



US/ICOMOS at Work

December 2019 E-News



Welcome to "US/ICOMOS at Work," a monthly update on what US/ICOMOS is doing to preserve and promote world heritage and international knowledge exchange on preservation topics. We share these brief communications monthly with our members and supporters. Above: US/ICOMOS has a redesigned website! Read more about it below.

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —



US/ICOMOS 2019 Symposium

Thank you to all the attendees and presenters who made the 2019 Symposium such a roaring success! More than 100 heritage professionals met in Washington, DC, on November 8-9, 2019 to discuss the theme "The Benefits of World Heritage Listing in the United States." The [Johns Hopkins University Master of Arts in Cultural Heritage Management](#) program kindly arranged to host the Symposium, sponsoring the free panel discussion and reception kicking off the event on Friday the 8th, and then providing a wonderful venue for the daylong Symposium on

Saturday on the topic of "Learning from Current U.S. World Heritage Sites and Planning for the Future."

Following are several photos of the Symposium along with a brief description of each panel and its presenters. We are preparing a more detailed account of the Symposium's proceedings that will be available on our website in early 2020.



Above: The Symposium began on Friday evening with "Benefitting from World Heritage Designation in the United States," a panel discussion. US/ICOMOS Trustee Destry Jarvis moderated the session with featured speakers (left to right) Doug Domenech, Mike Fullerton, Derrick A. Crandall, and Linda J. Bilmes. [A video recording of this session is available online here.](#)



Above: The next generation of preservation professionals was well represented at the symposium. Here, University of Pennsylvania graduate students in Historic Preservation Ifrah Asif, Meris Westberg, and Dairong Qui meet with US/ICOMOS Executive Director Jane Seiter.

Saturday's Symposium began with Session 1 on "The 20th-Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright," the United States' most recent inscription on the World Heritage list, added in August 2019 but many years in preparation.

At right are Justin Gunther (Fallingwater), Jeffrey Herr (Hollyhock House), Stuart Graff (Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation / Taliesin and Taliesin West) and, far right, panel moderator Stephen Morris, National Park Service (NPS) Chief of the Office of International Affairs and World Heritage Program Coordinator. "The 20th-Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright" was the first U.S. nomination for works of modern architecture and our most complex serial nomination to date. All of the sites saw gains in visitorship immediately after inscription, particularly from international visitors.



Session 2 addressed sites that are currently on the [U.S. Tentative List of World Heritage Sites](#) and actively preparing their cases for nomination. All of these sites have been working closely with the NPS Office of International Affairs and ICOMOS for "upstream" guidance on statements of Outstanding Universal Value and with their local communities to arrange for site management, protection and community support.



The panel was moderated by Destry Jarvis and featured these speakers and sites:

- Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks (Ohio): Jennifer Aultman and Todd Kleismit, Ohio History Connection (pictured above)
- Civil Rights Movement Sites: Dr. Glenn T. Eskew, Georgia State University
- Moravian Bethlehem District (Pennsylvania), an extension to Christiansfeld, a Moravian Church Settlement, Denmark: Charlene Donchez Mowers, Historic Bethlehem Museum and Sites



Session 3, moderated by Jan C.K. Anderson, was devoted to early preparation for the future nomination of two sites/serial nominations that were added to the U.S. Tentative List in late 2017: *Central Park and Early Chicago Skyscrapers*.

Central Park (New York): Lane Addonizio, Central Park Conservancy

Early Chicago Skyscrapers: Phyllis Ellin, Consultant, National Park Service (pictured at left)

Session 4 considered two archaeological World Heritage sites in the U.S., *Poverty Point Monumental Earthworks* (Louisiana), added to the World Heritage List in 2014, and *Chaco Culture*, inscribed in 1987. Since inscription, Poverty Point has experienced growth in

visitorship, increased awareness and support, and exciting statewide educational goals for all Louisiana students. Chaco Culture, long a World Heritage site, is now facing challenges from the effects of expanding natural gas and oil development. The session was moderated by US/ICOMOS President Douglas Comer.

- Monumental Earthworks of Poverty Point: Raymond Berthelot, Louisiana Office of State Parks
- Chaco Culture: Paul Reed, Archaeology Southwest



During lunch, Justin Gunther, a member of the Murtagh|Graham Prize Committee, presented the 2019 awards to winner Halley Ramos (pictured on the right, at left) and runner-up Mayrelis Perez (pictured on the left).

Halley Ramos is an emerging designer, planner and preservationist who recently graduated from the Historic Preservation program at Columbia University. The Prize of \$2,500 was awarded for her thesis entitled *Mixed Reality for Historic Preservation*.

Mayrelis Perez is a preservation architect who recently graduated from the University of Florida. She received an award of \$500 for her thesis, *3D Laser Scanning: Understanding the Impacts and Implications on Historic Preservation Architectural Practice*.



After lunch, Session 5 addressed two cities, San Antonio and Philadelphia, that contain prominent world heritage sites (the San Antonio Missions and Independence Hall, respectively) and that are working to increase both local and international awareness of and visitorship to their cities and World Heritage sites. The panelists and moderator of the panel (pictured above left to right) were:

- San Antonio - Javier Flores, City of San Antonio World Heritage Office
- San Antonio - Claudia Guerra, City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation
- Philadelphia - Zabeth Teelucksingh, Global Philadelphia Association
- Moderator: Jane Seiter, US/ICOMOS Executive Director

Session 6 presented several Pacific Ocean sites for which there is interest in inscription: these are the California Current Conservation Complex (Farallones, Cordell Banks, Monterey Bay) and the Marianas Trench. Bill Douros, Western Regional Director, NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries, educated attendees about these sites and what makes them unique. The "Remaining Steps" for initiating the World Heritage Nomination are pictured at right.



The symposium concluded with a wide-ranging panel discussion about how to strengthen the World Heritage program and ensure more support for it in the United States. Panelists (pictured below left to right) were Destry Jarvis, Stephen Morris, Peyton Hall, and Douglas C. Comer. The tenor of the conversation was very positive. The momentum seen at World Heritage sites and cities in the U.S. and the new inscription of 8 Frank Lloyd Wright sites across the U.S. has generated both awareness and positive messages about World Heritage and its viability as a tool for both preserving cultural heritage and promoting economic opportunity in adjacent communities.



Update on US/ICOMOS Support of Iraqi Heritage Professionals

Thanks to the generosity of US/ICOMOS Fellow Ronald Lee Fleming and the coordination of Trustee Brian Michael Lione, US/ICOMOS funded the purchase of a drone and related equipment in 2018 for the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage (IICAH) in Erbil. In late 2019, US/ICOMOS, with assistance from the French Embassy in Iraq, was able to support a two-week training program at the IICAH for eight Iraqi heritage professionals in the use of the drone and other methods to capture data for use in photogrammetry and 3D modeling to document Iraqi cultural heritage sites.

At right, participants in the recent class in Erbil fly the drone. Each student learned how to take photos and video while flying the drone to systematically collect data for map and model making in the classroom. This training - combined with the equipment provided by US/ICOMOS in late 2018 - establishes the IICAH's ability to provide high quality aerial imagery and 3D models for heritage projects and programs in Iraq, particularly those in the Kurdistan Region.

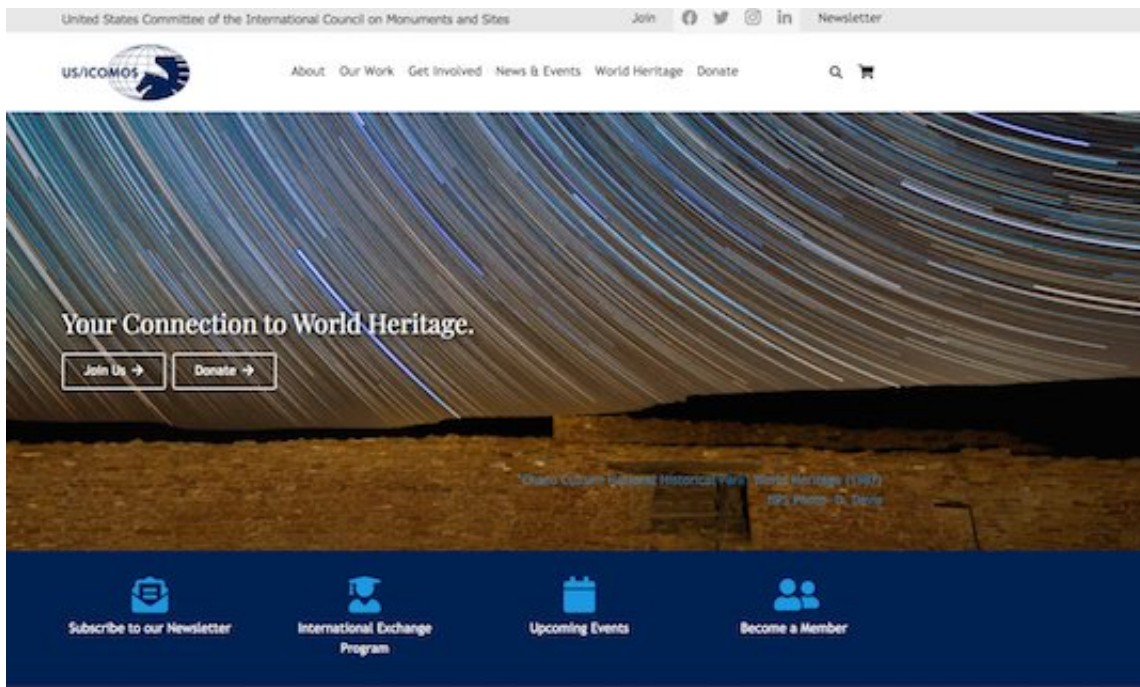


We are proud of our efforts in Iraq on behalf of heritage professionals and the preservation of cultural heritage. If you would like to support these efforts and US/ICOMOS's other programs, please consider making a tax-deductible charitable contribution here: <https://membership.usicomos.org/donate/>

US/ICOMOS Launches New Website

If you haven't visited USICOMOS.org lately, now would be the perfect time. Over the past several months, Trustee Brenda Barrett led the board Communications Committee (including Trustees Caroling Cheong, Zoe Leung, and Adam Markham), staff and [Cermak Technologies](#) in the development of the new site. Our objectives were to create a more appealing and contemporary website that was easier both to navigate and to update than our former website. We're happy to announce that we're about 80% of the way to achieving these goals.

An image of the top portion of the homepage is below. We have made it much easier for visitors to accomplish goals such as joining US/ICOMOS, signing up for our newsletter, following us on social media, making a donation, or learning about our offerings. You will also see a Facebook feed that automatically updates when we post online. This will help keep the content on USICOMOS.org fresh and up-to-date.



US/ICOMOS News

Two elements of the website and communications plan that remain to be completed are a more complete integration of the website with our newsletter and an updated membership database and membership pages. Better integration of the newsletter with the website will allow us to more seamlessly update the news feed on our site as we produce articles for our newsletters. A new and improved membership database will be more efficient for members to join and renew with and for staff to manage the membership program.

Rather than risk our current database during the membership renewal period for 2020, we elected to leave the current membership and donation pages in the "old site" format until we are prepared to transfer to a new database. If you notice a difference in design as you move from USICOMOS.org to the membership renewal and donation pages, this is the explanation for that difference. We hope to update the membership pages soon. If you wish to help us achieve this transition faster, please consider making a donation dedicated to this effort here: <https://membership.usicomos.org/donate/>.

— OF NOTE —

Hosts and Interns Needed for the 2020 International Exchange Program

2020 International Exchange Program applications are now open for hosts and interns! Interns receive advanced training and hands-on experience in preservation in the US and around the globe. Host organizations receive an enthusiastic young professional working with their organization for a ten-week summer internship. Learn more: <https://usicomos.org/internship/>

Intern applications are due 3 January 2020. Host applications are due 11 January 2020. Please apply now!



Submit Abstracts now for the ICOMOS GA2020 Scientific Symposium

ICOMOS invites submissions for sessions and individual abstracts for the GA2020 Scientific Symposium which takes place in Sydney from 5-9 October 2020.

Submissions will be accepted under six different core themes:

- Shared Cultures
- Shared Heritage
- Shared Responsibility
- Indigenous Heritage
- Culture-Nature Journey
- Marginalized Heritages

Presenters are able to choose from a variety of presentation formats, from oral presentations to panel discussions to performances and more. Abstracts can be submitted in English, French and Spanish. **Applications are open until 6 January 2020.** Visit the GA2020 website for more information and start preparing your abstract and session proposal today: <https://icomosga2020.org/abstracts/>

Developing a Water and Heritage International Scientific Committee (ISC): Member Input Needed

The proposal for an **ISC on Water and Heritage** was presented at the 2017 General Assembly in Delhi where the Board of ICOMOS approved the formation of a probationary task force to investigate the formation of an ISC, in accordance with the [Eger Xi'an Principles](#) for the International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS.

The ISC will address the significance of water-related heritage and its relevance and possible contribution to addressing current and future water management challenges.

Water is universally significant, and therefore of concern to all ICOMOS ISCs, and the new ISC will collaborate with other ISCs to achieve optimum outcomes. But a major function of the new Water Heritage ISC will also be to provide a clear focal point for a broad range of external partner bodies that seek guidance in relation to cultural heritage of and around water. It is in this collaboration with other ICOMOS and external bodies that the new ISC looks to develop new grounds for scientific endeavor, especially in relation to the achievement of the SDGs and adaption to climate change.

To help develop the scope and work program for the new ISC, **the task force is seeking the inputs**

of all ICOMOS Committees and members through a questionnaire. Please fill in the questionnaire by 31 January 2020: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LC68DMT>

The ISC on Water and Heritage Task Force also invites comments on the [draft Mission Statement](#) for the ISC and [draft Statement of Significance](#) for Water as Cultural Heritage (see links to download the documents below). You can include these comments in the last item of the questionnaire (item 20).

Call for Abstracts: "Advancing Risk Management for the Shared Future"

Six ICOMOS ISCs (ICORP, ISCARSAH, ISCEAH, ICTC, ISCES+CC and CIPA) have organized a joint meeting on the theme "Advancing Risk Management for the Shared Future" during the ICOMOS General Assembly, in Sydney, Australia, on 1 October 2020. Abstracts are welcome until the 3rd of February 2020.

Themes: (max. 300 words in English), include the following topics:

- (1) Climate Change and Cultural Heritage
- (2) Disaster Risk Management and Resilience
- (3) Post-disaster reconstruction and authenticity
- (4) Post-disaster management
- (5) Relevant subjects

More information about the joint meeting can be found here: <http://www.6isc2020ga.org/>. The abstract submission form is here: <http://www.6isc2020ga.org/cfp-themes.html>

It's Time to Renew for 2020!



Thank you to the many members who have already responded to our mail and email requests to renew for 2020. For those of you who have not yet renewed, we urge you to follow this link now in order to receive your 2020 International membership card early in 2020: <https://membership.usicomos.org/>.

Join the Conversation on Social Media



*and Please Forward this Newsletter to
Friends and Colleagues!*

US/ICOMOS is a US 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.