

# **COTAC Insight 2h: The Need to be Aware of the Built Heritage**

Exploring ICOMOS Education and Training Guideline (h): Know, understand and apply UNESCO conventions and recommendations, and ICOMOS and other recognised Charters, regulations and guidelines

The conservation of the historic environment is achieved through legislation, policy and practical guidance on good practice, including:

- International provisions, such as Charters and Conventions
- National legislation, including that for:
  - Ancient Monuments
  - Archaeological Areas
  - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)
  - Building Control
  - Protection of Wrecks, Battlefields, Parks and Gardens
  - Balancing clauses in other legislation
- National guidance, including that in Memorandum and National Planning Policy
- Technical advice and information available from a variety of sources, at national, local and European level

Pyramid of Cestius, Rome was restored in 1663 following an edict published by Alexander VII Chigi in July 1659



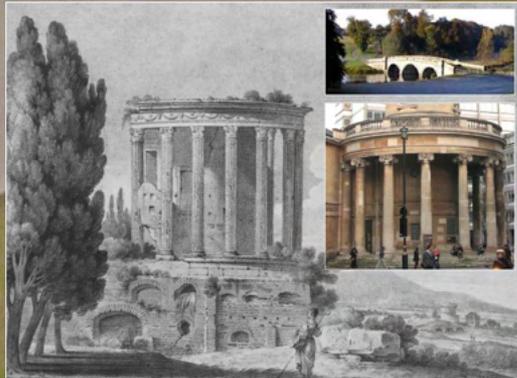


The European “Grand Tour” custom flourished from about 1660 until the advent of large-scale rail transit in the 1840’s. The elite ‘tourist’ would become familiar with antiquities and how they were being treated.

Pantheon restored from 1662-67



Grand Tour Route taken by a William Thomas Beckford (1760 –1844) in 1782 to indulge his interest in art, architecture, and writing.



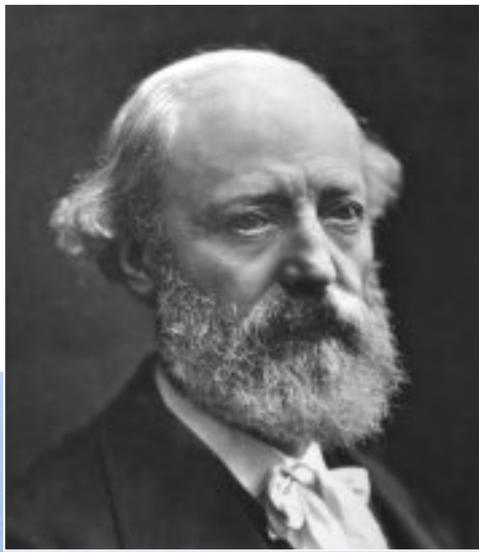
# Sir Thomas William Holburne

<http://www.holburne.org/muse/search/item.cfm?MuseumNumber=A184>



**Grand Tour Routes: 1824 + 1825**

**(French Revolution 1789)**



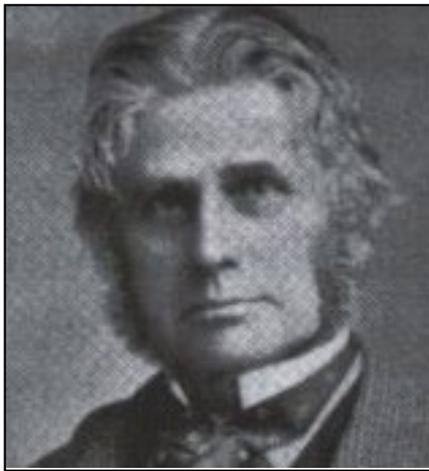
In the work of Eugène Viollet-le-Duc (1814-79) "restoration" frequently combined historical fact with creative modification. In his *Dictionary of French Architecture from 11th to 16th Century* (1854–1868) he observed "To restore an edifice is not to maintain it, repair or rebuild it, but to re-establish it in a complete state that may never have existed at a particular moment". Carcassonne was 'restored' in 1853.





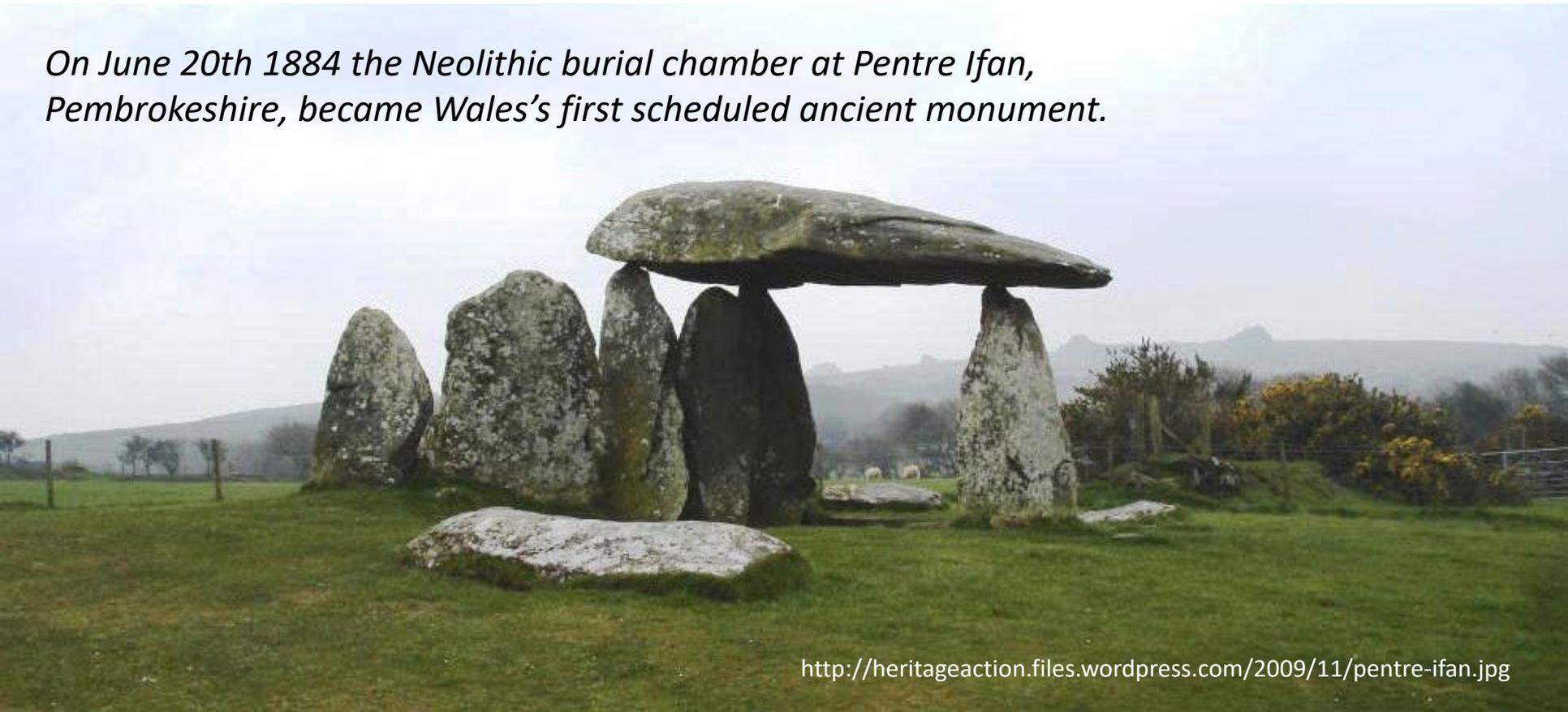
William Morris (1834 – 96) founded SPAB in 1877 as a protest against a scheme for restoring and reviving Tewkesbury Abbey. [Initiating the 'Anti-scape' movement]





*The Ancient Monuments Protection Act 1882* was introduced by Sir John Lubbock, 1st Baronet, on recognising the need for a governmental administration on the protection of ancient monuments. The gradual change towards a state-based responsible authority manifested itself with the appointment of General Pitt-Rivers as the first Inspector of Ancient Monuments in 1893.

*On June 20th 1884 the Neolithic burial chamber at Pentre Ifan, Pembrokeshire, became Wales's first scheduled ancient monument.*



THIRD EDITION

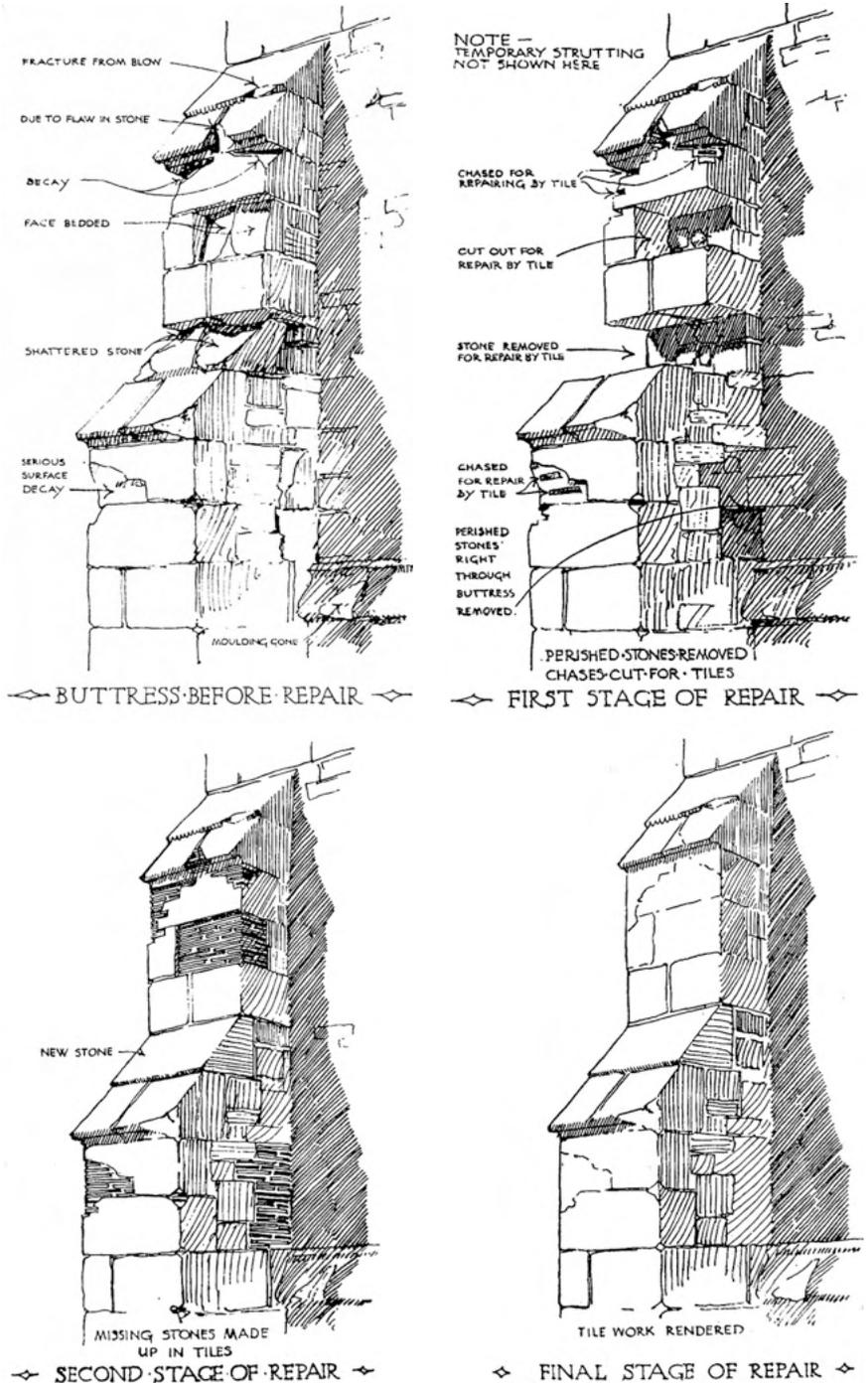
# Repair of Ancient Buildings

A.R. POWYS



A R Powys CBE FSA ARIBA was Secretary of SPAB from 1911- 1936 and he attended the 1931 Athens Conference

His Repair of Ancient Buildings was first Published in 1929; being reprinted in 1981 and 1995



## The Athens Charter for the Restoration of Historic Monuments

Adopted at the First International Congress  
of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments, Athens 1931

At the Congress in Athens the following seven main resolutions were made and called "Carta del Restauro":

1. International organizations for Restoration on operational and advisory levels are to be established.
2. Proposed Restoration projects are to be subjected to knowledgeable criticism to prevent mistakes which will cause loss of character and historical values to the structures.
3. Problems of preservation of historic sites are to be solved by legislation at national level for all countries.
4. Excavated sites which are not subject to immediate restoration should be reburied for protection.
5. Modern techniques and materials may be used in restoration work.
6. Historical sites are to be given strict custodial protection.
7. Attention should be given to the protection of areas surrounding historic sites.

### General Conclusions of the Athens Conference

#### I. -- DOCTRINES. GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

The Conference heard the statement of the general principles and doctrines relating to the protection of monuments.

Whatever may be the variety of concrete cases, each of which are open to a different solution, the Conference noted that there predominates in the different countries represented a general tendency to abandon restorations *in toto* and to avoid the attendant dangers by initiating a system of regular and permanent maintenance calculated to ensure the preservation of the buildings.

When, as the result of decay or destruction, restoration appears to be indispensable, it recommends that the historic and artistic work of the past should be respected, without excluding the style of any given period.

The Conference recommends that the occupation of buildings, which ensures the continuity of their life, should be maintained but that they should be used for a purpose which respects their historic or artistic character.

#### II. -- ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE MEASURES REGARDING HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

The Conference heard the statement of legislative measures devised to protect monuments of artistic, historic or scientific interest and belonging to the different countries.

It unanimously approved the general tendency which, in this connection, recognises a certain right of the community in regard to private ownership.

It noted that the differences existing between these legislative measures were due to the difficulty of reconciling public law with the rights of individuals.

Consequently, while approving the general tendency of these measures, the Conference is of opinion that they should be in keeping with local circumstances and with the trend of public opinion, so that the least possible opposition may be encountered, due allowance being made for the sacrifices which the owners of property may be called upon to make in the general interest.

It recommends that the public authorities in each country be empowered to take conservatory measures in cases of emergency.

The *First International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments*, which took place in 1931, was the first major initiative to stimulate international debate on conservation issues; resulting in the Athens Charter.

## The Venice Charter

### INTERNATIONAL CHARTER FOR THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF MONUMENTS AND SITES

- [Preamble]
- Definitions
- Aim
- Conservation
- Restoration
- Historic Sites
- Excavations
- Publication

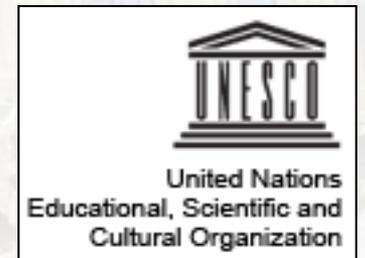
[Preamble]

**Imbued with a message from the past**, the historic monuments of generations of people remain to the present day as living witnesses of their age-old traditions. People are becoming more and more conscious of the unity of human values and regard ancient monuments as a common heritage. The common responsibility to safeguard them for future generations is recognized. It is our duty to hand them on in the full richness of their authenticity.

The Athens Charter Resolutions were re-examined during the *Second International Congress*, which only took place in May 1964, where it approved the Venice Charter

UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was held in Paris on 16 November 1972. It resulted in 38 Articles under the headings of:

- Definitions of the cultural and the natural heritage
- National protection and international protection of the cultural and natural heritage
- Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Fund for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Conditions and arrangements for international assistance
- Educational programmes
- Reports



European Charter of the Architectural Heritage was adopted by the Council of Europe in October 1975 indicating that:

1. *The European architectural heritage consists not only of our most important monuments: it also includes the groups of lesser buildings in our old towns and characteristic villages in their natural or manmade settings.*
2. *The past as embodied in the architectural heritage provides the sort of environment indispensable to a balanced and complete life.*
3. *The architectural heritage is a capital of irreplaceable spiritual, cultural, social and economic value*
4. *The structure of historic centres and sites is conducive to a harmonious social balance.*
5. *The architectural heritage has an important part to play in education.*
6. *This heritage is in danger.*
7. *Integrated conservation averts these dangers.*
8. *Integrated conservation depends on legal, administrative, financial and technical support.*
9. *Integrated conservation cannot succeed without the cooperation of all.*
10. *The European architectural heritage is the common property of our continent*

Member States of the Council of Europe: Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe: Granada – 3 October 1985 has 27 Articles under the headings of:

- Definitions of the architectural heritage
- Identification of properties to be protected
- Statutory protection procedures
- Ancillary measures
- Sanctions
- Conservation policies
- Participation and associations
- Information and training
- European co-ordination of conservation policies



Member States of the Council of Europe: Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe: Valetta - 16 January 1992 has 18 Articles under the headings of:

- Definitions of the archaeological heritage
- Identification of the heritage and measures for protection
- Integrated conservation of the archaeological heritage
- Financing of archaeological research and conservation
- Collection and dissemination of scientific information
- Promotion of public awareness
- Prevention of the illicit circulation of elements of the archaeological heritage
- Mutual technical and scientific assistance
- Control of the application of the Convention



## **GUIDELINES ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS, ENSEMBLES AND SITES (1993)**

The General Assembly of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, ICOMOS, meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka, at its tenth session from July 30 to August 7, 1993;

*Considering* the breadth of the heritage encompassed within the concept of *monuments, ensembles and sites*;

*Considering* the great variety of actions and treatments required for the conservation of these heritage resources, and the necessity of a common discipline for their guidance;

*Recognizing* that many different professions need to collaborate within the common discipline of conservation in the process and require proper education and training in order to guarantee good communication and coordinated action in conservation;

*Noting* the Venice Charter and related ICOMOS doctrine, and the need to provide a reference for the institutions and bodies involved in developing training programs, and to assist in defining and building up appropriate standards and criteria suitable to meet the specific cultural and technical requirements in each community or region;

*Adopts* the following guidelines, and *Recommends* that they be diffused for the information of appropriate institutions, organizations and authorities.



Todai Ji Temple Nara

In 1994 the Nara Document on Authenticity was conceived in the spirit of the 1964 Charter of Venice; builds on it and extends it in response to the expanding scope of cultural heritage concerns and interests in the contemporary world

<https://www.icomos.org/charters/nara-e.pdf>

## The Nara Document on Authenticity

- Preamble
- Cultural Diversity and Heritage Diversity
- Values and authenticity
- Appendices

### Preamble

1. **We, the experts assembled in Nara (Japan)**, wish to acknowledge the generous spirit and intellectual courage of the Japanese authorities in providing a timely forum in which we could challenge conventional thinking in the conservation field, and debate ways and means of broadening our horizons to bring greater respect for cultural and heritage diversity to conservation practice.
2. We also wish to acknowledge the value of the framework for discussion provided by the World Heritage Committee's desire to apply the test of authenticity in ways which accord full respect to the social and cultural values of all societies, in examining the outstanding universal value of cultural properties proposed for the World Heritage List.
3. The Nara Document on Authenticity is conceived in the spirit of the Charter of Venice, 1964, and builds on it and extends it in response to the expanding scope of cultural heritage concerns and interests in our contemporary world.
4. In a world that is increasingly subject to the forces of globalization and homogenization, and in a world in which the search for cultural identity is sometimes pursued through aggressive nationalism and the suppression of the cultures of minorities, the essential contribution made by the consideration of authenticity in conservation practice is to clarify and illuminate the collective memory of humanity.

### Cultural Diversity and Heritage Diversity

5. The diversity of cultures and heritage in our world is an irreplaceable source of spiritual and intellectual richness for all humankind. The protection and enhancement of cultural and heritage diversity in our world should be actively promoted as an essential aspect of human development.
6. Cultural heritage diversity exists in time and space, and demands respect for other cultures and all aspects of their belief systems. In cases where cultural values appear to be in conflict, respect for cultural diversity demands acknowledgment of the legitimacy of the cultural values of all parties.
7. All cultures and societies are rooted in the particular forms and means of tangible and intangible expression which constitute their heritage, and these should be respected.
8. It is important to underline a fundamental principle of UNESCO, to the effect that the cultural heritage of each is the cultural heritage of all. Responsibility for cultural heritage and the management of it belongs, in the first place, to the cultural community that has generated it, and subsequently to that which cares for it. However, in addition to these responsibilities, adherence to the international charters and conventions developed for conservation of cultural heritage also obliges consideration of the principles and responsibilities flowing from them. Balancing their own requirements with those of other cultural communities is, for each community, highly desirable, provided achieving this balance does not undermine their fundamental cultural values.

### Values and authenticity

9. Conservation of cultural heritage in all its forms and historical periods is rooted in the values attributed to the heritage. Our ability to understand these values depends, in part, on the degree to which information sources about these values may be understood as credible or truthful. Knowledge and understanding of these sources of information, in relation to original and subsequent characteristics of the cultural heritage, and their meaning, is a requisite basis for assessing all aspects of authenticity.

# ICOMOS Charter on the Built Vernacular Heritage 1999

## PRINCIPLES OF CONSERVATION

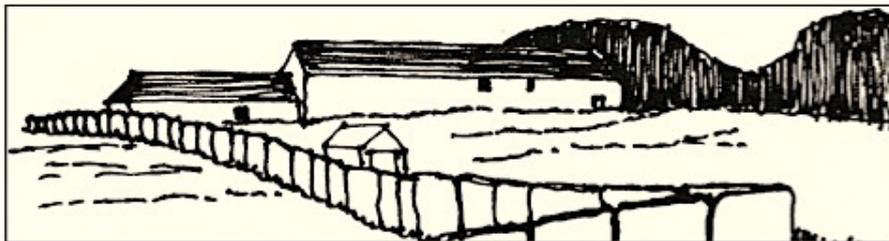
**1.** The conservation of the built vernacular heritage must be carried out by multidisciplinary expertise while recognising the inevitability of change and development, and the need to respect the community's established cultural identity.

**2.** Contemporary work on vernacular buildings, groups and settlements should respect their cultural values and their traditional character.

**3.** The vernacular is only seldom represented by single structures, and it is best conserved by maintaining and preserving groups and settlements of a representative character, region by region.

**4.** The built vernacular heritage is an integral part of the cultural landscape and this relationship must be taken into consideration in the development of conservation approaches.

**5.** The vernacular embraces not only the physical form and fabric of buildings, structures and spaces, but the ways in which they are used and understood, and the traditions and the intangible associations which attach to them.



International Symposium

# Restoration principles for a new Europe

Ghent - 3 February 2001



Editor: André De Naeyer



Ghent University  
Faculty of Engineering  
Department of Architecture and Urban Planning

## The Charter of Krakow 2000

### PRINCIPLES FOR CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF BUILT HERITAGE

*Recognising the contribution of individuals and institutions who, in the course of three years, have participated in the preparation of the International Conference on Conservation "Krakow 2000" and its Plenary Session "Cultural Heritage as the Foundation of the Development of Civilisation",*

*We, the participants of the International Conference on Conservation "Krakow 2000", conscious of the profound meanings associated with cultural heritage, submit the following principles to those responsible for heritage as a guideline for the efforts to safeguard such properties.*

### AIMS AND METHODS

1. The architectural, urban and landscape heritage, as well as artefacts, are the result of an identification with various associated moments in history and social-cultural contexts. The conservation of this heritage is our aim. **Conservation** can be realised by different types of interventions such as environmental control, maintenance, repair, restoration, renovation and rehabilitation. Any intervention implies decisions, selections and responsibilities related to the complete heritage, also to those parts that may not have a specific meaning today, but might have one in the future.
2. **Maintenance and repairs** are a fundamental part of the process of heritage conservation. These actions have to be organised with systematic research, inspection, control, monitoring and testing. Possible decay has to be foreseen and reported on, and appropriate preventive measures have to be taken.
3. The conservation of built heritage is implemented by the project of restoration, including the strategy to conserve in the long term. This restoration project should be based on a range of appropriate technical options and prepared in a cognitive process of gathering knowledge and understanding of the building or site. This may include traditional and subsequent new materials, structural investigations, graphical and dimensional analysis and the identification of historical, artistic and socio-cultural significance. All pertinent disciplines have to participate in the restoration project and the co-ordination should be carried out by a person qualified and well trained in conservation and restoration.
4. **The reconstruction** of entire parts 'in the style of the building' should be avoided. Reconstruction of very small parts having architectural significance can be acceptable as an exception on condition that it is based on precise and indisputable documentation. If necessary, for a proper use of the building, completion of more extensive spatial and functional parts should reflect contemporary architecture. Reconstruction of an entire building, destroyed by armed conflict or natural disaster, is only acceptable if there are exceptional social or cultural motives that are related to the identity of the entire community.

Krakow Charter 2000 Annex defined and used following terminological concepts:

Heritage is that complex of man's works in which a community recognises its particular and specific values and with which it identifies. Identification and specification of heritage is therefore a process related to the choice of values.

A monument is an entity identified as of worth and forming a support to memory. In it, memory recognises aspects that are pertinent to human deeds and thoughts, associated with the historic time line. This may still be within our reach, even though not yet interpreted.

Authenticity means the sum of substantial, historically ascertained characteristics: from the original up to the current state, as an outcome of the various transformations that have occurred over time.

Identity is understood as the common reference of both present values generated in the sphere of a community and past values identified in its authenticity.

Conservation is the complex of attitudes of a community that contributes to making the heritage and its monuments endure. Conservation is achieved with reference to the significance of the entity, with its associated values.

Restoration is an operation directed on a heritage property, aiming at the conservation of its authenticity and its appropriation by the community.

The restoration project, resulting from the choice of conservation policies, is the process through which conservation of the built heritage and landscape is carried out.

In **2008** **English Heritage** published **Conservation Principles** on which its professional advice is based. They are that:



- The historic environment is a shared resource
- Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment
- Understanding the significance of places is vital
- Significant places should be managed to sustain their values
- Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent
- Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.



# THE BURRA CHARTER

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013

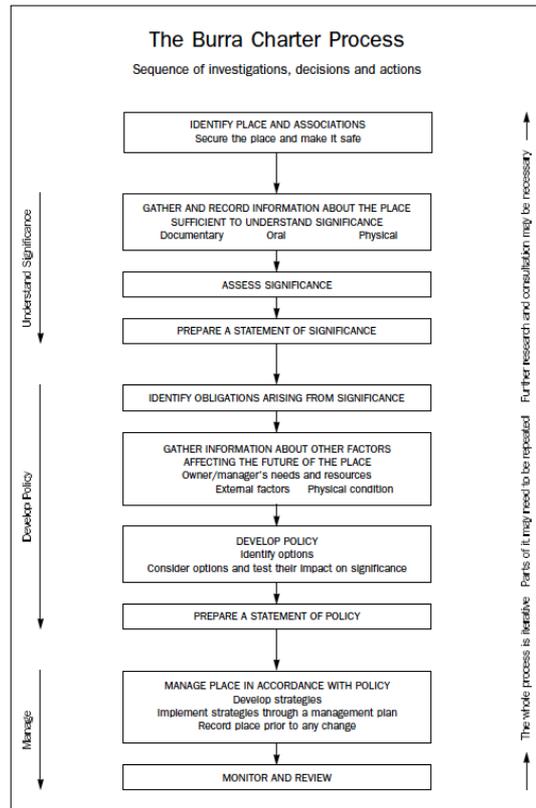


AUSTRALIA ICOMOS  
International Council on Monuments and Sites

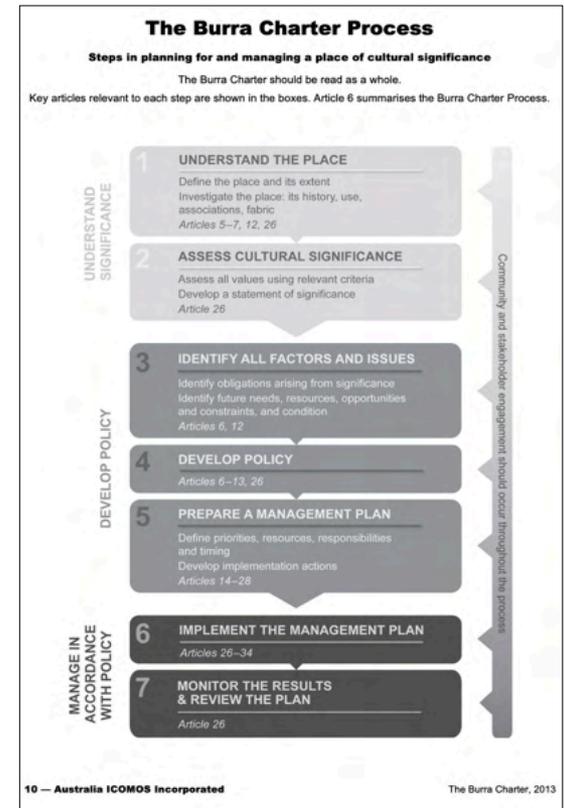
Australia ICOMOS Incorporated  
International Council on Monuments and Sites

The Preamble to the 2013 Burra Charter indicates that its intentions are to provide *'guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places), and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members. Conservation is an integral part of the management of places of cultural significance and is an ongoing responsibility'*.

<https://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Burra-Charter-2013-Adopted-31.10.2013.pdf>



1992 Burra Charter Flow Chart



2013 Burra Charter Flow Chart





BS 7913:2013



BSI Standards Publication

## Guide to the conservation of historic buildings

In a revision and update of the 1998 edition of BS7913, the 2013 version still notes, importantly, that:

*The conservation of historic buildings requires judgement based on an understanding of principles informed by experience and knowledge to be exercised when decisions are made. British Standards that are applicable to newer buildings might be inappropriate.*

Whilst practical conservation methods, standards and principles have continued to evolve and develop over the years, an underlying fundamental requirement remains in that carrying out effective work on the built heritage calls for a balanced approach of having the right knowledge, relevant skills and appropriate materials in equal measure. Placing any one of these three elements out of sync will result in degrees of compromise being reached in decision-making and the creation of potentially negative long-lasting physical imprints on the integrity of what is being cared for.

# Public Pressure and UK Legislation

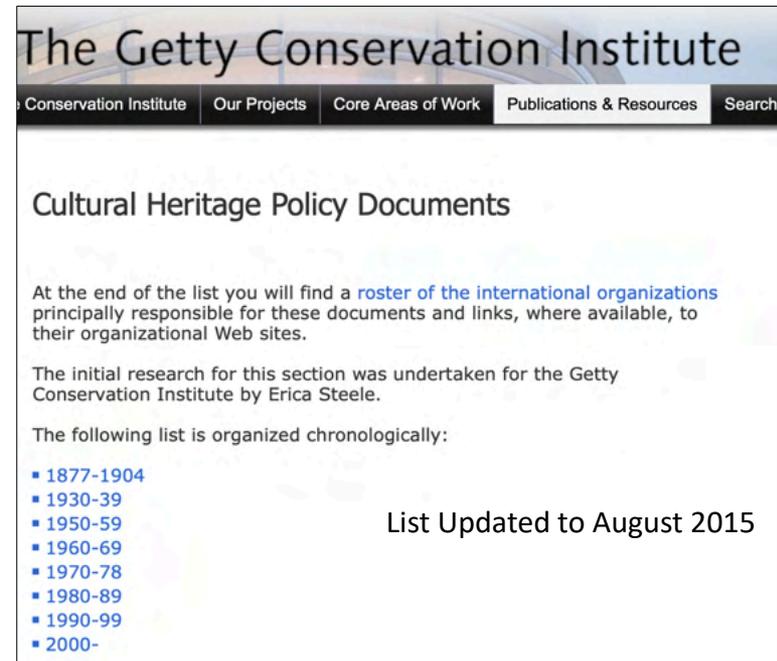
- 1877 The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings  
**1882 The Ancient Monuments Protection Act (also 1900)**
- 1907 The National Trust Act  
**1913 The Ancient Monuments Protection Act (Revision)**
- 1926 Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland
- 1931 The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty  
**1931 The Ancient Monuments Protection Act (Revision)**  
**1932 Town and Country Planning Act (Preservation schemes)**
- 1937 The Georgian Group  
**1944/47 Town and Country Planning Acts (Listing)**
- 1957 The Civic Trust
- 1958 The Victorian Society
- 1965 ICOMOS UK  
**1967 The Civic Amenities Act (Conservation areas)**  
**1968 Town and County Planning Act (Increased protection)**  
**1971 Town and Country Planning Act (Consolidation)**
- 1979 The Thirties Society (now 20<sup>th</sup> Century Society)  
**1979 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act**  
**1990 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act**
- 2000 The Institute of Historic Building Conservation  
**2008 Planning Act (IPC, NSIPs)**
- 2010 Civic Voice  
**2011 Localism Bill (Neighbourhood planning)**

In pursuing the need to appreciate ‘*Guideline (h) Know, understand and apply UNESCO conventions and recommendations, and ICOMOS and other recognised Charters, regulations and guidelines*’, amongst other sources, accessing the numerous URL links to *Cultural Heritage Policy Documents* on the *Getty Conservation Institute* website can be informative. See:

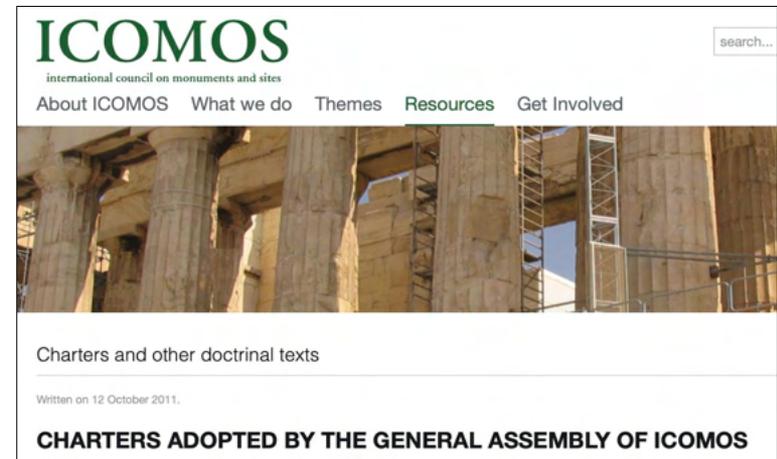
[https://www.getty.edu/conservation/publications\\_resources/research\\_resources/charters.html](https://www.getty.edu/conservation/publications_resources/research_resources/charters.html)

In addition a number of Guideline-specific URL links are offered on the COTAC Global website under the Menu tab ‘*Digital Bibliography*’ at ‘*h. Applying UNESCO and ICOMOS charters*’. See: [http://www.cotac.global/digital\\_bib/](http://www.cotac.global/digital_bib/)

The ICOMOS website also lists key *Charters Adopted by the General Assembly of ICOMOS*. See: <https://www.icomos.org/en/resources/charters-and-texts>



The screenshot shows the website for The Getty Conservation Institute. The header includes navigation links: Conservation Institute, Our Projects, Core Areas of Work, Publications & Resources, and Search. The main content area is titled 'Cultural Heritage Policy Documents'. Below the title, there is a paragraph explaining that at the end of the list, users will find a 'roster of the international organizations principally responsible for these documents and links, where available, to their organizational Web sites.' It also mentions that the initial research for this section was undertaken for the Getty Conservation Institute by Erica Steele. A list of chronological periods is provided: 1877-1904, 1930-39, 1950-59, 1960-69, 1970-78, 1980-89, 1990-99, and 2000-. A note on the right states 'List Updated to August 2015'.



The screenshot shows the website for ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites). The header includes the ICOMOS logo and navigation links: About ICOMOS, What we do, Themes, Resources, and Get Involved. The main content area is titled 'Charters and other doctrinal texts'. Below the title, there is a paragraph stating 'Written on 12 October 2011.' and a bold heading: 'CHARTERS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ICOMOS'. The background image shows a classical building with columns.

See also: *Jokilehto J. 2007. International charters on urban conservation: some thoughts on the principles expressed in current international doctrine.*  
<http://www.ceci-br.org/novo/revista/docs2008/CT-2008-119.pdf>