



World Heritage USA

Quarterly Newsletter for Members of US/ICOMOS

Q2 2018 (April - June)

"Interpreting and Representing Slavery and its Legacies" a Success



US/ICOMOS was proud to co-sponsor "Interpreting and Representing Slavery and its Legacies in Museums and Sites: International Perspectives," a conference at the University of Virginia and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, March 19-21. The conference brought experts from more than 20 nations to share and discuss methods and approaches. [The conference program and schedule can be found here.](#) [Live-streamed video footage of the conference is available at the conference's web page.](#)



John W. Franklin, Cultural Historian and Senior Manager, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution, moderated several sessions, including "Assessing the Global Impact of the Slave Trade and Slavery."



Milton Guran presented on Valongo Wharf World Heritage Site, the principal disembarkation site of enslaved Africans in South America. [Valongo Wharf, located in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was inscribed as a World Heritage site in 2017.](#)



Dr. Craig Steven Wilder, Barton L. Weller Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, moderates a session on how universities have taken the lead in being honest about their own pasts and in spearheading new research on slavery and taking steps toward repairing historic injustices. In addition to MIT, panelists represented the University of Virginia, the University of Bristol (UK), and Columbia University.



An evening reception at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello brought together Peter Hanes, member of the conference planning committee; Leslie Bowman, President of the [Thomas Jefferson Foundation](#); Ali Moussa Iye, Chief of the [UNESCO Slave Route Project](#); and Nada Al-Nashif, UNESCO Assistant Director General for Social and Human Sciences.



The UNESCO [International Scientific Committee of the Slave Route Project](#) gathered to debrief at the UVA Colonnade Club after the conference's conclusion.



The informal social interactions are often the most enjoyable parts of these events. Here, Peter Hanes plays "Amazing Grace" at the Colonnade Club, with a bust of Thomas Jefferson in the foreground.

US/ICOMOS would like to thank its co-sponsors and the many committed museum and historic site employees, scholars and volunteers engaged in important and difficult conversations about slavery and its legacy. These forums for discussion and reflection embody the educational mission of UNESCO, ICOMOS and US/ICOMOS. We are grateful for the role we and our members play.

\$50,000 Grant Supports Nomination of US Civil Rights Sites to the World Heritage List

The US Department of the Interior and the National Park Service recently announced \$12.6 million in grants for 51 projects that preserve sites and highlight stories related to the African American struggle for equality in the 20th century. Among the recipients was Georgia State University (GSU), which received \$50,000 for [Nominating US Civil Rights Sites to the World Heritage List](#).

Project Director and GSU History Professor Glenn T. Eskew noted that “the award signifies an NPS endorsement of our efforts to prepare a Serial Nomination of US Civil Rights Sites that through inscription on the World Heritage List will enhance the recognition, understanding and preservation of iconic movement sites associated with the American struggle for racial equality and will share that story with an international audience.”



The grant received by GSU will support the first round of community outreach sessions where property owners and stakeholders will discuss the World Heritage Program, the nomination process, and the crafting of site management plans and buffer zones to protect the properties in perpetuity.

“Through the work and engagement of public and private partners, these grants will preserve a defining part of our nation’s diverse history,” NPS Deputy Director Dan Smith said. “By working with local communities to preserve these historic places and stories, we will help tell a more complete narrative of the African American experience in the pursuit of civil rights.”

Pictured above: Glenn T. Eskew, Georgia State University, and John W. Franklin, Cultural Historian and Senior Manager, National Museum of African American History and Culture. The two discussed the US Civil Rights Sites World Heritage nomination at US/ICOMOS's 2017 Leadership Forum in Washington, DC.

US/ICOMOS News

World Heritage Celebration Begins April 18



Above: the ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group assembled at the 19th General Assembly in Delhi.

[World Heritage Day is on April 18th](#). This year's theme is "Heritage for Generations." ICOMOS will celebrate the inter-generational transfer of knowledge and youth leadership, utilizing the work of the ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group. We encourage all of our members, especially those who work at heritage sites and institutions, to post images of educational programs and tours. Please tag these with [#heritage4generations](#) and [#worldheritageUSA](#).

US/ICOMOS will be partnering again with the National Park Service and sites on the US World Heritage Tentative List to feature one site per day starting April 18th and proceeding for the next 24 days. Watch your email and social media feeds!

Members should also [make plans to attend a talk entitled "World Heritage Cities as Cultural Landscapes"](#) by Mechtild Rossler, director, UNESCO Division for Heritage and World Heritage Centre, and US/ICOMOS fellow Patricia M. O'Donnell on April 18th, World Heritage Day, at the National Building Museum. Attendees will learn about urban cultural landscapes through the example of the 2012 World Heritage City designation of [Rio de Janeiro: Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea](#). This program is sponsored by the National Building Museum's Darwina L. Neal Cultural Landscape Fund for adult programs focusing on cultural landscapes. It will be followed by a reception.

Murtagh-Graham Prize [Call for Thesis Submissions](#)



US/ICOMOS annually awards the Murtagh/Graham Prize for outstanding student scholarship in the area of historic preservation technologies. The Prize was established on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of US/ICOMOS in 2015 and to honor the contributions and leadership of 2015 Ann Webster Smith Award winners William R. Murtagh, Ph.D. and Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA to preservation education and cultural heritage stewardship. Initial funding support for this award has been provided by a generous grant from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) of the National Park Service.

This annual award invites universities that are institutional members of US/ICOMOS in good standing as of May 15, 2018, to submit one thesis or graduate capstone project for consideration. The award will acknowledge student scholarship that demonstrates awareness of previous approaches, recognizes recent

developments, provides groundwork for future research and enriches the discipline locally and/or globally. Eligible theses or projects must have been completed (i.e. defended/approved) in calendar year 2017 on a topic related to preservation and conservation technology broadly construed, including traditional preservation and conservation practices and techniques and new technologies. Complete information can be found at this link: <http://www.usicomos.org/us-icomos-2018-murtagh-graham-prize-call-for-thesis-submissions/>. The deadline for submissions is May 15, 2018.

Pictured above: 2017 Murtagh-Graham Prize winner Vishal Joshi accepts his award from trustee Rachel Jacobson.

Help Find Our Next Trustees

The US/ICOMOS Nominating Committee welcomes your nomination of candidates to fill open board positions. In selecting trustees, US/ICOMOS strives to maintain a diversity of backgrounds, experiences and geography. Emerging professionals and individuals with expertise in development and communications are especially welcomed. [A list of qualifications for trustees can be found here.](#)

The Nominating Committee urges US/ICOMOS members to forward nominations of qualified persons to the Committee at nominations@usicomos.org by May 1st. The nominations should include: (1) an email from the nominator, (2) the nominee's short biography (not to exceed one page), and (3) the nominee's statement of goals if elected and a description as to what makes him or her a qualified candidate (not to exceed 250 words). The Nominating Committee will then prepare a slate of candidates for consideration by the Board, and the approved slate will be sent to the membership for their vote.

ICOMOS News

ISC In Depth: [ICTC](#)

Throughout 2018, we are featuring one International Scientific Committee (ISC) per month in order to highlight the work of the ISC and provide potential members with information about how to join.



This month's ISC is ICTC, the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Tourism, described by ICTC Secretary General, Jim Donovan.

1. Tell us your name, occupation, employer and few words about your interest in ICTC.

Jim Donovan, FASLA; Landscape Architect. I work for myself at Broadreach Planning & Design. I gained an interest in World Heritage Sites (WHS) from my spouse, Patricia O'Donnell. I like the fact that WHS help promote cooperation and respect for our shared heritage around the world. I have no professional background in anything directly related to heritage or preservation. ICTC allows me to use my particular work skills in site design, transportation planning and impact analysis, as well as my personal interest in support of WHS, as our committee explores general as well as specific ways to

address the impacts of tourists and tourism on these wonderful places.

2. Tell us about the work of ICTC in a few sentences.

Briefly, ICTC provides general and specific guidance on the management of tourists at World Heritage Sites. We do that by a mix of:

- Publications and research by individual members who share their work with the rest of the committee for general use and application;
- Member donation of time and expertise to particular WHS to address specific circulation, management, or other tourist issues; and
- Development of general information and charters that provide overall guidance related to tourism for WHS and other scientific committees.

3. What are the qualifications for membership in your committee and how should potential members apply?

ICOMOS members can either join as an expert or an affiliate. Experts should have some type of expertise that relates to the tourism industry or the management of tourists. Affiliates just need to have an interest in what the committee does and a willingness to be involved.

Those interested in joining can [send a request for an application to me](#); I am Secretary General of ICTC. If possible, they should have some idea as to whether they would like to join as an expert member or an affiliate.

4. How do members participate in ICTC?

ICTC has a fairly active email list serve, which our members use to circulate questions, ideas, information, or announcements to other members. We usually also have a yearly meeting hosted by one of our ICTC members that is typically associated with a particular WHS. Often the WHS acts as a sponsor, providing funding for at least some of the members to attend in exchange for the donated work of the committee. At these meetings, we also usually have our official annual meeting at which we conduct the business of ICTC, including the approval of new members.

Our 2018 meeting is going to be a joint meeting between the United States and Canada, focusing on the heritage corridor between Montreal, Quebec and Burlington, Vermont, to be held at the end of September and beginning of October.

5. Once they have been accepted, how do you recommend new members get involved?

New members get involved by participating in the list serve and coming to the meetings.

6. Is there anything else that you would like prospective members to know?

ICTC is relatively informal. Our yearly meetings are very enjoyable as well as rewarding, because we typically provide some type of service to the location where we are meeting. Some years, however, we just do a learning tour, to experience for ourselves how tourism operates in some particular spot around the world. For more information on the committee, you can visit our website: <https://www.icomos->

Get Involved

IEP Alumni: [Please Join our New IEP Alumni Facebook Group](#)



We invite and encourage all International Exchange Program alumni to join our IEP Alumni Group on Facebook. The group is a forum for alumni to share news and observations about heritage conservation. The group will only thrive with your active participation. We hope you will join us!

Bears Ears and the Future of Our National Monuments



The Cultural Heritage Management Graduate Program at Johns Hopkins University is bringing together experts to discuss the December 2017 reduction of Bears Ears National Monument and consider what this means for the future of heritage preservation in the United States. This panel will take place Fri, April 13, 2018, 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM EDT at Johns Hopkins' Washington Campus (1717 Massachusetts Avenue Northwest, LL7, Washington, DC 20036). The event is free but you must [register to attend](#).

2018 US/ICOMOS Symposium Call for Papers Coming Soon



Plans are underway for our 2018 Symposium in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the World Heritage Centre, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Presidio Trust and the US National Park Service. This year's theme is "Forward Together: A Culture-Nature Journey. *Towards More Effective Conservation in a Changing World.*" The conference will take place November 13-14, 2018, in San Francisco, California. A Call for Papers will be distributed and posted soon. Please look for it in your inbox and on social media and distribute it widely!

Left: Andrew Potts speaks at the 2017 Symposium in Washington, DC.

Follow us on social media for real-time reporting on calendar items and deadlines, upcoming conferences and events, and breaking news



US/ICOMOS is a U.S. historic preservation nonprofit whose mission includes both supporting the UNESCO World Heritage program and promoting international exchange in the cultural heritage field. You can learn more about us at usicomos.org.