together to adjust our sails. Over two days in late November, many of you participated in our Leadership Forum, at the US Department of Interior headquarters, where fellow US/ICOMOS members, inter-

national heritage experts and friends explored the current structure of the World Heritage Program and assessed the current and future role of the US and US/ICOMOS at home and abroad in stewarding the heritage assets of the world. We were honored to be joined by Marie-Laure Lavenir, Director-General of ICOMOS. It was the first time a national committee of ICOMOS had invited her to such a gathering.

For 53 years, as the first of the 110 national committees of ICOMOS, US/ICOMOS has sustained a proud tradition of global leadership against a backdrop of constant change. Thank you for your commitment as we strive to excel and improve service to our mission and members, and heritage conservation outcomes, in the US and around the world.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Comer Chair

Bill Pencek
Executive Director

Bill Levelle



Gustavo Araoz congratulates Toshi Kono of Japan, the new incoming president of ICOMOS, at a supper in Gustavo's honor hosted by US/ICOMOS in Delhi during the 19th ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly.

## **Exchanging Knowledge**

he mission of US/ICOMOS is to foster heritage conservation and historic preservation at the national and international level through education and training, international exchanges of people and information, technical assistance, documentation and advocacy. We strive to meet our mission, with our members and partners, every day. From the venerable International Exchange Program, established in 1984 with more than 700 alumni from more than 70 nations; our many and varied conference activities; our agreements with partner organizations to fund and perform new work; our enewsletter US/ICOMOS at Work with more than 1,800 subscribers; to our social media interactions with nearly 2,500 Facebook and over 2,000 Twitter followers; US/ICOMOS takes its charge seriously.

### **International Exchange Program**

The highly competitive International Exchange Program (IEP), led by a volunteer committee of US/ICOMOS Board members chaired by Trustee Brian Lione (class of 1999, Jordan), sponsored 13 participants in 2017. Seven 2017 IEP participants hail from the United States and worked with host organizations around the world. Six international participants were hosted by partner organizations in the US. All participants worked on projects aligned with their skills and interests. In recognition of the excellent management of and outcomes produced by the IEP, in 2017 the MARPAT Foundation awarded \$40,000 to the program for the 2018–2019 seasons.



The International Exchange Program (IEP) Class of 2017 arriving in Washington, May 2017, for orientation, with US/ICOMOS Trustee and IEP Committee Chair Brian Lione (pictured on the left).



The IEP Class of 2017 at the closing symposium and reception, August 2017, with Trustees Ellen Delage, Leslee Keys and Lisa Craig, and former Trustee Jeff Soule.

### **2017 International Exchange Program Participants**

Name	Home Nation	Host	Host Nation	Project
Joana Arruda	USA	ICOMOS	France	Support to the ICOMOS International Secretariat and World Heritage Units
William Canup	USA	Lietuvos paminklai	Lithuania	Birstonas Special Plan for Cultural Heritage Preservation
Kathryn Clarke	USA	International Conservation Center - Città di Roma	Israel	International Conservation Center - Città di Roma
Vilte Janusauskaite	Lithuania	National Trust for Historic Preservation	USA	Farnsworth House; Chesterwood; Belle Grove
Etsegenet Kebede	Ethiopia	Preservation Institute- Nantucket	USA	Preservation Institute- Nantucket
Charmaine Ledesma	USA	ACOR	Jordan	Baseline Assessment of TVET Needs within Jordan's Cultural Heritage Sector
Richa Pandey	India	National Center for Preservation Technology and Training	USA	Restoring Purpose Website
Komal Potdar	India	Preservation Institute- Nantucket	USA	Preservation Institute- Nantucket
Maryam Rabi	Pakistan	Historic Preservation Office, San Antonio, Texas	USA	Comprehensive Program for Sustaining San Antonio's Cultural Heritage
Rosaura Ramos	USA	Beyond Built Pvt. Limited	India	Riverfront development projects in historic towns of Northern India
Rebecca Ramsay	New Zealand	Office of Historic Preservation, Annapolis, Maryland	USA	Keeping History Above Water
Natalia Sanchez-Hernanadez	USA	National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad and Tobago	Victoria Square Historic District Survey
Ashley Wheeler	USA	Space Matters	India	Bhopal Gas Tragedy Memorial

### KnowledgeExchange

Inspired by its 50th anniversary in 2015, US/ICOMOS launched KnowledgeExchange, a thematic approach to US-international cultural resource exchange. KnowledgeExchange uses web and social media-based tools to leverage existing programs like the ICOMOS network of International Scientific Committees (ISC) and the International Exchange Program. The goal is to help US preservationists and cultural resource managers solve the heritage challenges they face, while harnessing new technologies to break down the cost and time barriers to international collaboration.

The KnowledgeExchange themes generally map to the work of existing ISCs or an important current topic both cross cutting and of some urgency. Six thematic areas have been identified to start. In each area, US/ICOMOS works with partner organizations on initiatives to advance the international exchange of information. Some of the most prominent activities and principal accomplishments from 2017 within the six thematic areas are listed here.

### **Climate Change and Heritage**

Newport Restoration Foundation: US/ICOMOS executed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Newport Restoration Foundation (NRF) to support an NRF intern/fellow to develop and maintain an online presence at <a href="https://www.usicomos.org/knowledgeexchange/">www.usicomos.org/knowledgeexchange/</a> for Climate Change and Heritage thematic content, including developing a content stream, maintaining social media feeds, updating blog and resources pages for NRF's <a href="https://www.historyabovewater.org">www.historyabovewater.org</a>, and providing support and stream content for events and conferences in which US/ICOMOS was engaged, such as <a href="https://www.historyabovewater.org">Keeping History Above Water: Annapolis</a> and <a href="https://www.historyabovewater.org">COP 23</a>.

Keeping History Above Water: Keeping History Above Water: Annapolis, a sequel to and namesake of the 2016 NRF conference in Newport, was an international gathering of over 250 experts and practitioners from around the country hosted by the City of Annapolis with support from NRF. The conference chair was US/ICOMOS Trustee and Chief, Historic Preservation Division, City of Annapolis, Lisa Craig. Conference discussions examined the increasing and varied risks posed by sea level rise to historic coastal communities, their built environments and traditional ways of life. Given the city's leadership on sea level rise planning with its Weather It Together: Protecting Our Historic Seaport Initiative, Annapolis shared the city's planning priorities for sea level rise adaptation with residents, cultural resource professionals, government leaders and other community resiliency practitioners. The Historic Preservation Division hosted IEP participant Rebecca Ramsay from New Zealand whose work contrib-



The room was packed at the IEP symposium, August 2017, where the key findings from summer assignments were presented. Trustees Lisa Craig, Ellen Delage and former Trustee Jeff Soule served as panel discussants.



Newport Restoration Foundation (NRF) Fellow Carlo Urmy, with staffers Kelsey Mullen and Shantia Anderheggen at Keeping History Above Water: Annapolis.



US/ICOMOS Trustee and Keeping History Above Water: Annapolis Conference Chair Lisa Craig and the KHAW team doing post-conference analysis, the morning after.

uted to the efforts. US/ICOMOS was honored to participate in the conference opening in introducing keynoter Phil Dyke, coast and marine adviser for the National Trust UK, and is now working with US/ICOMOS Trustees Leslee Keys, Lisa Craig and Adam Markham and the team planning Keeping History Above Water: St. Augustine, scheduled for 2019.

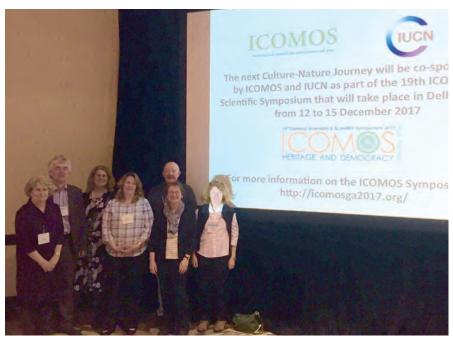
Cultural Landscape Practice
George Wright Society Conference
and Forum: US/ICOMOS was very
involved in the April, 2017 George
Wright Society Conference on Parks,
Protected Areas, and Cultural Sites.
Every two years, the George Wright
Society organizes a premier interdisciplinary professional meeting on
parks, protected areas, and cultural
sites. A result of the proceedings was
a new publication: "Nature-Culture

Journeys: Exploring Shared Terrain", a thematic issue of The George Wright Forum guest edited by Trustees Nora Mitchell and Brenda Barrett and US/ICOMOS member Jessica Brown.

This thematic issue of the Forum provides a closer look at some of the most critical topics where nature and culture merge and is a must read for those who recognize the urgency of taking a holistic perspective for a sustainable future. The volume brings together a variety of perspectives on the connection between nature and culture from



US/ICOMOS Trustee Grant Gilmore leads a tour of the site of the proposed International African American Museum in Charleston, on the site where Gadsden's Wharf, the disembarkation point of up to 40% of all American slaves, once stood.



Left to right: Stephanie Toothman (NPS), Tim Badman (IUCN), Jessica Brown (New England BioLabs), Kristen Walker (IUCN), Bill Pencek, and US/ICOMOS Trustees Nora Mitchell and Brenda Barrett after presenting on the Culture-Nature Journey at the 2017 George Wright Forum.

contributors who participated in the 2016 Nature-Culture Journey at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, including many distinguished US/ICOMOS members and leaders, such as former Executive Director Andrew Potts and current Executive Director Bill Pencek.

The Culture-Nature Journey: Following the successful explorations of the 2016 Nature-Culture Journey, the ICOMOS 19th Triennial General Assembly in Delhi, India in December 2017 featured the Culture-Nature Journey as one of its four principal thematic explorations. Culture-Nature is an approach to heritage that has emerged based on the understanding that relationships between people and the natural environment have worked to shape both our physical environment and belief systems. It embraces the complexity of our heritage, which includes biological resources, genes, landscapes, geological diversity, cultural places and practices, and traditional knowledge systems. It acknowledges both that humans shape their surroundings and that nature acts on humans in many different ways to produce the world's diverse landscapes. US/ICOMOS Chair Doug Comer, and Trustees Archer St. Clair Harvey, Brenda Barrett and Nora Mitchell all presented at Culture-Nature sessions in Delhi. US/ICOMOS was the principal sponsor of Resolution 19GA 2017/25 - "Incorporating the interconnectedness of nature and culture into heritage conservation," adopted by the General Assembly.

**Sharing the Diversity of American Stories Slave Site Conference:** US/ICOMOS assisted the
National Park Service to conduct a Policy Workshop

on Protecting Slave-Related Sites and Antiquities, February 27-March 3, 2017. The natural and cultural resources of Charleston, South Carolina provided the setting to tell the story of the global slave trade in the United States. Presentations and site visits were directed toward sharing best practices on the identification, protection, conservation, development and interpretation of slave-related sites. Representatives from the U.S., Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mozambique, Senegal, Sierra Leone and South Africa attended the workshop. The convening was led by Stanley Bond, Chief Archeologist, and David Gadsby, Archeologist, of the NPS Archeology Program, with assistance from US/ICOMOS Trustee Grant Gilmore, who is Director of Historic Preservation and Community Planning Program, College of Charleston, and from US/ICOMOS, which provided logistical assistance to NPS and workshop participants.

San Antonio, Living Heritage: San Antonio, Texas, site of the San Antonio Missions World Heritage Site (2015) is blessed with an outstanding Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). The OHP and its Director, Shanon Shea Miller, are US/ICOMOS members and excel as a local government partner. In 2017, its Living Heritage Symposium provided a collaborative forum bringing international and local heritage professionals, policy-makers, grassroots preservationists and academics together for an exchange of ideas leading to the development of best practices for safeguarding cultural heritage. The work of IEP participant Maryam Rabi from Pakistan contributed to the symposium. San Antonio has long been recognized for its legacy of historic preservation in a culturally diverse landscape. In San Antonio, many socially relevant sites have become local landmarks. The city is seeking to adopt and develop best practices for protecting cultural properties and the traditions and legacies associated with these sites. Recommendations that San Antonio and other U.S. cities can utilize will be developed.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park and Grand Canyon National Park: In September 2017, the US/ICOMOS Board met at the Albright Training Center at Grand Canyon National Park with representatives of park management, tribal and friends groups, to better understand the challenges and opportunities confronting the World Heritage Sites at Chaco Culture National Historical Park (CHCU, 1987) and Grand Canyon (GRCA, 1979). The friends groups included the Grand Canyon Trust, Grand Canyon Association, Save the Confluence, National Parks Conservation Association, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Around the conference table and onsite within GRCA there was frank discussion between US/ICOMOS representatives and park management, tribal groups and



The conferees at the Charleston County Caw Caw Interpretive Center.



Former US/ICOMOS Trustees Bill Dupont, Don Rypkema and Andrew Potts, and ICOMOS Focal Point for the UN Sustainable Development Goals Ege Yildirim were among the distinguished presenters at the San Antonio Living Heritage Symposium.



friends of the obstacles and innovations in conservation and stewardship at work today. At CHCU, with difficult access limiting visitation to about 50,000 people annually, the potential for improving that access presents one of the greatest challenges and opportunities to stewardship. Improved road access would benefit local Navajo communities and permit more visitors, but the current visitor infrastructure at the park cannot support increased visitation. Multiple additional challenges include grandfathered well pads, inadequate buffer zones and Bureau of Land Management administration of subsurface rights at CHCU. An opportunity exists to adjust the park boundaries at Aztec Ruins National Monument in partnership with the Trust for Public Land.

At GRCA, three major challenges were observed at this extraordinary place which 6,000,000 people from around the world visit annually. Two result from new development pressure and one from the legacy and future prospect of uranium mining:

- Any future growth of the village of Tusayan at the gateway to the south rim of GRCA should be optimized and compatibly integrated to support GRCA staff and visitors to the park.
- The proposed Escalade project (successfully defeated subsequent to the US/ICOMOS visit) at the confluence of the Colorado and Little Colorado Rivers has been vociferously opposed for years by tribal, resident and friends groups for the incompatible land uses and visual intrusion at this culturally important and highly scenic location.
- The legacy and future of uranium mining in and around GRCA is perhaps the most problematic of all the challenges. Tribal groups have suffered disproportionately from the highly toxic and pervasive effects in the land and waterscape above and below the ground. The migration and directional flow of dissolved uranium are extremely difficult to document and monitor.

US/ICOMOS is eager to work with NPS, state and local officials, tribal groups, management and friends at CHCU and GRCA, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre to address these and other challenges and opportunities which have effects on the World Heritage listing of these remarkable, culturally diverse sites of outstanding universal value.

## Heritage as Pillar of Sustainable Development

The UN Sustainable Development Goals: US/ICOMOS Trustees, members and staff have been very involved with efforts to elevate the importance of heritage within the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as to enhance efforts to monitor implementation. Former



US/ICOMOS Trustees and Fellows Cherilyn Widell, John Fowler, Archer St. Clair Harvey, Doug Comer, Brenda Barrett and Leslee Keys join friends who are working every day to protect the Grand Canyon National Park and World Heritage Site.



Renae Yellowhorse, a Navajo tribe member and <u>Save the Confluence</u> representative, shares information.

US/ICOMOS Executive Director Andrew Potts served as the first ICOMOS Focal Point for the SDGs until passing the baton to Dr. Ege Yildirim, ICOMOS Turkey, in 2016.

In September 2015, the UN adopted the milestone document titled "Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," with 17 Sustainable

Development Goals for the period 2015–30. Otherwise known as the Global Goals, they are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The 17 Goals build on the successes of the UN Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. Among the SDGs, Goal 11 (the "Urban Goal") to "make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", is where ICOMOS has been focusing advocacy efforts during the past few years. The thematic scope of the 17 SDGs is elaborated in 169 sub-goals, or targets. Target 11.4 (the "Heritage Target") to "protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage", is where the intersection with ICOMOS squarely lies.

Until now, work on the SDGs focused on achieving representation of heritage in the major policy papers of Agenda 2030. Now that these policy papers are adopted at the highest, global level, and their goals and targets await being fulfilled, focus has shifted to 'implementation'. The mission that ICOMOS has given its Focal Point for the SDGs is to "steer a coordinated process of advocacy to advance the implementation of UN Agenda 2030–SDGs and Habitat New Urban Agenda from the perspective of cultural and natural heritage, within the framework of the ICOMOS mandate and inputs from strategic partners".

US/ICOMOS Chair Doug Comer, Executive Director Bill Pencek and US/ICOMOS members such as the World Monuments Fund have been engaged in activities toward accomplishing this mission. Next steps include:

 Localizing implementation, by providing guidance and direction to stakeholders to adopt tools of implementation



San Juan National Historic Site, inscribed in the World Heritage List in 1983, is a very creative partner of US/ICOMOS and was heavily impacted by Hurricane Maria.



Hosted by former US/ICOMOS Trustee Lisa Ackerman at the offices of the World Monuments Fund, UNSDG Focal Point Ege Yildirim presents before a group that included US/ICOMOS Trustees and former Trustees Adele Chatfield-Taylor, Mary Dierickx, Pamela Jerome, Archer St. Clair Harvey, Chris Marrion, Andrew Potts and Doug Comer.

- Monitoring implementation, with a focus on Indicator 11.4.1 defined by the UN (expenditure and share of budgets allocated to heritage) to achieve consistent and comprehensive data collection
- General advocacy, for mainstreaming culture and heritage within sustainable development, by increasing visibility and outreach across the UN system and the public sphere.

A key target will be the first review of SDG11 by the UN High-Level Political Forum in July 2018 in New York City, for which stakeholders like ICOMOS will have a chance to submit their global reports on implementation of Agenda 2030. ICOMOS will work with key partners in this process, notably the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) - Committee on Culture, and UNESCO. Other key partners include the World Urban Campaign, the General Assembly of Partners to UN-Habitat, the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and the European Commission. Internally, ICOMOS will seek to mobilize its 28 International Scientific Committees and 110+ National Committees, which are gateways to reach stakeholders in their respective countries.

### Heritage in Times of Conflict and Disaster

The 2017 Hurricanes: The US/ICOMOS family is deeply concerned about the many heritage resources impacted by natural disasters in 2017 in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Mexico, the Caribbean island nations and territories, and around the world, and, more importantly, the people affected by these events. Working with and represented on the <a href="Heritage Emergency National Task Force">Heritage Emergency National Task Force</a> (HENTF),

US/ICOMOS coordinates with the National Park Service and other partners to stay as informed as possible and to communicate what can best assist relief and rehabilitation efforts. Communication with Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Maria was particularly difficult. Executive Director Bill Pencek is scheduled to visit Puerto Rico and meet with officials from the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña and the Oficina Estatal de Conservación Histórica, with US/ICOMOS member and ICOFORT President Milagros Flores Roman early in 2018.

### Agreement with University of Colorado, Denver:

In November 2017, US/ICOMOS entered into an agreement with the University of Colorado, Denver to enlist the services of Andrew Rumbach, Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and Christopher Koziol, professor and architect in the field of community-based heritage conservation. Dr. Rumbach specializes in household and community risk to natural hazards and climate change in the United States and India, and how historic preservation might be better incorporated into hazard mitigation plans at the state and local level. Andrew and Christopher chaired the Heritage in Times of Conflict and Disaster Knowledge Breakout session at the US/ICOMOS Leadership Forum. Based on issues raised at the Leadership Forum, they will continue the conversation with experts in the field and prepare a report of the findings of the symposium panel, together with a summary of follow-on discussions, to be made available by US/ICOMOS early in 2018.



Ohio's Hopewell earthworks, on the US World Heritage Tentative List, are the pre-eminent examples, and the largest concentration in the world, of prehistoric monumental landscape architecture. They display a truly astonishing scope, beauty, and precision in form, intent, and execution.

### **World Heritage Management**

**US World Heritage Tentative List:** After posting in the Federal Register for public comment in December 2017, the following sites were included in the US World Heritage Tentative List:

#### **CULTURAL SITES**

- Ellis Island, New Jersey and New York
- Chicago Early Skyscrapers, Illinois, Including: [Other Properties May Be Added in the Course of Developing a Nomination]
  - Rookery
  - Auditorium Building
  - Monadnock Building
  - Ludington Building
  - Marquette Building
  - Old Colony Building
  - Schlesinger & Mayer (Carson, Pirie Scott)
     Department Store
  - Second Leiter Building
  - Fisher Building
- · Central Park, New York
- Brooklyn Bridge, New York
- Moravian Bethlehem District, Pennsylvania

### **NATURAL SITES**

- Marianas Trench National Monument, U.S. Territory, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam
- Central California Current, California, including
  - Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
  - Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
  - Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
  - Farallon Islands National Wildlife Refuge
  - Point Reves National Seashore
  - Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Big Bend National Park, Texas
- Pacific Remote Islands National Monument, U.S. Territorial Waters



US/ICOMOS Fellow James Reap was one of the many expert presenters during the World Heritage and US Civil Rights Sites Symposium in Atlanta, conducted in part at Ebenezer Baptist Church in the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park, on the US Tentative List. The Cultural Sites reflect the recommendations made in the 2016 "U.S. World Heritage Gap Study Report" led by US/ICOMOS. US/ICOMOS Chair Doug Comer also chairs the U.S. World Heritage Tentative List Working Group, established as a sub-committee of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, a Federal Advisory Committee for the US Department of State. The Working Group advises the Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks, US Department of the Interior on the Tentative List.

Grand Canyon National Park, World Heritage Sites: As reported in detail above, in September 2017, the US/ICOMOS Board met at the Albright Training Center at Grand Canyon National Park with representatives of park management, tribal and friends groups, to better understand the challenges and opportunities confronting the World Heritage Sites at Chaco Culture National Historical Park (CHCU, 1987) and Grand Canyon (GRCA, 1979).

Chaco Culture National Historical Park and

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### 2017 Symposium: The US/ICOMOS Leadership Forum

National and world heritage leaders met in Washington, DC, at the US Department of the Interior headquarters for the <u>US/ICOMOS 2017 Leadership Forum</u>. The primary goals of the convening were to refine the strategic path and priorities for US/ICOMOS in 2018 and beyond, and to provide a clearer picture of the US role in world heritage in this time of global transition. More than 120 heritage professionals attended, and participated in frank, challenging, constructive and cordial plenary and breakout sessions addressing the state of international heritage programs in the US; KnowledgeExchange thematic areas; select US/ICOMOS programs; and how to better serve our members and achieve US/ICOMOS's mission. A draft resolution on the engagement of the US in the World Heritage Program resulted from the closing plenary, in light of the announced withdrawal of the US from UNESCO at the end of 2018. The findings of the Leadership Forum and proposed next steps will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees in January 2018 and acted upon early in the new year.



The US/ICOMOS Board meeting with park managers, friends and stewards of Chaco Culture and Grand Canyon National Parks.



US/ICOMOS Vice-Chair Rachel Jacobson led a plenary panel with Joy Beasley (NPS), Cari Enav (US State Department), Tom Mayes (National Trust for Historic Preservation) and John Fowler (Advisory Council on Historic Preservation) on directing future US and US/ICOMOS World Heritage efforts, onstage at the US Department of the Interior Headquarters.

### **International Scientific Committees**

Among the best reasons to be a member of US/ICOMOS and ICOMOS is the opportunity membership provides to engage in the activities of the 28 ICOMOS International Scientific Committees (ISCs). The ISCs are the vehicles through which ICOMOS brings together, develops and serves its worldwide membership according to fields of specialized interest. ICOMOS expects the ISCs to be at the heart of scientific inquiry and exchange in their domains and to share knowledge among them to foster a multidisciplinary approach to heritage protection and management, in fulfillment of the goals of ICOMOS to gather, study and disseminate information concerning principles, techniques and policies related to heritage protection.

Many members of US/ICOMOS and its Board are represented in the senior leadership of the ISCs. During 2017,

the following US/ICOMOS members were in ISC leadership positions (please alert <u>director@usicomos.org</u> for any errors or omissions):

- Jan C. K. Anderson, Vice-President, <u>CIF</u>: International Committee on Training
- Douglas Comer, President, <u>ICAHM</u>: International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management
- James Donovan, Secretary General, <u>ICTC</u>: International Committee on Cultural Tourism
- Andrew Fearon, Vice-President, <u>IWC</u>: International Committee on Wood
- Gunny Harboe, President, Kyle Normandin, Vice-President, <u>ISC20C</u>: International Committee on 20th Century Heritage
- Pamela Jerome, Secretary, <u>ISCEAH</u>: International Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage
- Stephen Kelley, President, <u>ISCARSAH</u>: International Committee on Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage
- Anne Ketz and Edward González-Tennant, Vice Presidents, <u>ICIP</u>: International Committee on Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites
- Chris Marrion, <u>ICORP</u>: International Committee on Risk Preparedness
- Patricia O'Donnell, President, <u>ISCCL</u>: International Committee on Cultural Landscapes ICOMOS-IFLA
- James Reap, Secretary General, <u>ICLAFI</u>: International Committee on Legal, Administrative and Financial Issues
- Milagros Flores Roman, President, <u>IcoFort</u>: International Committee on Fortifications and Military Heritage

### The Africa Initiative

Led by US/ICOMOS Chair Doug Comer and US/ICOMOS, the Africa Initiative is an exploration of the desirability and feasibility of established ICOMOS national committees (NCs) providing support for efforts in sub-Saharan Africa to develop emerging NCs and engage more robustly in the World Heritage Program. The idea was raised several years ago by ICOMOS President Gustavo Araoz to Doug, who was then Co-President of ICAHM.

ICAHM organized a session with this as a topic at the 2010 joint PanAfrican Archaeological Association and Society of Africanist Archaeologists conference in Senegal. Since then, ICAHM members from Africa have participated in the development of the Salalah Guidelines for the Management of Public Archaeological Sites (accepted as ICOMOS Doctrinal Test in Delhi in December, 2017) and have edited books relative to this subject in the ICAHM/ Springer publication series. Most recently, the Africa



US/ICOMOS Former Trustees and Fellows Patricia O'Donnell, James Reap, Pamela Jerome and Chris Marrion outline how the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees facilitate international dialogue, at the 2017 US/ICOMOS Leadership Forum.



The International Committee on Archeological Heritage Management annual symposium always draws a crowd, in 2017 in Bagamoyo, Tanzania.

Initiative was discussed as a concept at the 2017 ICAHM Annual Conference in Bagamoyo, Tanzania.

At the invitation of US/ICOMOS, representatives of some 20 national committees of ICOMOS have now come together with representatives of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), the World Heritage Centre (WHC), ICOMOS, and other organizations either in Bagamoyo, or in December 2018 in Delhi, India to discuss the feasibility and desirability of an effort to assist in the revitalization of ICOMOS national committees in African nations, and to support the relationship between ICOMOS and AWHF. Based upon those conversations, ICOMOS is considering a draft Work Plan toward initiating a 2-3 year project to advance these efforts. At its core, the Africa Initiative is considered a partnership effort of high-performing national committees of ICOMOS and emerging national committees in Africa for the purpose of:

- building capacity, resilience and sustainability in the emerging national committees in Africa
- supporting the relationship between ICOMOS and AWHF, especially in efforts to
  - incorporate the Sustainable Development Goals
  - develop World Heritage nomination dossiers
  - incorporate and sustain best practices in the management of World Heritage sites

The Africa Initiative should, subject to deliberations in 2018, likely embrace the following concepts:

- Scalability. The project may start with one or two "ready-to-go" national committee pilot efforts which can serve as models for subsequent project phases.
- Twinning. Matching a high-performing national committee with an emerging national committee is anticipated depending on historical national relationships and the mutual interest and consent of both nations.
- Trans-national. Trans-national efforts are not ruled out.
- Enhanced Upstreaming. Finding support to conduct necessary studies, hire and train personnel, identify and provide needed facilities and infrastructure, and engage local communities in ways that provide social and economic benefit for sites on Tentative Lists before they are put forward for nomination.
- University Connected. Trainings will likely take place at or in conjunction with universities within and outside Africa.



US/ICOMOS Chair Doug Comer leads a meeting on the Africa Initiative with representatives of nearly 20 ICOMOS national committees during the 2017 Triennial General Assembly in Delhi.

## ICOMOS 19th Triennial General Assembly, Delhi, India

The US may have announced the intention to withdraw from UNESCO at the end of 2018, but US/ICOMOS remains strongly committed to ICOMOS, the World Heritage Program and the World Heritage Convention. In December 2017, US/ICOMOS Trustees, leaders, members and IEP alumni played major roles in many events during the ICOMOS General Assembly in Delhi, India. Some of the many achievements of which we are proud include:



Doug Comer describes the Ann Webster Smith Award being presented to former US/ICOMOS Executive Director and departing ICOMOS President Gustavo Araoz at a supper in his honor.



Pamela Jerome delivers her campaign remarks at the General Assembly.

- Pamela Jerome, Fellow, US/ICOMOS, was elected to the ICOMOS Board of Directors for a three-year term.
- US/ICOMOS honored Gustavo Araoz as he concluded his third and final term as ICOMOS President at a dinner hosted by Jeffrey Sexton, Minister Counselor for Public Affairs, US Embassy, Delhi. The guests included the ICOMOS Board, US/ICOMOS Trustees and ISC Leadership, ICOMOS senior staff including Director General Marie-Laure Lavenir, and senior representatives of the Aga Khan Foundation.
- The <u>ISCCL</u> includes many committed and expert US/ICOMOS members. The work of this ISC resulted in two new ICOMOS doctrinal texts adopted by the General Assembly: <u>ICOMOS/IFLA Principles</u> <u>Concerning Rural Landscapes as Heritage</u> and <u>ICOMOS/IFLA Document on Historic Urban Public</u> <u>Parks</u>. These same individuals (especially US/ICOMOS Trustees Brenda Barrett and Nora Mitchell, and US/ICOMOS Fellow Patricia O'Donnell) also organized the <u>Culture-Nature track with IUCN</u>.
- US/ICOMOS was the principal sponsor of <u>Resolution</u> 19GA 2017/25 – "Incorporating the interconnectedness of nature and culture into heritage conservation," adopted by the General Assembly.
- US/ICOMOS co-hosted a Culture-Nature luncheon at the India Habitat Centre with ICOMOS Australia that featured remarks by Doug Comer, Bill Pencek, Tim Badman (IUCN lead for Culture-Nature), ICOMOS Director General Marie-Laure Lavenir and Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (ICOMOS Australia and ICOMOS lead for Culture-Nature).
- ICAHM, the International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management, led by Doug Comer and US/ICOMOS Member John Peterson, oversaw the adoption of the <u>Salalah Guidelines for the</u> <u>Management of Public Archaeological Sites</u> as a doctrinal text.

### **Powerful Partnerships**

Among the many productive partnerships that US/ICOMOS enjoys with heritage conservation organizations around the world, these are among the most notable for 2017 and not otherwise mentioned in this report.

### #worldheritageusa

In celebration of World Heritage Day, April 18, 2017, US/ICOMOS and NPS announced a new initiative to bring attention to sites in the US that are on the World Heritage List or may be nominated in the future. The aim of the "International Day for Monuments and Sites" is to encourage communities around the world to celebrate



ICOMOS Director-General Marie-Laure Lavenir, at the Nature-Culture lunch co-hosted by US/ICOMOS, describes the Malama Honua ("to care for our island earth") developed during the Culture-Nature Journey in 2016 at the World Conservation Congress.



The landing page for www.worldheritageusa.org.

their cultural heritage and to value its diversity, vulnerability and the efforts required to protect and conserve it.

Building on the centennial of the National Park Service in 2016 and the 50th anniversary of US/ICOMOS the year before, World Heritage Day 2017 was the perfect time to remind Americans and people worldwide of the tradition of US leadership in stewarding the world's cultural heritage, especially the global heritage sites we protect and enjoy in the US. World Heritage sites in the US are a source of great pride—and they contribute to a high quality of life and economic well-being for their communities and our nation.

The 2017 World Heritage Day theme was "Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism," chosen to reflect the UN's <u>International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development</u>. US/ICOMOS coordinated the following activities with NPS and other partners in observance of World Heritage Day:

Microsite Launch: On April 18, US/ICOMOS launched a new microsite, <a href="www.worldheritageusa.org">www.worldheritageusa.org</a>, highlighting the 23 sites in the US on the World Heritage List, including 18 that are units of the national park system. The microsite links to online resources with additional content on US World Heritage sites and highlights the advantages of listing, the role of the US in the creation of the global list, and the best ways to plan visits to and connect with US sites.

Coordinated Social Media: For the 24 days after the April 18th microsite launch, leading up to the Memorial Day start of the travel season, US/ICOMOS and NPS spotlighted one site per day on social media under #WorldHeritageUSA. On the 24th day, sites on the US Tentative List were featured. The social media reach of the campaign realized by US/ICOMOS during the 24 day period was unprecedented.

### **National Council for Preservation Education**

In November 2017 during the National Trust for Historic Preservation's PastForward Conference in Chicago, Bill Pencek spoke at the annual meeting of the National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE) to raise awareness of signature US/ICOMOS programs and activities of benefit to NCPE members and students enrolled in NCPE-member programs. Among the most notable of US/ICOMOS activities of this type are IEP for participant and hosting opportunities, the Murtagh-Graham Prize, task agreements and conference partnerships with higher education institutions. In 2018 US/ICOMOS hopes to build upon this initial conversation to continue to raise awareness of these opportunities, as well as to build the US/ICOMOS IEP alumni network.



National Council for Preservation Education leaders welcomed US/ICOMOS to present on shared opportunities.



US/ICOMOS Trustee Brian Lione and Bill Pencek with representatives of several different graduating classes of the International Exchange Program in Delhi. Pictured are Jenna Dublin, Anushi Garg, Komal Potdar, Sara Lardinois, Maanvi Chawla, and Nityaa Iyer.

### International Exchange Program Alumni Network

US/ICOMOS has not yet fully invested in nor capitalized on the decades of good will and connections that the more than 700 alumni of the IEP embody and represent. A good start was made by summer intern Anne Comer to generate current contact information for as many of the IEP alumni as possible. IEP alumna Jenny Rowan (2016, Turkey) was designated by the US/ICOMOS Board to serve as our representative to the ICOMOS Working Group on Emerging Professionals. The work will continue in 2018 to build a sustainable Alumni Network which could serve as a significant element in meeting the US/ICOMOS mission.

### **Professional Exchange**

Thanks to the organizational relationships in which US/ICOMOS has invested, we often find ourselves hosting delegations of heritage conservation professionals in our offices in Washington. The Meridian International Center, a global leadership organization whose activities include



Visitors from Belarus.

managing international professional exchanges introduced US/ICOMOS and groups of heritage conservation professionals from Nepal and Belarus in 2017. Former US/ICOMOS Trustee Jeff Soule, Director of Outreach and International Programs with the American Planning Association and ICOMOS focal point for the World Urban Campaign, introduced US/ICOMOS and a delegation from Shenzhen, China.

## Recognizing and Rewarding Excellence

The Murtagh/Graham Prize: On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of US/ICOMOS in 1965 and to honor the contributions and leadership of 2015 Ann Webster Smith Award winners William R. Murtagh and Roy Eugene Graham to preservation education and cultural heritage stewardship, US/ICOMOS has established the Murtagh/Graham Prize for outstanding student scholarship in the area of historic preservation technologies. Funding support for this award has been provided by a generous grant from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training of the National Park Service. The solicitation of the thesis submissions, review and evaluation of the submissions, and the coordination of announcements and award notifications has been accomplished by a volunteer team led by US/ICOMOS Trustee Jeff Eley.

The First Place 2017 Murtagh/Graham Prize and a \$2,500 cash award was presented to Vishal Joshi, for his thesis "Rescue, Rehabilitation and the Aftermath of the April 2015 Gorkha Earthquake on Nepalese Heritage." Mr. Joshi is an emerging preservation architect who recently graduated from the Historic Preservation program at the University of Texas at Austin. Vishal holds an undergraduate degree in architecture from the University of Mumbai with four and a half years of work experience in the field of architecture and preservation spanning India, Taiwan, Kenya, Uganda, USA and Nepal. He works with the New York based Architectural Preservation Studio, DPC. As a part of his graduate thesis research he had the unique chance to work with the Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust in their efforts to safeguard, secure and draft architectural drawings of heritage structures destroyed in the April 2015 Gorkha earthquake. His professional goal is to raise awareness and provide relief for heritage post-disaster scenarios and to highlight the complexities involved.

The Second Place Prize and cash award of \$500 was presented to Santanna Cowan, for her thesis "Evaluating Special Districts as a Preservation Planning Tool." Ms. Cowan completed her MFA in Historic Preservation at the Savannah College of Art and Design, and strengthened her international understanding through preservation



Visitors from Nepal.



Visitors from Shenzhen, China.



US/ICOMOS Vice-Chair Rachel Jacobson presents the 2017 first place Murtagh-Graham Prize to Vishal Joshi.

study programs in Lacoste, France and Hong Kong. As part of her graduate studies, she conducted research aimed at strengthening connections between community redevelopers and historic preservationists, as well as, creative approaches and tools to preservation planning in historic neighborhoods. Santanna also holds a Bachelor degree from the University of Florida in Architectural Interior Design and works as a designer at TPG Architecture, an award-winning provider of design solutions across numerous sectors and industries in New York City. As a preservation and design professional, she strives to create innovative design solutions that respect the existing historic context.

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## Organizational Development and Resource Management

### Leadership

## Changes in the US/ICOMOS Leadership Team

Internally for US/ICOMOS, it was the first full year for a brand new Chair and Executive Committee of the Board, and a new Executive Director. The four new Board members who joined the team in 2017 reflect the diversity of expertise essential for US/ICOMOS to remain a viable presence in heritage conservation:

Aysar Akrawi: Iraqi by birth, Aysar Akrawi was Executive Director of the Petra National Trust (PNT) in Jordan for 22 years. At PNT, she approached cultural preservation holistically, actively promoting the preservation of intangible heritage and the inclusion of communities surrounding the World Heritage site in addition to conserving and interpreting the Petra site. Aysar now resides in the United States, where she brings her experience in cultural heritage and its preservation to the work of US/ICOMOS both nationally and internationally.

Leslee F. Keys, Ph.D.: Leslee Keys serves as Assistant Professor and Director of Historic Preservation and Special Initiatives at Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida. She came to this role after 30 years of government and non-profit leadership in Ohio, Kentucky and Florida, where she has addressed environmental threats to coastal resources. Leslee brings this wealth of experience to US/ICOMOS while also benefiting the rich cultural resources of St. Augustine and Flagler College during her three-year term.

Adam Markham: Adam Markham is Deputy Director of the Climate & Energy Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), where he leads the organization's work on climate change. At UCS and for the



US/ICOMOS Trustees Cherilyn Widell, Brenda Barrett, Doug Comer and Archer St. Clair Harvey and former Executive Director Kak Slick enjoying lunch in the sunshine at Grand Canyon National Park.

last 3 years with US/ICOMOS, Adam has worked to bring attention to the impacts of climate change on cultural heritage and historic sites. As a trustee, Adam will support and further develop our work on heritage and climate change; identify ways in which the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees could most effectively address heritage management and preservation in a rapidly changing climate; and provide a conduit to the climate science and policy communities.

Kathryn Washburn: Kathryn Washburn previously served as the Director of International Relations at the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) from 1989-2010, where she developed and managed a program that enabled hundreds of DOI experts to provide technical assistance to over 50 countries on such subjects as park management, World Heritage site nomination, and water resource management. Kathryn will participate in development, and grow peer-to-peer relations and facilitate knowledge exchange with board members in other countries.

## Membership and Communication Services

Essential to the growth and sustainability of any membership-based organization is giving priority to clearly communicating and affirming to its members that it values their participation and contributions. Jennifer Spreitzer came on board in January, 2017 as part-time Membership and Communications manager. Jenny, with degrees in Art History from Yale University and the University of Chicago, had worked for US/ICOMOS as a project manager for the US World Heritage Gap Study and With a World of Heritage So Rich. Her considerable experience in research, strategic planning, marketing and branding for organizations of all types, in the private sector, as well as project work with Preservation Action and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and work as Membership Manager with the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust all contribute to making Jenny an invaluable member of the US/ICOMOS team.

### The 2017 Benefit Gala

The Benefit Gala and awards ceremony has become an annual tradition for US/ICOMOS. It is the largest single fundraiser of the year and is essential to the success of the organization in meeting its mission.

On the evening of November 30, 2017, friends and members of US/ICOMOS gathered at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC, to celebrate world heritage, to thank outgoing UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova, who was presented with the US/ICOMOS Award for International Cultural Heritage Leadership. Honors and awards were bestowed to newly named Fellows and prize winners. US/ICOMOS Vice-Chair Rachel Jacobson presented Vishal Joshi and Santanna Cowan with the Murtagh-Graham Prizes for outstanding student scholarship in the area of historic preservation technologies.

US/ICOMOS established the Fellows honor program in 1982 to recognize and honor American scholars, professionals and civic volunteers who have worked to advance international preservation standards and programs. Outstanding accomplishments are recognized in one or more areas of activity, including but not limited to archi-





Jenny Spreitzer, pictured far left, behind the camera recording the Leadership Forum session on Achieving World Heritage Designation.



Doug Comer and Jan Anderson with Irina Bokova and the US/ICOMOS Award for International Cultural Heritage Leadership.

tecture, architectural history, conservation, history landscape architecture and urban planning. Two new Fellows were honored this year:

 Jan C.K. Anderson, FAPI, immediate past Chair of US/ICOMOS and founder of RESTORE, a not-forprofit educational corporation was introduced and presented her certificate of fellowship by John Fowler, F.US/ICOMOS and Executive Director of the US Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.



US/ICOMOS Treasurer Darwina Neal presents Patricia O'Donnell with a certificate confirming that she is a Fellow, US/ ICOMOS.

• Patricia O'Donnell, FASLA, AICP, former US/ICOMOS Trustee, preservation landscape architect, urban planner and founder of Heritage Landscapes LLC was presented her certificate of fellowship by US/ICOMOS Treasurer Darwina Neal, FASLA, F.US/ICOMOS. Carol Shull, F.US/ICOMOS, pre-

sented the Ann Webster Smith Award to ICOMOS President Gustavo Araoz in absentia. The Ann Webster Smith Award for International Heritage Achievement honors an American individual, group of persons or institution, in the public or private sector, for extraordinary and sustained

achievement in perpetuating Ann Webster Smith's quest to make the United States a respected partner and trustworthy pillar to support the conservation of the cultural heritage in all parts of the world. US/ICOMOS hosted a dinner in Gustavo Araoz's honor and presented him with the Ann

Webster Smith Award in person at the ICOMOS General

Assembly in Delhi on December 14, 2017.



Carol Shull, F.US/ ICOMOS, at the 2017 benefit gala, announces the Ann Webster Smith Award will go to Gustavo Araoz.

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## Advocacy

Because of the wide range of challenges and disruptions taking place to effective heritage conservation in the US in 2017, US/ICOMOS has found it necessary to elevate advocacy as a core activity. With a network that includes monthly information sharing meetings with representatives of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Action, the National Association of State Historic Preservation Officers, the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, the Coalition for American Heritage, and many other important national heritage conservation organizations, US/ICOMOS has publically taken positions and issued statements in 2017 on the following:

- Executive Order of April 26th 2017, Review of Designations Under The Antiquities Act
- America's Intention to Withdraw from <u>UNESCO</u>
- <u>US Engagement in the World Heritage</u>
  <u>Program</u>

The critical need for continued, focused advocacy efforts by US/ICOMOS, in concert with its allied partner organizations, was a major theme of the November 2017 Leadership Forum. A draft resolution on the continued engagement of the US in the World Heritage Program resulted from the closing plenary, in light of the announced withdrawal of the US from UNESCO at the end of 2018. That resolution, as well as the findings of the Leadership Forum and proposed next steps for advocacy will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees in January 2018 and acted upon early in the new year.

### **Top Stories** Interior Secretary Proposes Shrinking Four National Monuments By JULIE TURKEWITZ and LISA FRIEDMAN LAST UPDATED: AUGUST 25, 2017 BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT, Utah - Parts of this sprawling region of red-rock canyons and at least three other national monuments would lose their strict protection and could be reopened for new mining or drilling under proposals submitted to President Trump by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke on Thursday, according to congressional aides and others who have been briefed on the report. Environmentalists, ranchers, tribal governments and Western lawmakers had been watching closely to see if Mr. Zinke would propose changing the borders of the Bears Ears National Monument, which President Barack Obama established at the end of his term, and other scenic and historic areas under federal protection.

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Mr. John Peterson (President, <u>ICAHM</u>: International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management)

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## US/ICOMOS United States National Committee International Council on Monuments and Sites

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