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World Heritage: Trends and Perspectives

Prof Richard Mackay, AM
www.mackaystrategic.com.au

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Angkor Wat (Cambodia) Photo: Richard Mackay

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West & East: Old & New World
Fabric, use association, meaning

Apsara Dancers, Angkor (Cambodia) Photos: Sharon Sullivan

Some big-picture trends

Kathmandu (Nepal) Photo: Catherine Forbes

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- World Heritage and national identity
- Communities and rights-based approaches
- The nature-culture journey
- Sustainability, particularly sustainable tourism
- Attacks on culture
- Risk and crisis management

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National Identity

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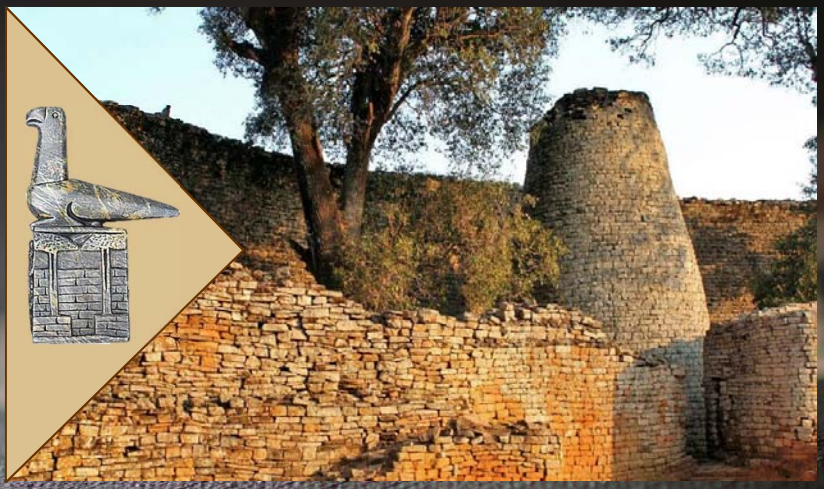
Great Zimbabwe



Great Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe) Photo: Richard Mackay

Communities

Monk at Angkor (Cambodia) Photo: Richard Mackay

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- Respect for culture and traditions
- Disruption and impacts
- Facilitating traditional use
- Economic benefits for local people
- Involvement in management
- Intellectual cultural property

Kyoto vision 2012: benefits

Kinkaku-ji Shrine, Kyoto (Japan) Photo: Richard Mackay

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Benefits derived from well-protected cultural and natural heritage properties should be equally distributed to communities to foster their sustainable development

(40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention in 2012)

Life in the community

Highlanders on Kokoda Track (PNG) Photo: Stuart Palmer

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- Concerns of local people
- Who will be affected?
- Who benefits and how?
- Equitable sharing
- Consultation and full prior informed consent

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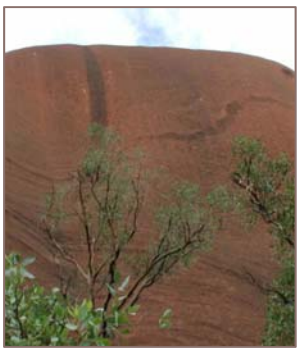
Uluru, Australia

Uluru (Australia) Photo: Richard Mackay

Tjukurpa: a rock or a snake?

Uluru (Australia) Photo reproduced from: http://home.exetel.com.au/patara/final/stanley8.html



Uluru (Australia) Photo: Sharon Sullivan

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Values reflect perspective and meaning

Uluru (Australia) Photo: Richard Mackay

Uluru painting provided by Sharon Sullivan

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Participation and involvement

Angkor (Cambodia) Image courtesy of Nicholas Hall, Stepwise Heritage and Tourism

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Nature-culture journey

Kokoda Track (PNG) Photo: Stuart Palmer

- World Parks Congress 2014
- People-centered approaches
- Natural-cultural heritage distinction?
- Cultural and spiritual significance of nature
- Indigenous voices
- Sustaining biodiversity and communities
- Climate Change – adaptation lessons from ancestors

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Sustainable Development Goals

Angkor (Cambodia) Photo: Richard Mackay

- UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including:
- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of ecosystems
- Work and economic growth
- Sustainable human settlements
- Carrying capacity
- Partnerships

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Attacks on Culture

Image reproduced from The Telegraph: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/islamic-state/11911399/Islamic-State-destroys-2000-year-old-Arch-of-Triumph-in-Palmyra.html

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Triumphal Arch, 2015

Image reproduced from BBC News: http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-34440759

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Triumphal Arch, 2016

Image reproduced from social media blog 2016

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Risk and crisis managememt

Photo: Catherine Forbes, GML Heritage Pty Ltd

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Kathmandu earthquake 2015

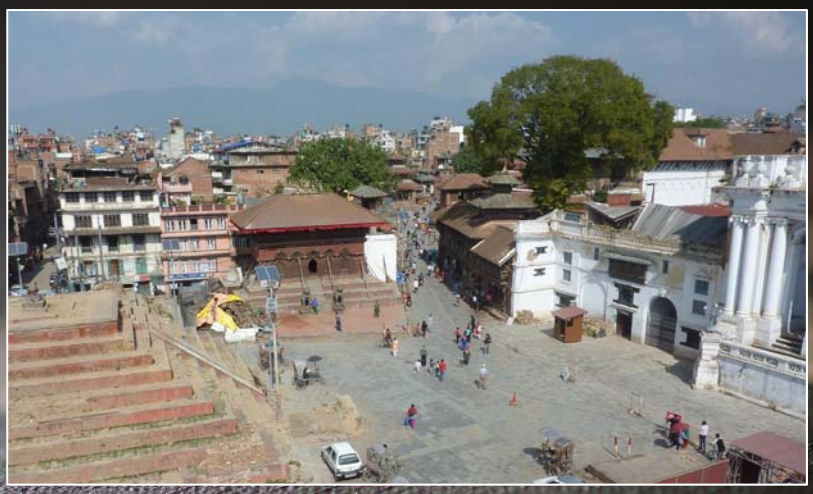

Photo: Catherine Forbes, GML Heritage Pty Ltd

Why World Heritage?

Thousand-Buddha sculptures Photo: Richard Mackay

- Protection and conservation of values?
- Access to resources?
- Benefits for local people?
- Wider economic and social benefits?
- Status and recognition?

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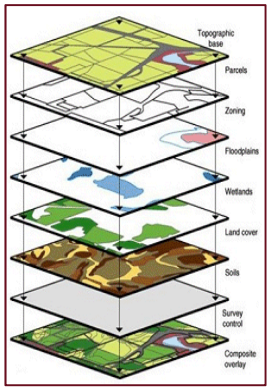
Some considerations



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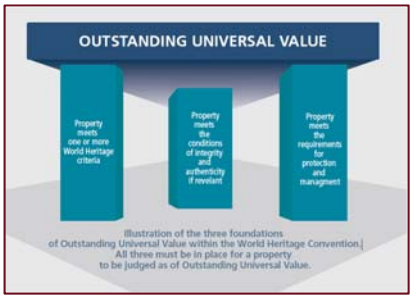
- Property: natural/cultural/mixed, contiguous or serial?
- Protection and management arrangements
- Boundary and buffer zone
- Resourcing and capacity needs
- State Party and local authority obligations, including governance arrangements and consultation

World Heritage nomination



Source: *Preparing World Heritage Nominations*, 2011– UNESCO

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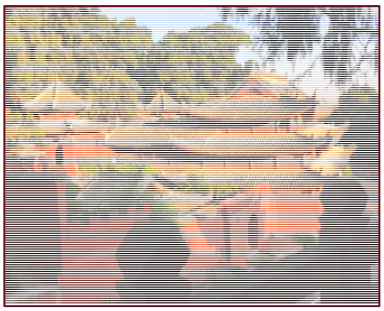
- Three part test
- 10 World Heritage criteria
- Integrity & authenticity
- Protection & management

Criteria



Qiqushan Temple Photo: Richard Mackay

- Fewer criteria are easier to establish for serial sites
- Attributes relate to criteria
- Criterion (ii) requires strong international comparisons
- Criterion (vi) requires substantial consultation

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Attributes and values

Songning flagstone Shu road Photo: Richard Mackay

- Mixed nomination: what is the unifying theme?
- Thorough, definitive values assessment needed
- Comparative studies needed: global context
- Relative contribution to OUV of different components and attributes

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Multiple components

Mingyue Gorge plank road Photo: Richard Mackay

- Why this selection of components?
- Each component must demonstrate EVERY criterion, but not every attribute
- No superfluous elements
- Each component should be included for a specific reason

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One tool: Le Corbusier matrix

Reproduced from: http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1321/documents/

- Developed for a complex multi-national nomination
- Structured way to present each criterion
- Specific attributes and the contribution of individual places
- Distinguishes between relative levels of contribution

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Contribution principale | Attribut secondaire | Autres attributs

CRITERION vi
"How the buildings reflect ideas"

Intellectually or tangibly, Le Corbusier's work is strongly connected to the Modern Movement.

COMPONENT PARTS OF THE SERIAL NOMINATION	Attribute C: Taking up the challenges of replicability: standardization, modelling and industrialization.			Attribute D: Answering the question of housing for modern man through ensuring a balance between the individual and the community, aiming at better spaces for a better common life in society.			
	Testing of technology and prefabrication	Research on typological standards	Modulor	New living concepts	Minimum housing	Large-scale housing	*Athens Charter*
7 – Immeuble Clarté Genève, Suisse, 1930	Steel frame, assembled by metal arc welding	Typology of the high-rise urban villa		Duplex apartments in a collective building		Model for middle-class apartment building with collective services	

Reproduced from: http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1321/documents/

Integrity and authenticity

Pingyang Fu Jun Que Photo: Richard Mackay

- All elements are included
- No 'extra' elements
- Attributes are intact, not compromised by inappropriate changes
- Components retain integrity
- Physical and visual setting

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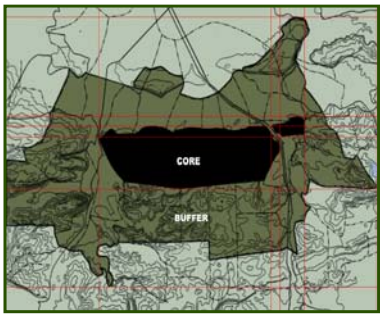
Boundaries and buffer zones



Reproduced from: http://whc.unesco.org/en/documents/103330

- Establish 'principles'
- The 'property' to encompass the extent of the attributes and values: the 'wholeness' of the nomination
- Buffer = visual setting and areas in which controls are required to protect values

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Protection

Chengde (China) Photos: Richard Mackay

- Respond to boundary and buffer zone practicalities and anomalies
- Align State Party, provincial and local controls
- Clarity in roles and responsibilities
- Show plans and explain how regulations operate

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Management

Quebec (Canada) Photo: Richard Mackay

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- Protection and conservation of values?
- Well established methodologies; eg: China Principles
- Identify Issues
- Policies and actions which conserve values
- Management Plans need to align with statutory frameworks

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