

# I C C R O M

## N E W S L E T T E R

June 2005

31



## Programmes

The articles in this newsletter reflect the range of programme activities carried out by ICCROM during 2004–2005. These activities take place worldwide and take on a variety of forms. They involve courses, meetings, seminars and publications on a wide range of topics, as well as technical advisory missions and other forms of support to Member States.

The ICCROM programmes that have been recommended by Council and approved by the General Assembly for 2004–2005 are as follows:

### AFRICA 2009

Architectural Conservation  
Archives and libraries collections  
conservation

### ATHĀR

Community and conservation  
ICCROM Forum  
Integrated territorial and urban  
conservation

Learning in conservation

Living heritage sites conservation

Preventive conservation

Sharing conservation

Project TERRA

The full text of the Programme and Budget 2004–2005 is available from the ICCROM web site:

<http://www.iccrom.org/eng/prog2004-05.htm>

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Cover images

Top left: mosque, Bandar Aceh, Indonesia, after the tsunami (©AFP); bottom left: Bosra, Syria (©ICCROM Archive); right, re-thatching an Asante building (©ICCROM Archive).

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# CONTENTS

ICCROM NEWSLETTER 31, JUNE 2005

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Culture and disaster recovery	2
ICCROM News & Events	5
Addressing risks to collections in storage	9
Museum collections in Southeast Asia	10
Making a difference in preventive conservation: feedback from course participants	11
Managing archaeological sites in the Arab Region	12
AFRICA 2009 today: ICCROM and sub-Saharan Africa	14
Profiling African users of EPA web sites	16
Conservation practices in the ancient literary sources of Asia	17
ICCROM at the UN World Conference in Kobe on disaster reduction	18
Silicon-based products: uses and limitations	19
Cesare Brandi in English	20
Out of print: a retrospective view of ICCROM	21
ICCROM library: selected new acquisitions	22
Publications for sale	26

## Culture and disaster recovery



The devastating earthquake and consequent tsunami in the Indian Ocean on December 26, 2004, have highlighted once again the terrible fragility of human life in the face of natural disasters. It is still difficult to comprehend the sheer scale of loss of life and destruction of communities that is being faced by those who survived the catastrophic impact. The reconstruction of infrastructure will be a task for some time to come; the re-establishment of community life and traditions as they were before the tsunami may never be fully realized, transformed as they have been by this traumatic event.

It is especially in the area of community life and traditions that culture makes an essential contribution to recovery efforts. The immediate and urgent needs of survivors are, of course, for food, shelter and health care. But cultural institutions often play a vital role in helping to meet those needs. Not only are the cultural – and particularly religious – buildings those that tend to survive earthquakes due to their solid construction; they also represent familiar symbols of continuity and hope for communities that have suddenly found much of what was familiar in their daily lives visibly destroyed. For example, following the tsunami, the Buddhist temples in Sri Lanka and Thailand became focal points for their monks to distribute aid to the local communities. In Bandar Aceh in Indonesia, the mosques were among the very few buildings left standing (see image opposite).

Archives and libraries, too, are essential repositories of information about affected communities. The International Council on Archives and the International Federation of Libraries and Archival Institutions stressed this point in their appeal addressed to the heads of the United Nations organizations soon after the disaster: 'Loss of archival information will hamper both the identification of victims and the re-establishment of communities. Loss of libraries will destroy important community and heritage assets which will be vital to the future well being of affected communities. In tropical climates, mould and decay will destroy that which has not been washed away unless immediate preservation measures are taken.'

As this statement warns, the effects of inundation on cultural property may not be immediately apparent. Initial surveys

of damage to collections and buildings have led to generally optimistic reports. However, the long-term effects of inundation (saltwater immersion leading to subsequent salt crystallization on stone and plaster surfaces – and particularly painted ones) are now becoming apparent. There will remain problems of heritage conservation (and environmental degradation) resulting from the tsunami long after it has ceased to occupy the attention of the media.

### The role of culture in disaster recovery

The importance of cultural heritage and traditions has not, however, been overlooked in media reports of the tsunami disaster. Two aspects in particular have received some media attention: the value of traditional knowledge in warning populations of an imminent tsunami, and the relevance of traditional design, materials and construction techniques for new buildings to be erected for tsunami survivors.

Referring to the second issue first, there have been some encouraging pronouncements with respect to the role that tradition should play in reconstruction projects. For example, only one month after the disaster, the National Physical Planning Department in Sri Lanka issued guidelines for reconstruction which acknowledge the importance that should be given to cultural heritage:

*The necessity to re-plan the urban areas should be used as an opportunity to create better and sustainable urban environments. It is of prime importance, however, to retain the regional flavour in terms of architectural and historical integrity and uniqueness of the individual towns. Conservation of historic structures must be given due consideration in redevelopment plans. Activities that need to be relocated owing to their incongruity, obsolescence or any other reason should be found alternative lands.*

Such voices need to be heeded in debates about the reconstruction of devastated communities. As many natural disasters have demonstrated, traditional knowledge translated into practice has served well to protect populations from the worst effects of otherwise destructive natural events. The following report from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (located a few hundred kilometres from the epicentre of the

earthquake of 26 December 2004) brings out this point:

*During our survey we found that the buildings, basically because of the material and construction techniques, have survived the earthquake. Even the past earthquakes have had no impact on the timber structures. We found people telling us of their experiences on how, during the earthquake, they could feel/see the building swaying and rushed out of their houses but at the end the buildings survived with no damage.*

*At the same time, in the newer extensions, built in RCC [reinforced cement concrete], cracks were observed. We also found cracks along the road and the paving around these houses... He told us that on the morning of 26th they all felt an earthquake and rushed out of their houses. The elders of the village immediately rushed towards the sea to see if the water level was rising and on sensing danger they alerted the entire village and everybody rushed to the higher levels, thus saving them from the disaster (the number of deaths in his village was four or five). The houses, which had survived the earthquake, however could not survive the impact of the waves and the entire village was washed out.'*

Pankaj Modi, architect of Adhaar, Bangalore, India, 21 January 2005

The crucial role of culture (which accumulates experience, tradition, knowledge and know-how) in diminishing the worst effects of natural disasters is, sadly, still inadequately acknowledged. Instead of representing a curiosity worthy of temporary media interest, it has to find a central place in all risk management strategies.

At the highest international level, the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Japan, on 18–22 January 2005, represented both an encouragement and a disappointment in this respect. (See article on page 18 for an assessment of this conference.) Disappointing was the failure to find culture mentioned anywhere in the final declaration of the conference (the Hyogo Declaration). Slightly encouraging – though only as a result of concerted lobbying – was the insertion into the conference 'Outcomes' document of a reference to 'cultural heritage'. It was inserted in the context of the relevance of



Teunom, Indonesia, after the tsunami

traditional and indigenous knowledge for providing information on disaster risks and protection options. Much more encouraging, however, was the inclusion for the first time in this decennial conference programme of a thematic session dedicated to cultural heritage, organized by UNESCO through its World Heritage Centre, ICCROM (which had the honour of chairing the session) and the Agency for Cultural Affairs in Japan, with co-ordination by Ritsumeikan University. Thus, although there is still far to go in securing proper recognition of the role of culture in disaster reduction, there are some encouraging trends at the international level that need to be followed up.

#### ICCROM and risk management/ preparedness

It is on the basis of accumulated local experience and experimental science that the risks to which populations are exposed can be managed. Risk management recognizes that natural disasters will continue to occur, and that the science of predicting when they will happen remains frustratingly under-developed. Being prepared for such events (risk preparedness) helps not only to reduce the damage caused to human populations and property but also to facilitate subsequent response and recovery.

Risk management, under different forms, has been central to much of ICCROM's own work. An emphasis at ICCROM on

preventive approaches to conservation goes back formally at least to 1975 with the introduction of professional training courses on preventive conservation for museum collections. Three years later, ICCROM responded to the devastating earthquake in the Friuli region of northeastern Italy by immediately sending staff and course participants to help document damaged cultural property.

In 2000, promoting risk assessment in strategies for inventory and documentation was adopted as one of ICCROM's strategic directions. Preventive conservation and risk preparedness have long been included as essential topics in the curricula of ICCROM courses. Several of these have been organized at the request of partner organizations, with funding provided by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. They have been aimed at an audience of not only cultural heritage professionals but also specialists in civil defence (fire, security services, etc.).

Recent examples include courses held in the Dominican Republic in 2001 and 2003 that served the Caribbean and Central American region, and another organized in cooperation with the Archaeological Survey of India in New Delhi in 2004.

The latter course in India was used also to test teaching material in preparation by ICCROM (again, under contract from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre). This material, due to take the form of a teacher's kit on risk preparedness for cultural heritage, will be made available for distribution during 2005.

The importance of documentation to risk management, as emphasized in the Strategic Direction, finds its reflection in the ARIS (Architectural records, inventories, and information systems) course now offered regularly by ICCROM (September–October 2003, April 2005). The course aims to improve architectural conservation practice through raising standards of recording, documentation, inventories and information management systems. The latter notion includes not only the design and management of database records but also the preservation of records, whether in hard copy or digital formats.

Finally, the long tradition of teaching preventive conservation at ICCROM continues with a new international course that adopts the risk management approach to

conservation of collections ('Preventive conservation: reducing risks to collections', at ICCROM, June 2005). Other training on this topic forms part of ICOM's Museums Emergency Programme on which ICCROM collaborates with ICOM and the Getty Conservation Institute.

#### In retrospect

The earthquake and tsunami of 26 December 2004 has forcefully concentrated the world's attention on the fragility of human life in the face of exceptional natural disasters. The sheer geographical scale on which its effects were felt is unprecedented in the modern age of global communication. Also unprecedented has been the global community's response in assisting those whose lives have been devastated by this disaster.

Out of this tragedy there must develop a greater awareness of the need to be prepared for such risks. Expensive high-tech early warning systems have their place in strategies for greater preparedness. But so do traditional knowledge and cultural heritage. Both must be exploited to the full in strengthening peoples' ability to withstand the forces of nature in even the most extreme conditions.

Kottegoda Viharya, a Buddhist temple in Southern Sri Lanka destroyed by the tsunami



Upali Newspapers Ltd, Sri Lanka

## ICCROM News & Events

### New Member States

ICCROM is pleased to welcome Bolivia and Rwanda as new Member States. Their membership took effect on 17 December 2004. Both countries had already participated in ICCROM's activities, with professionals from Bolivia attending ICCROM courses and Rwanda being involved in the PREMA and Africa 2009 programmes. The adhesion of Bolivia and Rwanda brings the number of Member States of ICCROM to 113.

### ICCROM Staff

The past year has seen several arrivals and three departures. Marie-Christine Uginet, librarian at ICCROM for more than thirty years, retired in December 2004. On page 21 she looks back at her time with the organization.

Monica Ardemagni also retired in 2004. Monica started to work for ICCROM in 1990, when its fifth mandatory function was added, namely to raise public awareness and support for the conservation of cultural heritage. As one who loves cultural heritage and those who work in it, she dedicated, with considerable success, fourteen years to engaging the public in the preservation of cultural heritage.

Herb Stovel, ICCROM's Heritage Settlements Unit Director, departed to take up a teaching position at Carleton University in Ottawa. Herb made huge contributions to ICCROM's work during his time here, and his pioneering approaches to the conservation of heritage settlements have been widely recognized.

There have been four new staff members in the past year. Paul Arenson was appointed as the new Manager, Library, Documentation and Archives. A US citizen, Paul joins ICCROM from the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles, California, where for four years he was Special Collections Cataloguer, a post that required multilingual cataloguing of a wide range of art history and architecture collections.

Gamini Wijesuriya joined ICCROM as Project Manager, Heritage Settlements Unit. As former Principal Regional Scientist with the Department of Conservation of the Government of New Zealand, Dr Wijesuriya comes to ICCROM with impressive experience in heritage management, consultancy and teaching. In addition to his work in New Zealand, he brings 16 years management experience as Director (Architectural

Conservation) of the Department of Archaeology of Sri Lanka. He will be working especially with ICCROM's projects in Asia, while also supporting our role as an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee.

ICCROM's Collections Unit has been strengthened by the arrival of Aparna Tandon as project specialist. From 1998 until 2004, Aparna was the Curator-Conservator at the Amar Museum and Library at Jammu, in northern India. She has also been a Fulbright Fellow at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and Conservation Guest Scholar at the Getty Conservation Institute.

Joining ICCROM's Africa 2009 programme as project specialist is Baba Keita. Originally from Mali, he has been coordinator, since 2000, of professional activities at EPA in Benin. Baba is a trained conservator, with a Masters in conservation from the University of Paris I-Panthéon Sorbonne, and was a participant in 1987 of ICCROM's PREMA course.

Moving from recent arrivals to old hands, in 2004 ICCROM held a celebration in honour of several staff members who completed 20 years or more of dedicated service to the organization, accumulating between them an astonishing 190 years at ICCROM! Marie-Christine Uginet passed the thirty year milestone (1973-2003), while Alejandro Alva Balderrama, Alessandro Menicucci, Monica Garcia Robles and Margaret Ohanessian each completed twenty-five years of service. Enrico Carra, Gianna Paganelli, and Sonia Widmer received awards for more than twenty years of service to ICCROM.

### ICCROM fellows and interns

For 2004-5, ICCROM fellowships were awarded to Professor Elizabeth E. Peacock, Dr Calogero Bellanca and Mr Will Shank.

Professor Peacock is one of the best-known scholars on archaeological textiles and teaches conservation at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Oslo. During her fellowship at ICCROM (February-April 2005) she undertook



New staff at ICCROM: Aparna Tandon, Gamini Wijesuriya, Baba Keita and Paul Arenson (from left to right)

### ICCROM Courses January 2004–October 2005

*Preventive Conservation Course*, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro. 19–21 January 2004. Organized jointly by ICCROM with the Diana Centre for Preventive Conservation, the National Museum of Belgrade and the School of Conservation, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Art, Copenhagen.

*Risk Preparedness for Cultural Heritage Training Course*, New Delhi, India. 15–20 March 2004. Organized by ICCROM in cooperation with the Archaeological Survey of India.

*11th International Course on Wood Conservation Technology*, Norway. 24 May–2 July 2004. Organized by the Riksantikvaren, NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), NIKU (Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research) and ICCROM.

*Training Course for Azerbaijan Experts and Managers in Heritage Site Management*, ICCROM, Rome. 31 May–11 June 2004, under contract to the World Bank.

*Training Course on World Heritage Nominations and Management*, Bethlehem, Palestine. 19–24 July 2004. Organized by ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre in collaboration with UNESCO Ramallah, and in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of Palestine.

*International Course on Conservation of Japanese Paper*, Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan. 13 September–1 October 2004. Organized by the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties and ICCROM.

*Training Course on Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region*, Nara, Japan. 27 October–26 November 2004. Organized by ACCU (The Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO), the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties and ICCROM.

*Sharing Conservation Decisions International Course*, ICCROM, Rome and Florence. 3–26 November 2004. Organized by ICCROM in collaboration with the Institut National du Patrimoine in Paris, the Istituto Centrale per il Restauro in Rome and the Opificio delle Pietre Dure in Florence.

research for a book on the conservation of archaeological textiles.

Dr Bellanca's topic of research was focused on the use of terminology in different languages in architectural conservation theory and practice, from the sixteenth century to the present, and covering several European languages. Dr Bellanca is an associate professor at the Faculty of Architecture 'Valle Giulia' of the University of Rome La Sapienza, and has taught and published widely on the history and theory of architectural conservation.

Mr Will Shank is currently the Booth Family Rome Prize Fellow in Conservation/ Historic Preservation at the American Academy in Rome. Formerly (1991–1999) Chief Conservator at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, he is now an independent consultant in collections care, specializing in modern paintings.

In August 2004, Ms Amal Sachedina started a four-month internship. She worked within the ATHAR programme of the Architecture and Archaeological Sites Unit (AASU), assisting in preparatory work for planned ATHAR activities in 2004. Ms Sachedina is a socio-cultural anthropologist, and has pursued graduate studies in Islamic Art, Archaeology, and Middle Eastern Studies at American and British universities.

Mr Christian Biggi also held an internship within the context of the ATHAR Programme. Mr Biggi is a British/Italian archaeologist and has undertaken postgraduate studies in professional archaeology focusing on heritage conservation and management issues. He worked mainly on the preparations for the core regional course on 'conservation of heritage sites', to be held with ATHAR partners in September–October, 2005 in Tripoli, Lebanon.

Ms Gudrun Schmid completed a four month internship within the Collections Unit where she worked on the expansion of ICCROM's tourism guidebook initiative, aimed at encouraging the publishers of tourist guides to include a message on the fragility of heritage sites. Ms Schmid is completing a Masters Degree in World Heritage at the Technology University in Cottbus, Germany.

Mr Michael Yengling undertook a two-month internship at ICCROM sponsored by US/ICOMOS, working on issues relating to ICCROM's International Course on the Technology of Stone Conservation which

is currently under review. He examined the ICCROM archives of the course as well as relevant material in the ICCROM library, with the aim of producing a background document on the needs of stone conservation. Mr Yengling recently graduated with an MA in Architectural History and Historic Preservation from the University of Virginia in the USA.

Ms. Anne Cummins completed a five-month internship in the ICCROM laboratory within the Architecture and Archaeological Sites Unit. She assisted with the current research activities of the ICCROM laboratory, under the supervision of Ernesto Borrelli. Ms. Cummins has a Masters in Heritage Conservation from the University of Sydney, a B.Sc. from the University of Canberra in the Conservation of Cultural Materials, and a degree in Civil and Structural Engineering from the University of Technology, Sydney.

### Conservation Information Network

ICCROM, represented by Marie Christine Uginet, participated in a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Conservation Information Network (CIN), 13–14 September 2004 in Gatineau, Quebec. Attending the meeting were representatives of the seven organizations that make up the network, including ICCROM, Getty Conservation Institute (GCI), Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI), Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), International Council of Museums (ICOM), International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and Smithsonian Centre for Materials Research and Education (SCMRE).

For nearly 20 years the CIN partnership has provided invaluable access to research resources to the conservation community through the Bibliographic Database of the Conservation Information Network (BCIN). The BCIN database contains over 200,000 bibliographic citations contributed by its partner organizations, and provides access to conservation-related documents including technical reports, conference proceedings, journal articles, books, audiovisuals and unpublished materials. ICCROM, a founding member at BCIN's inception, has historically been a major contributor of citations to the BCIN database, which is freely accessible via the web at <http://www.bcin.ca/>.



ICCRM bibliographic citations are also accessible on ICCROM's on-line library catalogue at <http://library.iccrom.org/>.

### News from CMAS

The journal *Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites* (CMAS), co-edited by ICCROM and James & James (Science Publishers) Ltd., has been providing during the last decade a broad range of peer-reviewed papers, reflecting both traditional and innovative approaches to the conservation and management of archaeological sites around the world.

With the aim of facilitating the submission of quality papers, CMAS will now also accept for consideration manuscripts in French, Italian and Spanish. After the articles are accepted (following peer-review), they will be published in English translation, with abstracts in French and Spanish as in the latest numbers of the journal. ICCROM would like to extend an invitation to all conservation professionals to submit materials relating to practical as well as theoretical aspects of archaeological management and more broadly to the conservation of built heritage.

ICCRM is also offering a limited number of subscriptions to CMAS through its Technical Assistance Service, preferably to public libraries specializing in conservation within ICCROM Member States.

### AATA Online update

ICCRM and the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) have announced a collaboration that will considerably strengthen AATA Online, the major bibliographic reference tool produced by the GCI in association with the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, while permitting ICCROM to return to providing abstracts of current conservation literature in its own library catalogue.

Through this initiative, launched in October 2004, a significant selection of the holdings of the ICCROM Library will be abstracted, with the resulting abstracts made available both in ICCROM's online library database and in AATA Online. The ICCROM Library contains the world's most extensive collection of resources on every aspect of heritage conservation, in over 40 languages. There are currently more than 86,000 references registered in the collection.

Beyond encouraging increased access and use of the ICCROM Library, the GCI-ICCRM collaboration will expand the international scope of AATA Online's coverage. Conservators will be able to search a substantial portion of ICCROM's collection within the context of the many thousands of other bibliographic references and abstracts already found in AATA Online. By abstracting materials that are then photocopied and made available to researchers from its library, ICCROM is strengthening its mission to disseminate information resources broadly to conservation professionals working around the globe.

### ICCRM's training directory revised

Opportunities worldwide for education and training in conservation are conveniently listed in ICCROM's training directory, available on-line. During 2004 the directory has been revised and updated with current information. As a result, it now lists a total of 645 courses on conservation worldwide. This represents an increase of 40% over the previous number. Moreover, twenty-six additional countries are now listed as providing formal conservation training.

Remarkably, of the 645 distinct courses, the United Kingdom is home to no less than 154 (24%). The countries with the next largest numbers of training opportunities are the USA (70), Italy (56) and Spain (46).

The directory can be found at the following address: <http://www.iccrom.org/eng/training/opportunities.php>.

### ICCRM conference database

ICCRM's conference database includes a chronological list of meetings, seminars and workshops on conservation and related topics. The database is searchable for meetings on particular subjects or by country and can be accessed at the following web address: <http://www.iccrom.org/eng/links/linksdbs2.asp>

### Technical Assistance Service

ICCRM recently re-established its Technical Assistance Service (TAS). The service has been set up to encourage and support the development of cultural heritage conservation worldwide. It provides minor equipment and supplies, didactic material, conservation literature, annual subscriptions to conservation periodicals and photocopies, free of charge. The Technical Assistance

### ICCRM Courses (cont'd)

*International Course: Conservation and Exhibition of Southeast Asian Collections*, Bangkok, Thailand. 10–28 January 2005. Organized by ICCROM, SEAMEO-SPAFA (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization-Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts), the Office of National Museums, Fine Arts Department of Thailand.

*Architectural Records, Inventories and Information Systems for Conservation (ARIS05): Advanced International Course in Architectural Conservation, Heritage Recording, and Information Management*, ICCROM, Rome. 30 March–29 April 2005. Organized by ICCROM and the Getty Conservation Institute.

*Preventive Conservation: Reducing Risks to Collections*, ICCROM, Rome. 6–24 June 2005. Organized by ICCROM and CCI (Canadian Conservation Institute).

*Science in the Conservation of Archival Collections*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 11–29 July 2005. Organized by ICCROM, AN (National Archives of Brazil) and FUNARTE (National Foundation of Arts of Brazil).

*International Course on Conservation of Japanese Lacquer URUSHI 2005*, Tokyo and Kiso, Japan. 12–30 September 2005. Organized by ICCROM and the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties.

*ICCRM is grateful to the Directorate for Development Cooperation, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for providing financial support to many of the above courses.*

Service is available to public institutions and non-profit making organizations responsible for the preservation of cultural heritage within ICCROM Member States. The Technical Assistance Service is designed to respond to urgent low-cost needs. Approved requests will normally be limited to US\$300, although exceptions may be made in certain circumstances.

For further details contact the service at ICCROM or visit the ICCROM web site (<http://www.ICCROM.org/eng/technical/technical.htm>).

### Obituaries

**Prof. Eng. Wolfgang Preiss** died on 17 November 2004 at the age of 82. Professor Preiss had a distinguished career as a civil engineer, and as a professor at the Technische Universität, Dresden in the former German Democratic Republic (GDR). Spurred by his interest in the restoration of buildings destroyed in the war, he acquired a vast experience of working on the issues of protection of monuments. He had a long association with ICCROM. He was an invited speaker at the ICCROM Symposium on structures in historic buildings, held in Rome in September 1977 and became subsequently a regular lecturer on the International Architectural Conservation Course (ARC). Professor Preiss will be remembered as one of the leading specialists in the stabilization of historic structures, and as a teacher who shared his knowledge with others, both in Germany and internationally.

**Martin Weaver** (1938–2004) was a leading international figure in the scientific conservation of buildings and their constituent materials. From 1991 to 2003 he was Director of the Centre for Preservation Research and Professor of Historic Preservation at Columbia University, New York. Simultaneously, he ran an international conservation consultancy practice based in Ottawa, Canada. He contributed to ICCROM's work as a participant in the Seminar on the Safeguard of the Rock-Hewn Göreme Valley Churches in Turkey in 1993, and as a lecturer on the 2002 International Course on the Technology of Wood Conservation. His deep knowledge of the deterioration and conservation of timber will remain one of Martin's enduring contributions to conservation, as will his standard text

*Conserving Buildings: A Guide to Techniques and Materials* (Wiley, 1992; 2nd ed., 1997).

To all those who studied or worked with him, Martin Weaver will be remembered for the infectious enthusiasm and energy which he brought to his work, the generosity with which he gave advice and help, and the extraordinarily broad range of his interests in conservation. His contribution to the field will be long-lasting.

**Emmanuel Nnakenyi Arinze** died on 10 February 2005 at the age of 60. He was a past Director of Museums and Monuments in Nigeria and very active at the regional and international level. He directed for eight years the West African Museums Programme (WAMP), and at the time of his death was President of the Commonwealth Association of Museums. For ICCROM Emmanuel Arinze will always be remembered for his major role in training professionals to conserve African heritage. In the 1970s he took on, for fifteen years, the responsibility as Director of the Regional Centre for Museum Studies founded by UNESCO at Jos in his native Nigeria. He was subsequently a consultant to ICCROM's PREMA programme and was involved in setting up the two institutions that continued the work of PREMA in Africa: EPA, l'Ecole du Patrimoine Africain, and PMDA, Programme for Museum Development in Africa. He then became a member of the Board of PMDA.

**Caroline Villers** (1948–2004) obtained a masters degree in the history of art at the Courtauld Institute of Art in 1972; she subsequently returned to become lecturer, then senior lecturer, and finally director of the Department of Conservation and Technology.

She was continuously involved in national and international collaboration and was a Fellow of the International Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works of Art (IIC), a trustee and board member of the Textile Conservation Centre, and vice-chairman of the International Council of Museums Conservation Committee (ICOM-CC). These organizations and others, including ICCROM, benefited over the years from her enthusiasm and talent to make people work together.

## Addressing risks to collections in storage

by Kamal Jain (NRLC, India) and Maartijn de Ruijter (TropenMuseum, The Netherlands)

Why preventive conservation? Most of the existing training programmes in India cover the impact and control of light, climate or insects, etc. People receive fragments of scientific and technical information, but do not learn a systematic methodology to evaluate the various risks to a collection, to set priorities and to put them together into a comprehensive plan. Moreover, conservation is taught as the sole responsibility of the museum conservator while it should include, in fact, well-defined roles for all museum staff.

Why storage? Not much attention is being paid to collections in storage, partly because of the popular misconception that nothing can happen to objects in storage and partly because they remain 'out of sight' and hence, perhaps, 'out of mind' as well.

These conclusions were further strengthened by a survey carried out in a variety of museums and archives stores in India a year before the workshop. While the limitations of space and paucity of funds were cited as the main challenges, it was obvious that implementation of preventive conservation concepts was the need of the hour. It was decided that the course would focus on reorganization issues and would take place in a 'real' context. This was only possible thanks to the Bharat Kala Bhavan museum, Varanasi, which opened its doors to the entire team of participants and teachers. Situated within the Banaras Hindu University campus, near a convenient guest-house, the museum possesses large mixed collections of great significance. Some storage areas badly needed reorganization while others could serve as examples. The Director was very supportive and invited all curators to be involved in the exercise. Thus, the museum offered a perfect environment for the workshop.

During the preparation, the local team of NRLC and INTACH personnel developed various teaching aids, including questionnaires, crossword puzzles, floor plans, technical notes on storage units, exercises, a bibliography and didactic posters.

Twenty participants were selected from all regions of India and from neighbouring countries, e.g. Nepal, Bangladesh, Mauritius and Malaysia. The workshop developed a methodology to identify all possible aggressors and to find acceptable and realistic solutions to the labelled problems. The five stages of control (avoid, block, detect, respond and recover) as mentioned in the CCI's 'framework for preservation of

museum collections' poster, for instance, gave them the flexibility to develop appropriate solutions to specific problems. The proposed approach stimulated participants to set realistic standards, and to find ways of maintaining them.

The workshop was also an opportunity to expose certain myths, such as light posing a major risk to objects in the storage, or the need for air-conditioning in the museum. At the same time, emphasis was given to practical ways to assess space utilization and to ensure easy accessibility and retrieval.

An innovative successful feature of the workshop was to engage the participants' teams in collaborative work, each with the relevant museum curator to discuss and refine their reorganization proposals. Together, they presented their final plans to the director and staff of the museum. A copy of these was also presented to the Vice Chancellor of the University at the valedictory function.

This workshop, the first of its kind in the region, proved to be ground-breaking and is expected to act as a precursor to many such programmes in future. Not only did it re-emphasize the importance of integrating preventive conservation in all museum activities, but it also demonstrated how curatorial staff can play a major role in the preservation of cultural heritage. It provided an opportunity to demonstrate how a museum can commit itself to improving the state of preservation of its collections within its existing resources.

Thus, with this workshop, we were able to overcome the pre-conceived notions that preventive conservation is about a shopping list containing the best and most expensive equipment, or about applying standards out of a book or from research you have undertaken on one object. Instead, we were able to illustrate that preventive conservation is about taking responsibility for the entire collection. It provides a systematic approach for addressing risks to collections and for making preservation plans, allowing efficient use of money, time and other scarce resources.

From 13 to 28 October 2004, a workshop on 'Reorganizing museum storage taking into account preventive conservation methods' took place in Lucknow and Varanasi, India. It was conceived by the Indian participants during the 2003 ICCROM-CCI course 'Preventive conservation: from current issues to common strategies'.

The workshop was successful in gaining the support of NRLC, INTACH-ICCI and ICCROM.

The authors of this article are former participants of the 2003 ICCROM-CCI course.

Participants assessing conditions in storage



ICCROM ARCHIVE

**CollAsia 2010**

The CollAsia 2010 programme, launched at ICCROM's General Assembly in 2003, is a 7-year programme aimed at improving conservation conditions of Southeast Asian heritage collections. It is being implemented in partnership with SPAFA, the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts, based in Bangkok, Thailand.

Reinforcing the network of conservation and heritage professionals in Southeast Asia, building bridges between heritage institutions in the region and beyond, while offering new training opportunities for Southeast Asian professionals, are the key objectives of the programme.

Now in its second year, CollAsia 2010 has successfully mobilized support from institutions in Southeast Asia, as well as from the Getty Foundation. Following the holding of an international course on conservation and exhibition of Southeast Asian collections, and the launching of the CollAsia 2010 website, we are in the process of building a platform for professionals and institutions working in the conservation field to exchange and share resources. Future training activities include an international course focusing specifically on the conservation of Southeast Asian textiles as well as a sub-regional project to take place in 2006.

We invite all interested parties to consult the CollAsia 2010 web site at [www.collasia2010.org](http://www.collasia2010.org) to learn more about the goals of CollAsia 2010, forthcoming training activities, as well as staff development opportunities.

The CollAsia workshop group visiting the Wat Pho Temple, Bangkok, where they were received by the Deputy Abbot

**Museum collections in Southeast Asia**

by Katriina Similä, ICCROM

There is more than meets the eye to a museum exhibition, as the twenty participants of the three-week international course on 'Conservation and Exhibition of Southeast Asian Collections' discovered in Bangkok in January 2005. The first international event of the CollAsia 2010 programme brought to Thailand expertise from the region and beyond, using the networks of SEAMEO-SPAFA and ICCROM to identify and mobilize current thinking in this field.

For museums around the world, exhibitions have always been key moments for interacting with society at large. The fruits of collecting and research are brought to the public, and the exhibition activities offer a natural setting for education programmes. For many objects in the collection, exhibitions are the occasion when they receive individual attention, and often decisions about major interventive treatments are made.

As museums explore new avenues for defining their role in society, fresh opportunities arise for revisiting the relationships between the different facets of their work, including exhibitions and conservation. During the workshop in Bangkok, the interactive working method showed time and again during the different sessions that there is no single solution to exhibiting an object or a concept. Choices we make about the presentation and preservation of our heritage gain strength when brought about by teamwork, pooling the skills and insights of the different museum professionals within the institution.

The development of the conservation field has added tremendously to the options available for planning and building safe exhibitions. It is crucial that museums do not see an exhibition as a static product, brought about by isolated inputs of members of staff. An exhibition is a process, in which the planning, preparation and maintenance actions call for collaboration and joint effort from a variety of actors. The efforts made

in setting up such processes ultimately lead to a meaningful and more economic use of resources, as well as to a revitalized approach to the possibilities of reinterpreting and sharing the heritage with the community. A shared understanding of the goals and message of the exhibition, and of the qualities aimed for in the exhibition process, make the most of everyone's contribution, from the museum director to the showcase builder.

Just as materials change in time, the significance attributed to objects changes. The institutional mission of the museum sets the basis for formulating the identity of an object within that context. A central national museum, a private thematic collection, a historic house and a temple may all have a different, equally valid reason for including the same object in their collection. These reasons inform the definition of those characteristics that are the most important ones to be taken into account in conservation actions. In establishing conservation plans, the questions of 'how' and 'why' are in constant dialogue. Moreover, developments within and beyond the museum itself shape the significance of its collections, adding and subtracting layers of meaning and importance as time goes by. In a globalized world, this process takes place in an ever-widening geographic and intercultural sphere.

This work will gain strength from the strong identification that Asian communities have with their heritage, and from the age-old practices of both caring for and appreciating it. Equally important, the cutting edge technological development underway in different parts of the region will be a unique resource for the museum community, allowing for innovative and applied technical solutions customized to the defined goals.

Southeast Asia has a precious and rich heritage which can be found in a variety of settings. January 2005 was an especially poignant moment for discussing the significance of heritage and the role it can have in society. The tsunami that hit the region with devastation in the final days of 2004 galvanised all sectors of society to participate in a shared effort. In the long years of recovery and reconstruction to come, the museums will not only face formidable challenges in addressing the damage caused by the tsunami to heritage, but more importantly will have to ensure that heritage plays its role in healing the society left traumatised by that disaster.

## Making a difference in preventive conservation: feedback from course participants

by Catherine Antomarchi, ICCROM

Frédérique Vincent, French conservator and member of the ICCROM-CCI teaching team for the 2003 Preventive Conservation course was so happy to receive a long series of e-mails in January 2005: 'It's incredible, 18 months after the course, communication is still lively within the group!' ICCROM courses are always the beginning of long-term friendships. But what happens to participants one year, two years or more, after they are back in their working context? How useful is the information and documentation they have collected with ICCROM? In which way are they able to make use of the acquired knowledge and competences, make changes in their working approach and ultimately improve cultural heritage conditions and access? In the end, how relevant was their experience with ICCROM and in which ways?

Reflecting on these issues has led us to explore the possibilities of systematically incorporating feedback in our activities. This would help to inform the content and approach of future courses as well as contributing to the development of future strategies. Systematic feedback could also strengthen long-lasting relationships within the ICCROM network and the identification of resource-persons and institutions. Hopefully, ways of collecting and building upon feedback will be developed in future. For the moment, here are a few happy and spontaneous examples. What is remarkable is that, where possible, fellow participants made arrangements to help each other in their endeavours. Bent from Denmark went to teach with Vesna in Serbia; Martina from Austria invited Bart from the Netherlands as guest lecturer, and sent students on internships to Maartijn's museum. Last October in India, Maartijn and Kamal were teaching with other colleagues on a ground-breaking workshop conceived during the ICCROM-CCI course a little more than a year before. I hope you enjoy their stories and send us more testimonies of your achievements and challenges following an ICCROM course!

*Maybe you remember that, after the course, I was planning to finalize the Preservation Strategy for the National Archives of Hungary with the head of the Conservation Department. When I returned to my country, we surveyed the collections of the Archive and the conditions of the buildings and their climate. Using this information, we developed the Preservation Strategy and, just at the end of last year, we advised the Directory Board on the order of the necessary steps. They accepted most of our suggestions and the programme has started. I am really very grateful to all of the teachers of the ICCROM-CCI course, because the information I got there helped me a lot. I am also teaching students at the Academy of Fine Arts, and 1,5 years ago I started to work on my Phd thesis. This is my short story. Thanks for your interest! I wish you and the whole team all my best!*

Katalin Orosz  
National Archives of Hungary

*The course has had a great impact on my lecturing at the Conservation Studies Program in Oslo, Norway. I have incorporated much of the newly gained knowledge and methodologies in my lectures and have made heavenly use of the teaching materials provided. As a lecturer in conservation, I have especially had great benefit from the pedagogical content of the course. By experiencing the different teaching techniques at the course it was possible to judge some of the learning outcomes, and I discovered that there were more effective ways of teaching than the traditional lecture.*

*Just to take an example. The lecture 'What makes a good store?' is now taught at the Norwegian Folk Museum. The students are divided into small groups, presented with a scenario describing rooms in a basement to be converted to storage space, and asked to discuss how they will proceed to upgrade the rooms to current standards. In turn, the collections managers take the groups of students around the high standard storage rooms of the museum. The advantage is that students can actually see what is required as well as ask relevant questions. In the last hour the groups present their ideas, which are discussed and commented upon by the collections manager and the lecturer. All students are actively involved and have fun whilst learning.*

Douwte Van der Meulen  
University of Oslo

*One of the main consequences of the ICCROM-CCI course is that the DIANA Centre has begun the systematic education of*

*courses: fire prevention, preventive conservation of archaeological objects, and workshops on factors of deterioration. Our aim is to stre*

*conservators, curators, and managers...*

*Vesna Zivkovic, Diana Conservation Centre, Serbia & Montenegro*

*'The (nowadays) architect builds for other people but no longer builds with them. He brings to bear technical experience, but not sensitivity and collective symbolism in the way it was possible. The endeavour is not (yet) toward a balance between a group's cultural values and its appropriation of space it uses.'*

Mohammad Arkoun (1993), *Building and Meaning in the Islamic World*, in *MIMAR 8: Architecture in Development* (Singapore: Concept Media Ltd).

## Managing living archaeological sites in the Arab Region

by Zaki Aslan, ICCROM

In the Arab region, the preservation of cultural heritage is often challenged by local socio-cultural and political conditions, in which priorities lie in meeting daily living requirements. Nevertheless, heritage can play a major role in bringing about sustainable development on various community levels. Socio-cultural development can and should be integrated into conservation planning, and value-based approaches can be widely disseminated for effective professional and community education programmes.

At an orientation meeting held in May 2004, ATHĀR partners agreed that the regional programme (covering Syria, Jordan and Lebanon) should go beyond purely technical solutions (which are also very much needed) to a broader conservation conception, where the stakes are political, social, and economic. Hence, it is necessary to initiate and encourage interdisciplinary dialogue and involvement of communities and institutions owning or using this heritage. Moreover, these issues have to be integrated at a national policy level. The ATHĀR programme emphasizes long-term support for the role of heritage institutions (principally, the Directorates of Antiquities) in the region to improve the state of conservation of archaeological heritage, on a sustainable basis.

The priorities for the programme have been defined in such a way that relevant activities address various beneficiary groups. These groups include: professionals (architects, archaeologists, etc.); government heritage managers and policy-makers; and the public and local communities. The core areas to be addressed for each group are, respectively, professional development (involving university interdisciplinary training); applied knowledge

in heritage planning and management; and public support and outreach. While each core area is focused on a particular audience, the programme aims at building synergies among the various groups, thus enhancing professional networks nationally and regionally.

To achieve the goal and objectives outlined above, ICCROM has recently implemented several activities within the ATHĀR programme.

### Managing the living archaeological site of Bosra in Syria

The site of Bosra is unique in the region because it is a continually inhabited archaeological site. It is located near the southern border of Syria, forming part of a region that extends further south into Jordan. According to archaeological evidence, the site has been settled at least for seven or eight millennia. The town was conquered by the Romans in 106 AD, and it became the capital of the province of Arabia. In 244/245 it became a metropolis governed by Philip of Arabia. From 210 AD till the eighth century, Bosra was Christianized, giving rise to important buildings such as the basilica. The town came under Islamic rule in 632. The Islamic monuments include several mosques, and a series of significant inscriptions (the Prophet Mohammad is said to have made two visits to Bosra, where he learned the precepts of Christianity from the monk Bahira). Today's vestiges represent historic, symbolic and architectural messages for people of the region, where Christianity and Islam have met. Hence, the site's significance is very much associated with the Christian and Muslim communities on a regional level. In 1980, Bosra was inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria i, iii and iv.

The architecture of ancient Bosra is characterised by the use of the black basalt stone which is the local building material. At present, the historic town of Bosra has been partly excavated and restored (mostly from the 1950s onwards), but people continue living in some of the ancient ruins, providing a challenging series of issues concerning living heritage.

Taking advantage of the opportunities presented by Bosra, ICCROM, together with the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums of Syria and UNESCO, organized an *Applied course on heritage site management* at Bosra and in Damascus (25 January–3 February 2005). Twenty participants from



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Bosra community meeting

The vernacular fabric of Bosra: old streets and new houses



ICCROM ARCHIVE

Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, and several observers from the local government and community attended the course. All participants were professionals in charge of national heritage sites with backgrounds as archaeologists, architect-restorers, supervisors, managers, and tourism operators. The objectives of the course were to:

- attain an overall understanding of the basic principles and processes of integrated site management approaches;
- focus, as a case study, on the management planning issues of Bosra as a living archaeological site;
- recognize the need for interdisciplinary collaboration;
- identify appropriate tools to enhance site documentation;
- assess site values and devise strategies for their protection and enhancement.

Particular attention was given to the involvement of the local communities and the various stakeholders in the management process. The mayor of Bosra brought together some forty members of the local community who, in a joint session (the first of its kind there) presented their views on the needs in Bosra. The government representatives and course participants then commented. A particular topic for discussion was the relationship between the archaeological aspects of the town and the requirements of the site as a living historic place; this was closely related also to the World Heritage value of the place as a coherent vernacular fabric. It was generally agreed that, while accepting that further scientific exploration may well be desirable, this should not be taken to mean the removal of the inhabitants from the site or the destruction of more recent lived-in structures. In fact, it is this historical integration with present-day life that adds to the interest and the value of the site. Naturally, with its economic potential for the local community, the dialogue among stakeholders addressed issues relevant to improving the living conditions of inhabitants, infrastructure, provision of acceptable building regulations (e.g. ones in harmony with the black basalt structures) and incentives.

#### Outreach for professionals and for secondary schoolteachers

A serious deficiency in organizing educational activities for professionals in the Arab countries is the relative lack of published

material in Arabic. To remedy this deficiency, ICCROM is making available in translation certain key titles (see box).

Public outreach, another programme goal, has also been addressed through a regional workshop for ASPNET (Associated Schools Project Network) secondary schoolteachers in Tunis (11–13 February 2005). This workshop was a follow-up to the *World Heritage skills development training course for young people in the Arab region* which took place in Petra, Jordan (see *ICCROM Newsletter* 28: 14 and 20) which resulted in the publication of a manual (in English and Arabic versions) for schoolteachers. The Tunis workshop, organized by ICCROM with the UNESCO-Amman Office through its ASPNET programme, and the Regional Secretariat of the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC), brought together schoolteachers from countries across the Arab region (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia). It reviewed pedagogic methods and curricula approaches for promoting awareness among schoolchildren of the fragility and means of protection of historic sites and cities.

The programme included study visits to the Old City of Tunis and the archaeological site of Dougga, highlighting differences between living urban centres and archaeological sites. Dougga was largely explored by archaeologists in the first half of the twentieth century during the French mandate, resulting in it being viewed purely as a tourist destination. In fact, the local community was relocated to New Dougga by the 1950s, but some late remains such as the mosque are visible today, though it went out of use by the late 1990s. Only the olive groves are now exploited by the local community. Contrasting living cities and archaeological sites stimulated workshop discussions on how careful planning could enliven Dougga for the benefit of the local population.

Teachers collectively agreed that heritage can successfully be introduced in schools. They recommended enhanced cooperation between the schools and educational services, and between the ministries of culture and the ministries of education in order to facilitate introducing heritage topics in class. In turn, this event helped decision-makers to recognize the importance of initiatives involving schools and the public at large.

#### ATHĀR partners 2004

Ministry of Culture, Department of Antiquities and Museums, Syria

Ministry of Culture, Department of Antiquities, Lebanon

Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Department of Antiquities, Jordan

UNESCO Office, Beirut, Lebanon

UNESCO Office, Amman, Jordan

Regional Secretariat, Organization of World Heritage Cities for Africa and Middle East, Tunis

#### ATHĀR financial partner

Directorate for Development Cooperation, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### ICCROM publications in Arabic

*ICCROM Newsletter* from Issue 30 onwards.

*Management Guidelines for World Cultural Heritage Sites* by B. Feilden and J. Jokilehto, (translation of 2nd English edition, Rome: ICCROM, 1998).

*Introducing young people to heritage site management and protection: a practical manual for secondary school teachers in the Arab region*, (UNESCO-Amman Office and ICCROM 2003).

Schoolteachers visiting ancient Dougga and the village mosque



**AFRICA 2009 supporters**

Sida and the Swedish National Heritage Board  
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 The UNESCO World Heritage Fund  
 ICCROM

**AFRICA 2009 today: ICCROM and sub-Saharan Africa**

by Joe King and Jérôme Nhan, ICCROM

For over twenty years, ICCROM has been working in close cooperation with institutions and professionals in sub-Saharan Africa to safeguard the cultural heritage of that region. During the PREMA programme, from 1986–2000, capacity building focused on professionals charged with the care of museum collections and objects. In 1998, ICCROM in collaboration with the National University of Benin, founded the *Ecole du Patrimoine Africain* (EPA) in Porto-Novo, Benin to serve French, Portuguese and Spanish-speaking countries in the region. Two years later, in the final year of PREMA, ICCROM and the National Museums of Kenya jointly founded the Programme for Museum Development in Africa (PMDA) in Mombasa, Kenya for English-speaking countries.

In 1998, with the inception of the AFRICA 2009 programme, ICCROM began to change its focus in the region to conservation of immovable cultural heritage. AFRICA 2009, a partnership of African cultural heritage organizations, ICCROM, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and CRATERRE-EAG, started with a pilot phase which lasted until 2001. The consolidation phase, begun in 2002, is coming to its conclusion at the end of 2005. Now, two-thirds of the way through its projected period of implementation, it is possible to look back at some of the results and see how they have followed on from the

longer term commitment to the region that began with PREMA.

**Taking stock: activities**

Since its inception, AFRICA 2009 has carried out a large number of activities at both the regional and site levels. Thus far, six three-month regional courses have taken place, training over 120 professionals in conservation and management of immovable cultural heritage. Two technical courses at the regional level have been held on the topic of documentation and inventory, training an additional thirty participants.

Five regional seminars have been held on topics including Documentation and Inventory, Development of Arguments to Create Better Awareness of Cultural Heritage, Legal Frameworks for Heritage Protection, and Sustainable Tourism. Yearly meetings of the directors of cultural heritage have also taken place, both to facilitate networking and to ensure that the programme has a continual assessment from the key stakeholders. Altogether, over 250 professionals from the region have taken part in AFRICA 2009 seminars and meetings.

In the area of scholarships and exchange, the programme has provided two scholarships for completion of masters degrees in heritage management at the University of Zimbabwe, ten scholarships for participants to attend international courses at ICCROM, six travel awards for professionals to attend the first ICOMOS General Assembly held in sub-Saharan Africa (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe), and a number of internships and exchanges at partner institutions both in Africa and Europe.

Other activities of the programme have included a number of research projects and national seminars, and the provision of technical assistance in the form of computers and other equipment to approximately twenty institutions. A web site ([www.iccrom.org/africa2009](http://www.iccrom.org/africa2009)) and yearly newsletter are published, and the programme will begin publishing books related to its seminars and research activities starting in 2005.

At the site level, the programme has worked at nineteen sites in thirteen countries implementing activities such as conservation works, development of management plans, and preparation of nominations for the World Heritage List.

Left: re-thatching an Asante traditional building during a *Projet Situé*.

Right: participants of the 2nd Technical Course on Documentation and Inventory



CRATERRE and ICCROM ARCHIVE



### Taking stock: qualitative survey

Looking at the activities only tells part of the story of the results that the programme has achieved thus far. Since 1998, the programme has had involvement with professionals from over 95% of the countries in the region. Many participants of AFRICA 2009 activities have gone on to become very active in other national and regional programmes dealing with heritage issues.

In 2004, the programme carried out a survey to understand the impact that it was having on countries in the region. The results indicate that the heritage institutions have utilized the participants of AFRICA 2009 activities in a variety of ways, which has insured that the skills learned are put into practice. They have been responsible for developing management plans for sites, carrying out conservation/restoration works, organizing national seminars, workshops and stakeholder meetings, and developing national heritage inventories, to name just a few. Some former participants have also been promoted to positions of national influence, for example Director of Cultural Heritage or Director General for Culture, and therefore, are now in place to influence decisions related to cultural heritage and development issues.

The programme has involved local communities, politicians and other decision makers in its activities including participation in regional and national seminars and *Projets Situés*. For example, a seminar in Malawi on Culture and Development brought together a number of high level participants from other ministries in that country. The topic of HIV/Aids and culture has also been developed as part of regional courses, and where possible, larger development objectives have been taken into account in the implementation of *Projets Situés*.

### Continuing the legacy of PREMA: working with EPA and PREMA

In carrying out its programme of activities, AFRICA 2009 has tried to build on the successes achieved by ICCROM through PREMA. Since 1999, EPA and PMDA have acted as hosts for the AFRICA 2009 regional courses, and gradually have become more involved in other activities of the programme. A yearly work plan is now

### Latest news from the EPA Fund

Since 2000, ICCROM has hosted and managed the EPA Fund. This endowment fund was established to meet the running costs of EPA in perpetuity, thus providing a permanent and regular source of revenue for the School and helping to secure its long-term future.

In its five years of operation, the Fund has received contributions from seventeen individual and institutional donors spanning three continents. Moreover, ten prominent individuals have agreed to become patrons of the Fund. Thanks to this support, the Fund has now reached over 72% of its 2,250,000 euro target.

The year 2004 saw major developments, with ICCROM successfully mobilizing additional support from its existing partners as well as from new partners. Further contributions were received from the French Ministry of Culture and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Getty Foundation, which had already generously supported ICCROM's PREMA and Generation 2 projects, also made a generous grant, thus becoming the first American foundation to donate. In September 2004 the government of Benin became the first sub-Saharan African country to make a contribution, in response to the resolution passed during ICCROM's XXIIIrd General Assembly which called on all Member States, but especially African Member States, to support the Fund.

Further recognition for the EPA Fund's importance came from two prominent Africans: in 2004, the EPA Fund was honoured to receive the High Patronage of Abdou Diouf, Secretary-General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, and Alpha Oumar Konaré, Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, former presidents respectively of Senegal and Mali. Both testified to the importance of the Fund as an effective tool to ensure EPA's sustainability.

Thus, in the past year the Fund has grown considerably, attracting support from an ever broader panel of institutions and individuals. Perhaps more importantly, the range of this support points to the growing international recognition of the relevance and quality of the work undertaken by EPA. The School's expertise in the conservation of sub-Saharan African heritage is now recognized and valued not only in its area of operation but also beyond it. Ultimately the EPA Fund's aim is to ensure that such work continues.

developed between AFRICA 2009 and the two institutions to create a strong working relationship, and representatives of EPA and PMDA attend the meetings of the AFRICA 2009 Steering Committee. It is expected that starting in 2006 when the programme moves into its final phase, EPA and PMDA will become full partners in AFRICA 2009. Apart from institutional participation, many of the professionals in the region trained by PREMA have been involved in AFRICA 2009 activities, both as participants and resource persons.

### The future of AFRICA 2009: 2006 – 2009

Taken as a whole, the survey indicates that AFRICA 2009 has made strides in reaching the goals that it set itself in 1998. ICCROM and its partners, however, will need to work hard to consolidate these achievements and ensuring that they are sustainable beyond the life of the programme. Current activities such as the regional courses, technical courses, regional and national seminars, scholarships, networking, and *Projets Situés* will be continued, but more emphasis will also be given to ensuring that the infrastructure and capacity is in place in the region to continue activities beyond 2009.

**Institutional web sites**

EPA  
<http://www.epa-prema.net/>

PMDA  
<http://www.heritageinafrica.org/>

**Thematic web sites**

Museum of Abomey, Benin  
<http://www.epa-prema.net/abomey/>

Museum of the Senegalese Armed Forces  
<http://www.epa-prema.net/mfas>

Numibia (African art on canvas)  
<http://www.numibia.net/>

Nubia Museum  
<http://www.numibia.net/nubia>

Home pages of Numibia (African art on canvas) site (<http://www.numibia.net/>) and the Nubia Museum (<http://www.numibia.net/nubia>)

**Profiling African users of EPA web sites**

by Anne Ambourouè Avaro, Ecole du Patrimoine Africain

The Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA), established in Porto-Novo and known for its work in Africa, has been exploring for several years the possibility of using the Internet to support its mission to safeguard and promote African cultural heritage.

Several web sites have been developed since 1999 to further this objective, both institutional sites and thematic sites with cultural content (see box).

A study of the users of these sites was carried out in 2004. The results were very interesting, providing valuable information not only about the web users themselves (who were not in general our actual target group) but also about their motivations, which were sometimes unforeseen.

A main conclusion was that the vast African public (i.e. those that connect from Africa) has little interest in cultural sites: web connections from Africa to our thematic sites represent on average 3% of the registered connections on our servers. This lack of interest in cultural content apparently has a basis in reality. Two surveys carried out by EPA between 1999 and 2000 on the relationship between schools and heritage education demonstrated that, for several reasons, cultural and artistic education is absent from primary and secondary school curricula. The young generations have neither the habit of looking at cultural affairs nor the interest to do so.

This apparent reluctance on the part of the African public is probably a consequence of the African context, and can be attributed

to factors such as the difficulty of accessing new technologies, a lack of Internet culture, and illiteracy. For example, in Africa only one person in 250 accesses the Internet, whereas in Europe the figure is one in two.

However, the African connections to our two *institutional* sites represent 12% of the connections, which means that African professionals are more motivated, or in a position to connect when they are in their work place.

The analysis of the surfing statistics showed that more than 50% of connections to the site of the Historic Museum of Abomey are made from Europe or the United States. We wanted to find out who these 'Europeans' or 'Americans' who connected to a site as specific as the Museum of Abomey were.

After reviewing the 400 messages posted on the website, we found out that they were actually Africans living abroad who have a hunger for cultural content that reminds them of their origins. In fact, over one third of the messages are from expatriate Beninese. It is a critical and cultured audience, and one that is very concerned about Internet sites. Some messages proposed improvements and suggestions for future sites.

The messages received indicated that these Beninese of the Diaspora use the Museum of Abomey web site to educate their children born in Europe, to talk about their country with their friends, to present it in school or university papers, or simply to go back for a while to their country.

The discovery of this public, which had not been identified before the survey, confirms the observations by researchers from the University of Turin, in relation to EPA, of the need to create a cultural content that will allow Italian children born to second or third generation immigrant communities, to (re)-discover their origins.

The overall impression from these messages is that the visitors (Beninese and Africans in general) are proud that their culture is present on the worldwide web. This presence is viewed as recognition.

They are proud not only of being present, but also because Africans created the site. Being present and active on the web is viewed as good for their image. This feedback has certainly resulted in a better understanding of our 'African' surfers and in the realisation that we have to meet the needs of all the different communities of users that we serve.



## Conservation practices in the ancient literary sources of Asia

by Gamini Wijesuriya, ICCROM

For many centuries, traditional conservation ideals existed in South Asia within Buddhist and Hindu religious traditions. These have been ignored in recent times, and indeed some may seem irrelevant or impossible to apply in a modern day context. Nevertheless, at a time when community-based heritage management activities are receiving much attention, these traditional practices could play a vital role, if studied properly. It is evident that these principles and practices were conceived during the construction of religious buildings in order to guarantee their continuity through proper care and maintenance. Furthermore, there were particular communities or groups who were charged with these responsibilities.

The numerous instructions about monastic architecture in Buddhist texts have led some to consider the Buddha as an architect. Buddhist literature provides guidance on many topics, from the selection of sites to the types of buildings suitable for monasteries. Living in the right atmosphere was an essential requirement for Buddhist monks. Buddhist monks also provided advice and sometimes acted as architects. The Code of Discipline of the monks (the *Vinaya*) allows monks to engage in new construction work as well as in repairs and renovations. It was a rule that the monks should not allow their places of residences to be dilapidated. Stone inscriptions, chronicles and other literature contains principles, processes, and practices of renewal of monastic buildings which give us a deep insight into the advanced traditions that existed in the past.

Let me introduce one such inscription found in Sri Lanka dated to the ninth century AD. It is a lengthy inscription written in Sanskrit language. The first paragraph of the text shows that monks engaged in repair work. It reads as follows:

*And a single samanera (novice monk) shall be stationed in each of all the three villages. There the allowances of food for each person [shall be] doubled; [but] not that for robes: so likewise [shall it be] in regard to two doing repairs at the Vihara (monastery). Whatever place they are attached to, there they themselves shall allow no dilapidation.*

Another text refers to the skilled and expert masons and carpenters engaged in temple renewal work, describing their rations and the duties of the superintendent, and

emphasizing that the work should be carried out in the correct fashion:

*[There shall be] clever stone-cutters and skilful carpenters in the village devoted to the work of [temple] renewal. They all... shall be experts in their [respective] work... Means of subsistence of the [same] extent [as is] given to one of these, shall be granted to the officer who superintends work... Moreover, when thus conferring maintenance on the latter person, his work and so forth shall [first] be ascertained, and the name of him [thus] settled [with a livelihood] as well as his respective duties, shall be recorded in the register... Those of the five casts (trades) who work within the precincts of the monastery shall receive [their] work after it has been apportioned; and they alone shall be answerable for its correctness (purity).*

Punishments for those who do not perform well and incentives to those who are efficient are also mentioned in the inscription.

Such methodological approaches to conservation, utilizing trained staff, were supported by well-stipulated principles. Many ancient treatises from the Indian subcontinent on the subject of architecture allocate chapters to instructions on the restoration of villages and towns, buildings, and even sacred objects. Part of the chapter on restoration from one such treatise, the *Mayamatha*, written in the sixth century AD, reads as follows:

*Those temples whose characteristics are still [to be restored] with their own materials... the sage wishing to restore them [must proceed in such a way that] they regain their integrity and that they are pleasantly arranged; this [is to be done] with the dimensions—height and width—which were theirs and with decoration consisting of corner, elongated and other areas, without anything being added and always in conformity with the initial appearance [of the building] and with the advice of the knowledgeable.*

In conclusion, let me refer to another inscription from Sri Lanka, written in the thirteenth century AD. It refers to an officer with the title 'Loke Arakmena', charged with renewal work at the then abandoned city of Anuradhapura (now a World Heritage Site). A suitable translation for this is 'the chief conservator of monuments'—an illustration perhaps that there is nothing new under the Asian sun!

### Living Religious Heritage

This article had its genesis in a paper given by the author in 2003 during the ICCROM Forum on Living Religious Heritage: Conserving the Sacred.

The proceedings of this forum will be published by ICCROM in 2005.

Cast of a ninth century AD Buddhist inscription from Sri Lanka



## ICCROM at the UN World Conference in Kobe on disaster reduction

by Joe King, ICCROM

Within the framework of the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Japan from 18 to 22 January, ICCROM, in partnership with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan, organized a one-day thematic session on *Cultural Heritage Risk Management*. The Conference was attended by over 4,000 delegates representing 150 countries, United Nations agencies, and other intergovernmental organizations.

Speakers at the thematic session on cultural heritage came from seven countries, as well as from UNESCO, ICCROM, and ICOMOS. They emphasized the need to pay more attention to heritage conservation before, during, and after catastrophic events. Some speakers highlighted general issues related to cultural heritage risk management, while others presented case studies of disasters and their effect on sites such as Bam in Iran and Kyoto in Japan.

The meeting highlighted the need to integrate concern for the cultural heritage into the larger framework of disaster management. It was stressed that heritage should not only be seen as something to be protected, but also should be used by communities to help mitigate the effects of disasters and to reassert identity during recovery efforts. Emphasis was also given to the need to understand better traditional know-how and skills as important tools for helping communities to withstand the impacts of disasters and facilitate the response and recovery processes. Training and better sharing of information were also underlined as means of ensuring that capacities can be built at all levels of the disaster management process.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants approved a set of recommendations setting a series of specific goals and actions to promote the continued development of cultural heritage risk management initiatives. Countries were urged to ensure that adequate policies, legislation, administrative mechanisms, and financial and human resources are available to make certain that cultural heritage protection is an integrated part of national disaster reduction programmes. International IGOs and NGOs were urged to place a higher priority on disaster management issues within their activities, and educational and

research institutions were asked to carry out more research on both traditional techniques and modern technologies that could be used for disaster planning, response, and recovery.

It was encouraging to note that many of the audience members for the thematic session were not heritage professionals, but rather came from other areas of the disaster management field. This interest indicates that it may be possible to begin a dialogue with disaster management professionals regarding concern for the cultural heritage. Actions that could be taken within the heritage field include:

- becoming more involved in International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and other disaster related initiatives, so that the cultural heritage agenda can be well represented;
- carrying out research on other areas of disaster management to better understand concepts, terminology, etc.
- carrying out research and writing on ways to incorporate concern for the heritage into the larger planning and response mechanisms;
- developing training modules that can be inserted into general courses on disaster management;
- developing programmes and activities aimed at heritage professionals to better prepare them in all phases of planning and response.

Preparatory work for the thematic session was coordinated by the Ritsumeikan University, which co-hosted with ICOMOS-Japan an expert meeting in Kyoto, immediately preceding the World Conference on Disaster Reduction. In addition to presentations and discussions by the invited experts, a public forum was held in Kyoto and site visits were made to both the Kiyomizudera Temple and Himeji Castle to look at fire protection measures that have been developed to safeguard those World Heritage sites.

## Silicon-based products: uses and limitations

by Ernesto Borelli, ICCROM

Part of the overall objective of the ICCROM laboratory is to address current technical issues in conservation through research and through the organization of specialist workshops. The first of these, held in 2002, was entitled 'Porosity and porosimetry: their importance, implications and development in the cultural heritage sector'. From this workshop a clear need was identified for research focusing on silicon-based products. The following topics in particular seemed to merit detailed examination: the use of silicon-based systems to consolidate limestone; their applicability to materials such as glass and metals; and, in general, the establishment of technical guidelines for which commercial product to use on particular materials, together with a methodology for evaluating their performance.

Consequently, a second workshop was held in Rome in 2004 on these topics, within the framework of the EU LabSTECH project. It was attended by over twenty international specialists including representatives from the manufacturing sector. The presence of the latter was particularly welcome as they were able to present a marketing and R&D perspective on the development of silicon-based products. The subject matter and range of viewpoints was very broad.

A case study of the Church of Santa Maria Antiqua in the Roman Forum looked at the use of specific products to ameliorate damage to the mural paintings caused by high humidity and soluble salts. A visit to the church gave workshop participants an opportunity to inspect at first hand the experimental work on different products.

In contrast to this case study approach, other contributions dealt with performance testing in the laboratory and how to establish criteria to measure the efficacy of particular products.

Different technological solutions to identical problems were also discussed. For example, the use of hybrid organo-silicon polymers, commercially known as ORMOCERS® (Organically Modified Ceramics), to consolidate bronze was proposed by one contributor, while another suggested using plasma enhanced chemical vapour deposition (PECVD).

Consolidating limestone and other materials with a low chemical affinity with silicon-based systems was another pressing

topic. A possible solution involving the use of pre-treatment with a coupling agent that would then work as a catalyst raised additional problems: what would be the chemical and physical properties of this new layer and how would a particular catalyst be chosen? Alternative approaches were also discussed. For the moment, there is no solution to this particular problem, but at least possible additional avenues of research suggested themselves.

Two presentations focused on ethical issues regarding product use in conservation. One, from the standpoint of an art historian in conservation, emphasized the dilemma between material and image, asserting that the rationale for treatment is the preservation of the message of the object. The main concerns of the second was the challenge of multi-tasking, where the conservator has to be a fundraiser, chemist, marketing specialist etc., and yet must still preserve successfully the cultural heritage.

The concluding session stressed the importance of effective communication between the different sectors; industry, universities and conservation bodies may all, to some extent, have different agendas, but these intersect at the work of the conservator who, to be most effective, needs the combined inputs of all three. ICCROM has a role to play in this, promoting interdisciplinary activities and, through the organization of workshops, offering a neutral venue for the discussion of sometimes contentious issues.

The ICCROM laboratory has also been undertaking collaborative research on the formulation of mathematical models to predict consolidant behaviour in stones, particularly that of silicon-based consolidants. The behaviour of consolidants during *in situ* stone treatments is not fully predictable. Due to the variations encountered on-site, a conservator is often unsure about the degree of chemical penetration achieved by the consolidant. Mathematical modelling will enable us to compare the effectiveness of the application of a single concentrated solution with that of multiple dilute ones.

### LabSTECH/ICCROM Workshop

Silicon-based products in the sphere of cultural heritage

Rome  
29–30 April 2004

Mural paintings in the Church of Santa Maria Antiqua



ICCROM ARCHIVE

### Translations of Cesare Brandi, *Teoria del restauro*

*Teoria de la restauración*  
(translated by Maria Angeles Toajas Roger), Madrid (Alianza Forma), 1988 and 1999.

*Teoria restaurarii*  
(translated by Ruxandra Balaci), Bucharest (Editura Meridiane), 1996.

*Teorie Restaurovani*  
(translated by Jiri Spacek), Prague (Tycha Byzanc), 2000.

*Théorie de la restauration*  
(translated by Colette Déroche), Paris (Editions du Patrimoine), 2001.

*Theoria tes Sunteresese*  
(translated by Ivi Gabrielides), Athens (Ellenikà Gràmmata), 2001.

*Teoria da Restauracao*  
(translated by Beatriz Mugayar Kuehl), Cotia – San Paulo, Brazil (Ateliê Editorial), 2004.

Translations in German and Japanese will be published in 2005.

Information kindly supplied by Dr Giuseppe Basile, Istituto Centrale per il Restauro, Rome.

## Cesare Brandi in English

by Nicholas Stanley-Price, ICCROM

The year 2005 sees a major publishing event: the first full translation into English of Cesare Brandi's seminal work 'Theory of Restoration'. Thanks to the initiative of the Istituto Centrale per il Restauro in Rome, an English translation has finally been published. It is entirely appropriate that the Istituto has taken this initiative, having been founded (in 1939) and directed by Cesare Brandi.

Why is the publication of this text in English such an important milestone? And why has it taken over forty years for these essays to be translated into English, since they were first collected and published in Italy in 1963?

The answers have to be sought in a variety of circumstances which themselves form part of the history of conservation-restoration. A reason that is often given is the difficult language in which Brandi expressed his reflections on the nature of restoration. This is certainly true – even native Italian speakers are challenged by his forms of expression and subtlety of argument. But complexity of language has not impeded the translation of other philosophical texts that have been recognized to be seminal.

Another reason may lie in the origin of the text itself. Rather than being the carefully developed statement of a theory, the 'Teoria del Restauro' is in fact a collected work, being a combination of essays previously published by Brandi and new texts based on his lectures to students during the first twenty years of the Istituto at Rome. The reader has to exercise his or her own judgment as to how best to read it. Whatever the reasons, it is only in recent years that most of the translations into other languages have appeared (see box).

### Importance of Brandi's 'Theory of Restoration'

The appearance of this text in English is particularly important because of the dominance at present of the English language in the teaching and practice of conservation worldwide. It serves, in addition to the many native speakers, all those for whom English is a second or third language (in global terms, now outnumbering the native speakers).

English-speakers can now appreciate fully what contemporary conservation-restoration theory owes to Brandi. In his *Theory of Restoration* we find discussed so many of those concepts that still exert their fascination

in conservation debates today: the principle of reversibility of a treatment, the integration of lacunae, the respect for the effects of time on an object, the idea of patina, the concept of falsification, and the scope for reconstruction of incomplete works of art.

Not all of Brandi's formulations have found full acceptance in subsequent discussions. For example, for some critics, Brandi's strong emphasis on aesthetics seems to assign an undue importance to the personal taste or aesthetic preferences of the conservator-restorer. Be that as it may, it is only through the dissemination of texts such as the 'Theory of Restoration' that a discipline can develop a core body of theory and can think eventually of laying claim to professional codes of practice. Of course, the theory's concepts must be constantly re-visited and criticised afresh; but this process is normal in the growth of a discipline.

It is undeniable that the intellectual ancestry of many current dilemmas in conservation can be traced back to Brandi's formulations. It would be unnecessarily provocative to refer to the assertion by Wittgenstein that the history of Western philosophy could be considered as a series of footnotes to Plato. But it might make a good exam question for conservation students: 'The history of Western restoration can be considered as a series of footnotes to Brandi. Discuss'.

With this new translation, for English-speakers the question is now at least easier to appreciate.



*This contribution has been adapted and reproduced from the Preface to the English edition by kind permission of the publishers.*

*The English edition is now available from the ICCROM bookshop*

## Out of print: a retrospective view of ICCROM

by Marie-Christine Uginet

When I was asked to write about my memories of ICCROM for inclusion in this newsletter, my first thought was that it really was time to retire, and quickly! It is not that I dislike thinking about my years at ICCROM, but the re-telling of memories does awaken a nostalgia for the past and for a younger self that has slipped away.

When we think of a librarian who has been in post for a long time, we imagine a bespectacled lady who has grown old among her books, knowing her collections better than anyone else, guarding them like her own children, and protecting them from ill-willed readers. This is certainly a caricature, but it does provide a rather accurate picture of myself at ICCROM! Being the librarian is an essential role, though slightly out-of-sight and far from power, but it is also a position from where you observe everyone: directors, professors, students, researchers come and go, but in the meantime you continue calmly in your place. I have seen many people pass by, and watched how ICCROM has slowly changed over the years.

My first years at ICCROM corresponded to the period of my own heyday (I was hired in 1972), but I do not wish to idealise them. ICCROM has changed just as the world around it has changed: it is indeed a kind of microcosm that has reflected, and still is reflecting, the evolutions of society and the world of conservation. In the early 1970s, conservation of cultural heritage was like an adventure, we were not far from the campaign to save Abu Simbel and from the flood in Florence, and the world of conservation contained few established institutions or professionals. You could count the seminal thinkers on the fingers of one hand: our first directors, Harold J. Plenderleith and Paul Philippot, Cesare Brandi, Paolo and Laura Mora, Giorgio Torraca, Agnes Ballestrem, and Johannes Taubert.

The ties between these people were very close and this gave our institution a familiar atmosphere. The staff were few in number, and we occupied two and later three floors of the San Michele building. On the fourth floor were the offices and classrooms of the architects, on the third floor the scientific section and the library, and on the second floor the administration and the office of the director. This closeness allowed for a perfect symbiosis of the programmes. The library was practically next-door, so it was visited frequently for study and even for meetings under the discreet and benevolent eyes of the

librarian. The length of the regular courses was about six months and included free periods for bibliographic research. This opportunity for participants to use our resources was greatly appreciated. The same lecturers often returned each year and they always came by to say 'hello' and to chat with me. I remember especially Hans Foramitti, the 'pope' of photogrammetry together with Maurice Carbonell; the architect Patrick Faulkner who walked with a stick, appearing to be very fragile, but still capable of fearlessly climbing ladders; Giovanni Massari who explained the phenomenon of condensation on walls by showing a daring but convincing image of a couple in a car; Robert Organ who showed us how to protect objects in glass exhibition cases from light by the simple method of using a rubber band to open and close the protective shade; and so many others whose memories I cherish.

We knew all of the Council Members and most of the delegates to the General Assembly. Some of them had been ICCROM course participants, such as my dear friends Antonio Almagro, Nicholas Cholevas and Yaacov Schaffer. Among all our eminent councillors, how could I forget gentlemen like T. Iwasaki, Paul Perrot, the princely Maurice Chehab, Johann Lodewijks, and a great lady like Agnes Ballestrem? I am honoured to have met people who combined intelligence with charm.

Then, in the 1980s, conservation started to change. There was an explosion of institutions, courses, professionals and publications, and everything became bigger and larger. From conservation of buildings we progressed to urban conservation, from conservation of objects to that of their environment, and the concept of integrated conservation appeared. Multiplication of contacts and frequent changes of management weakened personal ties between staff and national institutions. The world was moving faster and ICCROM had to adapt. I also adapted, but I often miss the friendships and appreciations that were created by that continuity of positions and contacts.

How can I conclude these thoughts of my years at ICCROM? I was very lucky. I had the privilege of meeting eminent professionals and working with excellent colleagues who, in spite of difficulties, always worked with enthusiasm for ICCROM and the cause of conservation. One of my colleagues had the habit of saying 'It's for the house!' And well, I sincerely believe that we all worked for this house and that my colleagues will continue to do so.

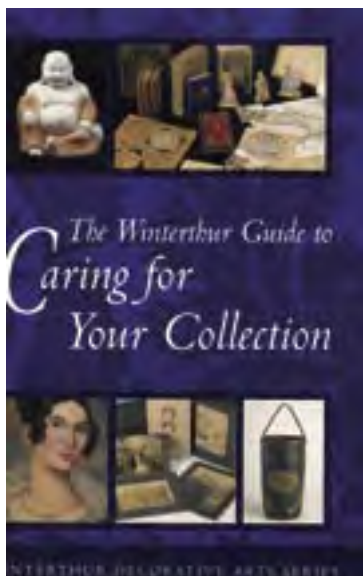
Marie-Christine Uginet was librarian at ICCROM from 1972 until her retirement in late 2004. Conservation has changed much during that period, but ICCROM's library has remained one of its greatest resources, thanks to Marie-Christine's dedication to building it up and to providing a service to its users. We asked her to take a personal look back at her time with the organization.



ICCROM ARCHIVE

ICCROM's librarian in the 70s

## ICCROM library: selected new acquisitions



### Archaeology

*II congreso internacional sobre musealización de yacimientos arqueológicos: nuevos conceptos y estrategias de gestión y comunicación, Barcelona*, eds. Julia Beltrán de Heredia and Isabel Fernández del Moral (Barcelona: Museu d'història de la ciutat, 2003). ISBN 84-93-2113-8-9. What criteria should govern which archaeological objects are conserved *in situ*, which are placed within a museum setting, and which are simply documented and studied? How should archaeological remains be developed, enhanced, interpreted and communicated to society at large? The papers on this subject, presented at an international conference organized by the *Institut de Cultura: Museu d'Història de la Ciutat de Barcelona*, are divided into four sections: presentation models, criteria and museum instruments; management of site museums and interpretive centers; new technologies for museum presentation of archaeological remains; and the wider public in relation to archaeological excavations.

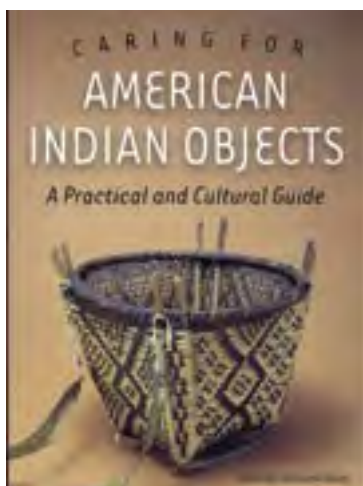


### Architecture

*Levantamiento arquitectónico*, Antonio Almagro Gorbea (Granada: Universidad de Granada, 2004). ISBN 84-338-3190-9. This book provides a conceptual and methodological overview of the meaning and uses of architectural surveys, along with practical considerations. Architectural surveying is presented as a necessary element of any restoration plan, its basic premise being that thorough analysis is required to understand a building in-depth and to ensure that any future interventions will effectively preserve all its historical meaning. The work is richly illustrated with numerous surveys of architectural elements in the Alhambra and in the city of Granada.

### Building materials

*Stone, brick and mortar: historical use, decay and conservation of building materials in Ireland*, Sara Pavia and Jason Bolton (Co. Wicklow: Wordwell, 2000). ISBN 1-8698-573-21. This book illustrates the historical use, decay and conservation of stone, brick and mortar, and combines modern scientific research with discussion of ancient history and tradition from the Stone Age to the present. Though the focus is on Irish built heritage, other places and traditions in Europe and the Mediterranean region are also considered. Abundant colour illustrations give examples of these building materials, along with their commonly encountered conservation problems.



*Échanges transdisciplinaires sur les constructions en terre crue, 1: terre modelée, découpée ou coffrée, matériaux et modes de mise en oeuvre. Actes de la table-ronde, Montpellier 17-18 novembre 2001*, eds. Claire-Anne de Chazelles and Alain Klein (Montpellier: Éditions de l'Espérou, 2004). The papers included in this round-table on earth architecture, which treats both archaeological and modern earth constructions, are grouped around the following themes: micromorphological analysis and study; objects for daily use; archaeological and ethnographic examples of moulded and non-moulded modular elements; and the diversity of large-scale earth constructions.

### Collections care

*The Winterthur guide to caring for your collection*, Gregory Landrey, Kate Duffy and Janice Carlson (Winterthur, Delaware: Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum, 2000). ISBN 0-912724-52-8. This practical book provides solutions for the layperson to commonly encountered problems in caring for and preserving treasured objects: what to do and, as important, what not to do. Written by conservators and museum professionals for a general audience, it contains concise and easy-to-follow instructions on the care of books and paper materials, organic objects, ceramics, glass, textiles, photographs, metal objects, artworks with paper support, paintings, furniture, and gilded frames. Also included is a section explaining non-destructive and destructive analytical methods commonly used by museum scientists, including X-ray fluorescence, X-radiography, Fourier Transform Infrared Microspectroscopy (FTIR) and chromatography.

*Caring for American Indian objects: a practical and cultural guide*, ed. Sherelyn Ogden (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2004). ISBN 0-87351-505-6. This guide juxtaposes tribal cultural practices with standard museum best practices in the treatment of American Indian objects, with a view towards slowing their deterioration while handling them in culturally appropriate and respectful ways. After discussion of cultural considerations and general preservation considerations, the book elaborates specific actions for the preservation of materials such as skin, bone, antler, quills, feathers, glass beads, ceramics, and many more. Appendices treat special issues in managing collections of American Indian objects, including accession numbering, storage, and disinfestation through freezing.



*Le chantier des collections du Musée du Quai Branly: conservation préventive à l'échelle d'une collection nationale. Organisation, fonctionnement et protocoles de traitement des ateliers*, ed. Christiane Naffah (Paris: Musée du quai Branly, 2004). ISBN 2-915133-06-9. In this informative book, the Musée du Quai Branly sets out procedures and protocols developed for the processing and care of its collections of African and Oceanic art objects, whether destined for exhibition or for storage. A 'treatment chain' of preventive conservation measures is described, including cleaning, analysis and condition assessment, imaging, and anoxic disinfestation, along with parallel systems for registration and object tracking. The book provides graphical explanatory flowcharts illustrating the chain of procedures, along with photographs of various conservation interventions.

#### Disaster prevention and recovery

*Danni causati dall'acqua negli archivi: che fare? Misure preventive e misure urgenti*, Guido Voser (Bern: Swiss Federal Office for Cultural Property Protection, Guidelines 1, 2003). This is the first volume in a series of monographs from the Swiss Federal Office for Cultural Property Protection. It discusses steps to protect archives from flood damage, along with recovery measures to implement after flooding has taken place. Topics covered include: evaluating a repository for flood risk, types of water damage to archive materials, drying methods, further treatments and security considerations.

*Can we learn from the heritage lost in a fire? Experiences and practises on the fire protection of historic buildings in Finland, Norway and Sweden*, Museovirasto museiverket (Helsinki: National Board of Antiquities, 2004). ISBN 951-616-115-4. The prevalence of historic wooden architecture in northern Scandinavia poses an increased fire risk to built heritage in those countries. At three seminars held in 2003, heritage professionals from Finland, Norway and Sweden shared their experience and knowledge on the topic of fires and fire protection. Their conclusions are presented in this publication, which covers three main themes: case studies of fires in historic buildings; principles of fire protection; and actions to be taken after a fire.

#### Library and archive

*The strategic stewardship of cultural resources: to preserve and protect*, ed. Andrea T. Merrill

(Binghamton, NY: Haworth Information Press, 2003). ISBN 0-8444-1060-8. These selected papers from a symposium held at the Library of Congress, Washington DC in October of 2000 discuss the challenges libraries and archives face in protecting and safeguarding their resources from theft, mutilation, disaster, environmental risks and other dangers, and explore the links between the physical safety of library and archival materials and the preservation of cultural heritage as a whole.

#### Organic materials

*Le triptyque aztèque de la Crucifixion*, eds. Catherine Marquet, Chantal Bor and Geneviève Rudolf (Paris: Éditions de la Réunion des musées nationaux, 2004). ISBN 2-7118-4798-5. The book recounts the history, provenance, rediscovery and restoration of a sixteenth century Mexican Crucifixion triptych currently at the Musée national de la Renaissance, made using the pre-Columbian technique of feather tapestry. The book also provides a historical overview of the technique, its Aztec practitioners, and different examples of the style, along with a section devoted to scientific analysis of the triptych and the interventions employed in its restoration.

#### Painting

*Ölfarben-Oberflächenreinigung: die Reinigung von Ölfarbenoberflächen und ihre Überprüfung durch das Raster-Elektronen-Mikroskop, das Niederdruck-Raster-Elektronen-Mikroskop, die Laser-Profilometrie und die 3D-Messung im Streifenprojektionsverfahren*, Paul-Bernhard Eipper *et al.* (Munich: Christian Müller-Straten, 2004). ISBN 932704-76-2. This publication surveys different groups of surfactants commonly employed in the cleaning of paint surfaces, and tests the results through a variety of analytic techniques which establish the sensitivity of oil-based paint surfaces to aqueous cleaning. Modifications to aqueous cleaning solutions and methods to render them less harmful are presented, along with discussion of a transportable optical 3-D measuring technology based on micromirrors.

*Le plafond de Mercure: salon des Nobles de la reine: histoire d'une restauration*, Château de Versailles, ed. Alain Metternich (Paris: Coédition Connaissance des arts/Paribas, 2003). This work details the 2002-2003 restoration of Michel Corneille's Mercury ceiling, composed of painted panels set into the stucco ceiling of the Salon des



Nobles of the Château de Versailles: a restoration that was judged necessary after the modern recreation of the salon's original furnishings. After a historical overview and interpretation of the paintings and their iconography, chapters describe in detail the restoration project, along with the scientific analysis that informed the selection of the interventions.

#### Religious heritage

*Patrimônio restaurado: Matriz de Santo Antônio, Santa Bárbara, Minas Gerais (1997-2003)*, ed. Rosângela Reis Costa (Santa Bárbara: Associação dos Amigos de Santa Bárbara, 2003). ISBN 85-87728-20-2. The restoration project on this eighteenth century church is described in this book. The church is a gem of the Minas Rococo style and contains painted panels by Manuel da Costa Ataíde, and richly gilded polychrome wood sculptures and altarpieces. Along with extensive colour illustrations, it includes tables detailing the conservation problems encountered and interventions undertaken, along with the project costs and financial contributions that made the restoration possible.

*Tradition and change: proceedings of the national conference on the heritage conservation of religious property, Manly, NSW, Australia, 3-6 September 1998*, ed. Elizabeth Broomhead (Parramatta: New South Wales Heritage Office, 2000). The papers presented at this conference, intended to increase awareness of the range of religious heritage along with problems in its maintenance, conservation and interpretation, discuss issues of community in relation to religious heritage; religious property and local government; church history and culture; the unique problems associated with movable religious heritage; adaptive re-use of religious buildings; and the ramifications of changing liturgical practice.

*Dom im Licht-Licht im Dom: vom Umgang mit Licht in Sakralbauten in Geschichte und Gegenwart* (Regensburg: Schnell & Steiner, 2004). ISBN 3-7954-1644-2. The illumination of the façades and interior spaces of church buildings and other religious monuments is the topic of this conference, which took place in Regensburg in March 2003. The papers handle themes in the planning and implementation of artificial illumination for religious architecture, ranging from historical, liturgical and aesthetic considerations to current technical limitations.

#### Rock art

*African rock art: paintings and engravings on stone*, David Coulson and Alec Campbell (New York: Harry N. Abrams Inc., 2001). ISBN 0-8109-436308. This book is the first comprehensive illustrated book devoted to the rock art of Africa. It presents a new awareness of rock art's importance to world heritage. Chapters discuss rock art in the different regions of Africa, dating methods, current research and interpretation, and conservation problems and dangers confronting rock art in the modern era.

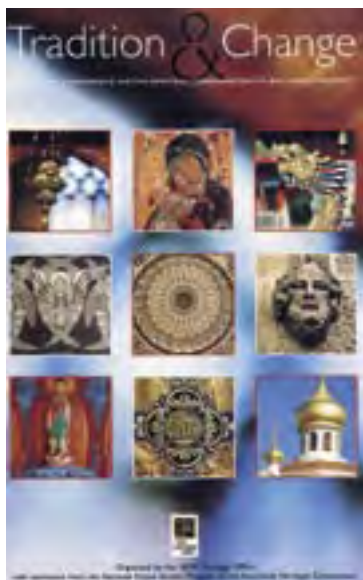
#### Sculpture

*Schinkels Pantheon: die Statuen der Rotunde im Altes Museum*, Wolf-Dieter Heilmeyer, Huberta Heres and Wolfgang Maßmann (Mainz am Rhein: Philipp von Zabern, 2004). ISBN 3-8053-32255-6. The book details the twentieth century restoration of the statues located in the famed Neoclassical rotunda of Berlin's Altes Museum am Lustgarten, designed by Karl Friedrich Schinkel. Chapters describing past interventions on these statues in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries show how these past interventions influenced and affected the modern restorations, and give insight into the history of conservation practice.

*Die historische Kirchenkrippe im Oberammergau Museum: Geschichte und Restaurierung*, ed. Wolfgang Stähler (Munich: Deutscher Kunstverlag, 2004). ISBN 3-422-06441-9. The articles in this volume cover the history and restoration of polychrome wooden crèche figures at the Oberammergau Museum. After discussion of the historical development and social practices surrounding crèches in Bavarian churches and cloisters, the articles deal with the principles guiding conservation of the sculptural figures; their examination through microscopy, ultraviolet fluorescence and X-ray radiography; and textile conservation of their clothing.

#### Special topics

*Vergänglichkeit erhalten?* (Bern: Swiss Federal Office of Culture, 2004). ISSN 1660-6523. Funerary architecture is the subject of this first monographic on historic monuments, from the Swiss Federal Office of Culture. The papers, from a conference in Lucerne in 2001, cover the historical background and interpretation of social practices surrounding death and interment, studies of cemetery conservation, grave site inventorying and management, and philosophical, sociological and aesthetic considerations.



*Kunststoffe in der Kunst: eine Studie unter konservatorischen Gesichtspunkten*, Friederike Waenting (Petersberg: Michael Imhof, 2004). ISBN 3-937251-46-4. This work discusses the conservation issues presented by artworks and design objects made of plastics. These non-traditional and relatively unstable materials pose special conservation considerations that have rarely been considered by museum professionals. After a historical overview and discussion of the cultural context and meaning of plastics, the book discusses the chemical processes governing their creation and decay, and factors to consider for the long-term conservation of plastic objects.

*Le stuc, visage oublié de l'art médiéval: catalogue de l'exposition, Poitiers, 16 septembre 2004-16 janvier 2005* (Paris: Somogy Éditions d'art, 2004). ISBN 2850567809. The catalogue of this exhibition, centred on fragments of a spectacular sixteenth-century stucco decoration found at the church of Saint-Pierre de Vouneuil-sous-Biard, assembles examples of medieval stucco work from France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Croatia and Spain. Stucco work is portrayed as a forgotten but important European decorative tradition, combining elements of sculpture and painting, that was widely practised throughout the Middle Ages. A final chapter deals with restoration of the Poitou stucco fragments.

### Textiles

*Strengthening the bond: science and textiles. Preprints of the North American Textile Conservation Conference 2002, Philadelphia, April 5 and 6, 2002*, ed. Virginia J. Whelan (Philadelphia: Philadelphia Museum of Art, 2002). These preprints focus on the interdisciplinary collaborations necessary to any successful programme of textile conservation. The intersection between science and art conservation is considered in all its aspects, including age and process determination, materials analysis, and cleaning considerations. Papers treat topics such as the effects of iron gall on textile fibres; removal of soil from Flemish tapestries; collaborative procedures developed to wet-clean the Ardabil carpet; and salt movement in Egyptian archaeological linen.

*Asian embroidery*, ed. Jasleen Dhamija (New Delhi: Abhinav Publications, 2004). ISBN 81701774503. This publication, the product of an international seminar held by the Crafts Council of India, presents papers discussing the cultural meaning of embroidery traditions and

their historical perspective, and documenting the varied embroidery styles found in the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia and Southeast Asia. Abundant colour illustrations show traditional practitioners at work, revealing how embroidered textiles are worn as part of social practices, ceremonies and celebrations.

### Theory and history of restoration

*Victor Hugo et le débat patrimonial: actes du colloque, Paris, 5-6 décembre 2002*, eds. Gennaro Toscano and Fabien Jamois (Paris: Somogy Éditions d'art, 2003). ISBN 2-85056-709-4. This conference volume on the bicentennial of Victor Hugo's birth provides an in-depth exploration of his ideas on cultural property, conservation and restoration, and their influence on current ideas concerning heritage. Papers focus on Hugo's role in the development of a new heritage ethic; the importance of travel in Hugo's ideas on heritage preservation; and the history of the debate on patrimony from the nineteenth century to the present day.

*¿Credibilidad o veracidad? La autenticidad: un valor de los bienes culturales*, Division of Cultural Heritage, UNESCO (Lima: UNESCO, 2004). ISBN 9972-841-04-9. The debate on authenticity was the subject of a workshop organized by UNESCO in Cajamarca, Peru in October 2003. Experiences and criteria in judging authenticity in the context of different cultures and periods are shared, and their relevance explored in the choice of interventions on cultural properties, both movable and immovable. The papers include case studies of Peruvian projects such as archaeological site preservation of the Kuntur Wasi temple, and the conservation of a polychrome earthen wall at Huacas de Moche.

### Traditional techniques

*Crafts in the English countryside: towards a future*, ed. E. J. T. Collins (Wetherby: Countryside Agency Publications, 2004). ISBN 0-86170-689-7. This study assesses the current position and prospects of traditional rural crafts in Britain, with a view towards creating policies to ensure the future sustainability of these endangered traditional techniques. Separate sections deal with horse-breeding, wheelwrighting, ironworking, greenwood crafts, pole-lathes, basketry, the maintenance and restoration of historic gardens, milling and millwrighting, and heritage building crafts such as dry-stone walling, thatching, and flintwork.



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