1) Xi'an Declaration

A major outcome of the 15th ICOMOS General Assembly held in Xi'an, China in October was the development and adoption of a Declaration on the conservation of the setting of heritage structures, sites and areas. The drafting process was lead by Yukio Nishimura, Sheridan Burke, Guo Zhan and Dinu Bumbaru, assisted by the very valuable and generous contributions of many colleagues including Susan Denyer, Jukka Jokilehto, Meredith Walker and Herb Stovel. Many conference papers and participants also contributed and the text evolved and expanded through the Assembly period. This text was adopted during the final working session of the General Assembly of ICOMOS on 21st October (minor adjustments on 22nd). It is hoped that the Declaration will be widely disseminated and used in conservation practice. A PDF version is available on the Australia ICOMOS website. (www.icomos.org/australia go to the news tab).

**XI'AN DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE SETTING OF HERITAGE STRUCTURES, SITES AND AREAS**

Xi'an, China, 21 October 2005

**Preamble**

Meeting in the ancient city of Xi'an (China) on 17-21st October 2005, at the invitation of ICOMOS China on the occasion of 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS and the
celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of its longstanding endeavour to ensure the safeguard and conservation of the World's cultural heritage as part of its sustainable and human development;

Benefiting from the broad range of cases and reflections shared during the General Assembly's International Symposium on Monuments and Sites in their Settings Conserving Cultural Heritage in Changing Townscapes and Landscapes and learning from a broad range of experiences from China and world-wide authorities, institutions and specialists in providing adequate care and management of heritage structures, sites and areas such as historic cities, landscapes, seascapes, cultural routes and archaeological sites in the context of accelerated change and development;

Taking note of the international and professional interest for the conservation of the settings of monuments and sites as expressed in the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites the Venice Charter (1964) and in the many texts it has inspired, particularly through ICOMOS National and International Committees, as well as the Nara Document on Authenticity (1994) and conclusions and recommendations of international meetings like the Hoi An Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Districts in Asia (2003), the Declaration on the Recovery of Bam's Cultural Heritage (2004), and the Seoul Declaration on Tourism in Asia's Historic Towns and Areas (2005);

Noting the references to the concept of setting in UNESCO conventions and recommendations like the Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding of Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites (1962), the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property Endangered by Public or Private Works (1968), the Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas (1976), the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, (2003) and more specifically the World Heritage Convention (1972) and its Operational Guidelines, where setting is listed as an attribute of authenticity and as needing protection through the establishment of buffer zones, and the ongoing opportunity this brings for international and interdisciplinary co-operation between ICOMOS, UNESCO and other partners;

Stressing the need to address adequately the rapid or incremental transformation of cities, landscapes and heritage routes which result from changes in lifestyles, agriculture, development, tourism or large-scale disasters of natural or human origin, and to recognise, protect and sustain adequately the meaningful presence of heritage structures or sites in their settings as a way to reduce the threat these transformation processes constitute against the cultural heritage in the full richness of its authenticity, meaning, values, integrity and diversity,

Participants of the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS adopt the following Declaration of principles and recommendations, addressing it to intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, national and local authorities and all institutions and specialists able to contribute through legislation, policies, planning processes and management to better protect and conserve the world's heritage structures, sites and areas in their settings.

**Acknowledge the contribution of setting to the significance of heritage**
1. The setting of a heritage structure, site or area is defined as the immediate and extended environment that is part of, or contributes to, its significance and distinctive character.

Beyond the physical and visual aspects, the setting includes interaction with the natural environment; past or present social or spiritual practices, customs, traditional knowledge, use or activities and other forms of intangible cultural heritage aspects that created and form the space as well as the current and dynamic cultural, social and economic context:

2. Heritage structures, sites or areas of various scales, including historic cities, landscapes, seascapes, cultural routes and archaeological sites, derive their significance and distinctive character from their perceived social and spiritual, historic, artistic, aesthetic, natural, scientific, or other cultural values. They also derive their significance and distinctive character from their meaningful relationships with their physical, visual, spiritual and other cultural context and settings.

These relationships can be the result of a conscious and planned creative act, spiritual belief, historical events, use or a cumulative and organic process over time through cultural traditions.

Understand, document and interpret the settings in diverse contexts

3. Understanding, documenting and interpreting the setting is essential to defining and appreciating the heritage significance of any structure, site or area.

The definition of setting requires an understanding of the history, evolution and character of the surrounds of the heritage resource. Defining the setting is a process of considering multiple factors to include the character of the arrival experience and the heritage resource itself.

4. Understanding the setting in an inclusive way requires a multi-disciplinary approach and the use of diverse information sources.

Sources include formal records and archives, artistic and scientific descriptions, oral history and traditional knowledge, the perspectives of local and associated communities as well as the analysis of views and vistas. Cultural traditions, rituals, spiritual practices and concepts as well as history, topography, natural environment values, use and other factors contribute to create the full range of a setting's tangible and intangible values and dimensions. The definition of settings should carefully articulate the character and values of the setting and its relationship to the heritage resource.

Develop planning tools and practices to conserve and manage settings
5. The implementation of effective planning and legislative tools, policies, strategies and practices to sustainably manage settings requires consistency and continuity in application, whilst reflecting the local or cultural contexts in which they function.

Tools to manage settings include specific legislative measures, professional training, development of comprehensive conservation and management plans, and use of adequate heritage impact assessment methods.

6. Legislation, regulation and guidelines for the conservation and management of the setting of heritage structures, sites and areas should provide for the establishment of a protection or buffer zone around them that reflects and conserves the significance and distinctive character of their setting.

7. Planning instruments should include provisions to effectively control the impact of incremental or rapid change on settings.

Significant skylines and sight lines and adequate distance between any new public or private development and heritage structures, sites and areas are key aspects to assess in the prevention of inappropriate visual and spatial encroachments or land use in significant settings.

8. Heritage impact assessments should be required for all new development impacting on the significance of heritage structures, sites and areas and on their settings.

Development within the setting of heritage structures, sites and areas should positively interpret and contribute to its significance and distinctive character.

Monitor and manage change affecting settings

9. The rate of change and the individual and cumulative impacts of change and transformation on the settings of heritage structures, sites and areas is an ongoing process which must be monitored and managed.

Incremental as well as rapid transformation of the urban or rural landscapes, the ways of life, the economies or the natural environment can substantially or irrevocably affect the authentic contribution that the setting makes to the significance of a heritage structure, site or area.

10. Change to the setting of heritage structures, sites and areas should be managed to retain cultural significance and distinctive character.

Managing change to the setting of heritage structures, sites and areas need not necessarily prevent or obstruct change.

11. Monitoring should define approaches and actions to appreciate and measure as well as prevent or remedy decay, loss of significance or trivialisation and propose improvement in conservation, management and interpretation practices.
Qualitative and quantifiable indicators should be developed to assess the contribution of the setting to the significance of a heritage structure, site or area.

Indicators for monitoring should cover physical aspects such as intrusion on views, skylines or open spaces, air pollution, sound pollution, as well as economic, social and cultural dimensions.

**Work with local, interdisciplinary and international communities for co-operation and awareness in conserving and managing settings**

12. Co-operation and engagement with associated and local communities is essential as part of developing sustainable strategies for the conservation and management of settings.

Inter-disciplinary engagement should be encouraged as standard practice in conserving and managing settings. Relevant cultural heritage fields include architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape planning, engineering, anthropology, history, archaeology, ethnology, curation and archives.

Co-operation with institutions and specialists in the field of natural heritage should also be encouraged as an integral part of good practice for the identification, protection, presentation and interpretation of heritage structures, sites or areas in their setting.

13. Professional training, interpretation, community education and public awareness should be encouraged to support such co-operation and sharing of knowledge as well as to promote conservation goals, improve the efficiency of the protection tools, management plans and other instruments.

The experience, knowledge and tools developed through the conservation of individual heritage structures, sites and areas should be extended to complement the management of their setting.

Economic resources should be allocated to the research, assessment and strategic planning of the conservation and management of setting of heritage structures, sites and areas.

Awareness of the significance of the setting in its various dimensions is the shared responsibility of professionals, institutions, associated and local communities, who should take into account the tangible and intangible dimensions of settings when making decisions.

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2) Reminder:  
AGM - Australia ICOMOS Members
The Australia ICOMOS Annual General Meeting will be held at 5.30 pm on Saturday 26 November, 2005 at the RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

The formal notification of the Annual General Meeting has been posted to all Individual Members, Retired Members, Honorary Members, Young Professional Members and Institutional Members of Australia ICOMOS Inc.

If you wish to give your apologies for the AGM please send them to the Secretariat on austicomas@deakin.edu.au

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3) A Call for Members to Send Archives and a call to Past EC Members

Anyone with Australia ICOMOS archives, please contact the secretariat (austicomas@deakin.edu.au) to let us know you have items to be included. We can then arrange for transportation to Melbourne. We would like to review all archive material at the working bee to be held on 24 November.

A call to any past EC members who'll be in Melbourne. Would you be willing to help with the working bee on 24th November? If so, could you please RSVP to austicomas@deakin.edu.au so we can provide you with details of where to meet and organise sufficient tables and chairs etc.

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4) Invitation to the launch of 'Many exchanges: archaeology, history, community and the work of Isabel McBryde'

The Board of Aboriginal History Inc warmly invites you to the launch of 'Many exchanges: archaeology, history, community and the work of Isabel McBryde'
To be launched in,  
**Canberra**  
6.00pm Thurs 17 November  
Old Canberra House, Lennox Crossing, Australian National University (Building 73, at the end of Liversidge Street on the right as you go towards the National Museum)

**Fremantle**
A second launch of the book, by Dawn Casey, will be held at the AAA AIMA conference in Fremantle on November 27, 2005

The launch has been generously supported by the Centre for Archaeological Research.

RSVP:  
Ingereth Macfarlane  
(02) 61250426  
Ingereth.Macfarlane@anu.edu.au  
or Rob Paton
5) Two Lectures on Managing Spain's Historic Parks & Gardens

Stuart Read presents...

After winning one of The Pratt Foundation/ISS Institute Fellowships*, Stuart Read from the NSW Heritage Office, member of the Australian Garden History Society (AGHS)'s National Management Committee & Australia ICOMOS, went to southern and eastern Spain to study their historic parks and gardens (and investigate recent ones).

The sites were selected partly because of the similarity in climate with South Eastern Australia, but also to see how the Spanish have managed change in their gardens in a country historically rich with change: political, religious, social and economic. Spain may well have Western Europe's oldest continuously gardened space.

It also could claim the "west's" oldest private, ornamental garden. Plus legacies of Roman, Islamic, Christian and the modern eras.

Stuart found parallels including:

• The need for Central Government leadership in funding, guidelines and training to raise awareness and quality of management;
• The need to integrate tourism marketing to encourage visiting historic parks and gardens, and manage visitor impacts;
• The need to include heritage landscape components in all relevant tertiary and industry training.

Hear Stuart at...

1) Bowral Sunday 13 November 2pm - (Southern Highlands Branch, AGHS)
Annesley Ballroom, Westwood Dr, Bowral.
Contact: Chris Webb cwebb@cwebb.com.au

2) Melbourne Saturday 19 November 3.30pm -Joint lecture of Australian Garden History Society/Victorian Branch & the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne:
Afternoon tea from 3.00pm
Venue: Mueller Hall, National Herbarium, Botanic Gardens
Cost: $20.00. $15.00 AGHS Members
Bookings and Enquiries: Contact: Susie Brookes ph. (03) 9650 6398 or susie_brookes@netspace.net.au
Call for papers: Cultural Dimensions of Interpretation

Tourism Recreation Research
Volume 32(3), 2007

Theme
Cultural Dimensions of Interpretation

Guest Editor Dr. Gianna Moscardo

Interpretation refers to the process of communicating the importance or significance of events, places and people to visitors. It is central to activities such as guided tours and visits to museums, zoos and historical sites. It is also extensively used in natural and cultural heritage sites to enhance visitor experiences and assist in the management of visitor behaviour. It has been argued that effective interpretation is a core component of sustainable tourism and much research effort has been focussed on evaluating the effectiveness of different interpretive techniques and strategies. This research has, however, rarely considered cultural dimensions of interpretation.

Tourism Recreation Research invites expressions of interest from potential authors on topics related to identifying and understanding cultural dimensions of interpretation.

Potential themes include:
* Issues in interpreting cultures
* Cultural differences in the use of interpretation topics and techniques
* Cultural differences in visitor expectations of, and preferences for, interpretation topics and techniques
* Interpreters as cultural brokers
* Cultural impacts of interpretation
* Cross-cultural communication challenges for interpreters

Submission Guidelines:
Manuscripts must be submitted in English with a word length of approximately 6000 words including references and will be double-blind peer reviewed. The paper must be original and not submitted for publication elsewhere. For further details on style and references, please visit www.trrworld.org

Deadlines
Deadline for receipt of abstracts: December 2005
Deadline for full papers to be submitted: June 2006
Deadline for final submission of revised papers: September 2006

An abstract of not more than 500 words should be sent to:
Assoc. Prof. Gianna Moscardo
James Cook University
Townsville QLD 4811, AUSTRALIA
Gianna.Moscardo@jcu.edu.au
7) Call for Papers
Angkor - Landscape, City and Temple conference

University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. 18 - 23 July 2006

From the 18th to the 23rd of July 2006, the University of Sydney will host the "Angkor - Landscape, City and Temples" conference. The conference will provide an opportunity for the international community of researchers to contribute to a definitive overview of recent and ongoing research on Angkor, to discuss future directions and collaboration, and to participate in specialist workshops and training sessions.

The conference will be organised around four themes:
Economy and Environment
City and Daily Life
Monuments and Art
Heritage and Contemporary Issues

Papers can be submitted under any of these topics.

Abstract Submission
Contributors must submit a title and abstract for consideration in English. The abstract must not exceed 300 words. Submissions should be made online at:


Deadline
The deadline for abstract submission is 13th January 2006. Abstracts will be assessed by the conference committee and contributors will be notified by 3rd February 2006.

Registration
Early-bird registration will commence in late November 2005. The early-bird registration cost is AUD$330 (Australian Dollars). For those registering after Friday May 12th 2006 the cost will increase to AUD$375 (Australian Dollars) for standard registration. Students will be charged an early-bird registration cost of AUD$180 (Australian Dollars). For those students registering after Friday May 12th 2006 the cost will increase to AUD$220 (Australian Dollars). Online registration can be completed at:


Publication
The conference committee intends to publish a multi-volume, refereed academic publication which will provide an authoritative review of Angkorian studies over the last decade. As the intent is to publish the volumes as soon as possible after the conference, presenters wishing to be considered for publication must submit their full-length manuscript (including figures, tables and references) prior to or at the time of the conference.

Contact Information
Angkor Conference 2006
8) Call for Abstracts

Urbanism in a Subtropical Humid Environment

The Centre for Subtropical Design invites you to submit a paper for this unique international conference being held in Brisbane, Australia on 27, 28 & 29th September 2006.

Subtropical Cities 2006 aims to raise the level of public debate about design, how we live in a subtropical climate and achieving urbanization and densification in this environment. The crucial issues are how to give meaning and scale to built form providing user-friendly public and private spaces and fulfilling other environmentally responsible considerations.

The unifying theme of the conference is urbanism in a subtropical humid environment.

Preliminary sub themes include:

1. Local Distinctiveness and Issues of Place (Sense look/feel)
   - Identity and culture
   - Creative Interpretation literature, art and music
   - Subtropical Character and Identity
   - Imaginings and Perceptions

2. Sustainable Built Environments in Subtropical Latitudes (Physical Form)
   - Urbanisation in a subtropical environment
   - Good design in the subtropics local, neighbourhood and regional approaches
   - Compact subtropical urban development containing sprawl/urban footprints and boundaries
   - Public transport integration

3. Subtropical Communities Life and living in the subtropics
   - Opportunities for invention and collaboration
   - Experimentation and diversity
   - Low energy strategies for development

4. Subtropical City landscapes (in between and beyond)
   - Urban landscapes
   - Spaces for cultural exchange, activities and events
   - Greening and cleaning
   - Regeneration, renewal and the future

Timetable

Abstract submission deadline: 28th November 2005
Abstract acceptance/rejection notification: 21st December 2005
Full papers submitted by 20th February 2006
Early-bird registration cut-off: 24th July 2006

For more information and Abstract Submission Guidelines, please go to the Conference website: www.subtropicalcities2006.qut.edu.au

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9) Call for Tender:
Conservation Management Plan Review and Update and Re-development Feasibility Study

The City of Ballarat is inviting Tenders from suitably qualified consultants to:
• Review all relevant documentation and reports, undertake existing fabric analysis as necessary, and update the 'Conservation Analysis and Conservation Policy of the Royal South Street Memorial Theatre' (2 vols) prepared in August 1987 by Clive Lucas and Partners Pty Ltd in association with Civil and Civic Pty Ltd;
and
• Investigate the feasibility of a number of identified development proposals in accordance with the developed Conservation Policies, and provide sketch designs, costings and a prioritised list of those proposals agreed by the Project Control Group to be functionally and statutorily possible

Please contact the following for any enquiries regarding this tender:

Technical Enquiries:
Janice Haynes, Director, Her Majesty's Theatre (03) 5333 5800
email - hermaj@hermaj.com
or
Vicki Johnson, Heritage and Urban Design Officer
email vickijohnson@ballarat.vic.gov.au (03) 5320 5580

Tender enquiries:
Lindsay Bogg, Manager, Contract Procurement (03) 5320 5548
email enquiries preferred - lindsaybogg@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Document Fee: Nil

Tenders close at 12.00 noon on Wednesday 7 December 2005 and must be deposited in the Tender Box, located on the ground floor of The Phoenix Building, 25 Armstrong Street South, BALLARAT or posted to arrive before close to the Manager, Contract Procurement,
10) "Asian Cities" Postdoctoral Positions at the Asia Research Institute, NUS

The Asia Research Institute (ARI), NUS is pleased to announce the formation of a new research initiative focusing on "Asian Cities".

The Asian Cities programme in ARI will focus especially on the challenges of rapid urban development and the changing identities of Asian cities. Specific research foci may include:

- the impact of rapid urbanization,
- adapting and conserving heritage to a changing urban environment, and
- urban environmental planning.

Each of the specific projects developed will be interdisciplinary in scope and encourage input and collaboration from various Schools and Faculties within NUS.

Applications are invited for two (2) one-year Postdoctoral Fellowships (PDF) for the ARI Asian Cities research programme to commence on 1 August 2006. The position is intended for outstanding active researchers who have fulfilled all requirements of the PhD or have obtained their PhD within the last three (3) years in Architectural/Urban studies or in a related field.

The successful applicants are expected to undertake research relating to the origins and future of East Asian and Southeast Asian Cities. Specifically, they will be expected to organize two international workshops under this theme. Whereas one workshop will be targeted at graduate students on the morphology of East Asian and Southeast Asian cities, the other will likely be an expert roundtable on changes in contemporary East--and Southeast Asian cities. The PDFs will be responsible for preparing for publication a book based on the results of the workshops.

The one-year PDF appointment may be renewed for another year and comes with a competitive remuneration and benefits package:

- a monthly salary of S$4,000.00
- an allowance of S$500.00 per month as contribution towards housing expenses (for non-citizens and their spouses who do not own any property in Singapore and whose spouses are not in receipt of any form of housing benefits from their Singapore employers) will be provided
- travel assistance (conditions apply)

The Asia Research Institute (ARI) is a university-level institute formed in July 2001 as one of the strategic initiatives of the National University of Singapore (NUS). The mission of the Institute is to provide a world-class focus and resource for research on the Asian region, located at one of its communication hubs. ARI engages the interdisciplinary frontiers between and beyond disciplines. Through frequent provision of short-term research appointments it seeks to be a place of encounters between the region and the world. Within NUS it works particularly with the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, Business School, Faculty of Law and School of Design and Environment, to support research, conferences, lectures, and graduate study at the highest level.

Interested applicants are invited to email/mail their curriculum vitae (including details
of referees and email), a synopsis of the research project, at least one sample of their published work, and ensure that 2 or 3 referees submit directly to us a report on their academic standing and comment on their research project by 31 January 2006.

Address for applications and references:
**Human Resources**  
Asia Research Institute  
National University of Singapore  
5 Arts Link  
AS7, Level 4, The Shaw Foundation Building  
Singapore 117570  
Fax: (65) 6779 1428  
Email: joinari@nus.edu.sg

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**11) Situation Vacant:**  
**Cultural heritage practitioner required for contract position**

**Re-advertised. Please re-apply.**

Previous applications lost in computer crash

**Cultural heritage practitioner required for contract position in NSW State Government agency.**

A cultural heritage practitioner is required in the Environment Section of a NSW State Government agency for a period of six months (with a possibility of on-going employment).

The successful candidate will be required to provide support to the agency's heritage advisor. This will involve the provision of advice to project managers on archaeological and broader cultural heritage management issues, and assisting in the management of projects, including the preparation of conservation management plans and strategic heritage studies. The role will also include assisting the development of strategies and protocols to help the agency meet its legislative requirements under relevant State and Federal environment and heritage legislation.

Experience in both indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage management would be an advantage. The position would suit a recent graduate, or a practitioner with up to five years professional experience. Training and hands-on experience provided.

This position is available because the previous contractor has moved to a permanent position.

**Pre-requisites**
♦ Degree and/or experience in archaeology, history, cultural heritage management or a related field.
♦ Current motor vehicle driver's licence.

The successful applicant may be required to travel within NSW and work outside normal working hours on occasions. The position is based in Western Sydney.

Please send your resume to: hr@hamble.com.au, or call Greg Newling at Hamble Human Resources on (02) 9987 2640