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### **EDITORIAL**

 GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADDRESS 14th Session Rome, 5-7 May, 1986 Cevat Erder

Since 1959, ICCROM has had the privilege of basing its headquarters in the Eternal City, thus enjoying the hospitality and support of the Italian Government and people. Italy's activity in promoting international cooperation in the field of conservation of cultural property is a well-established tradition. Let us recall that Italy has always been present in setting up the activities of organizations such as ICOM and ICOMOS, as well as of other professional organizations. But we would like to acknowledge Italy's special generosity towards ICCROM. From the time of its creation, the organization has been able to rely on the services of the various specialized Italian scientific institutes and has thus been better able to carry out its specific mandate.

In 1959, ICCROM counted only nine Member States. Today, it has 72 Member States, as well as 64 Associate Members, including both public and private institutions in charge of conservation and conservation training all over the world.

Suriname, Barbados and the Côte-d'Ivoire are the most recent countries to have joined our organization. Let us welcome their representatives today. We are sure that the participation and contribution of these new Member States will improve ICCROM's potential to assist all those who are dedicated to the preservation of the national and international cultural heritage.

ICCROM's growth over the years has shown that the people who worked and voted to fund the establishment of the organization in 1956 at New Delhi were not dreamers and that governments all over the world have come to realize that conservation is worthy of consideration and investment. Let us add right away that this realization has been the result, not of a passing trend but, alas, the fruit of bitter experience of escalating deterioration.

May this occasion serve to renew our belief in the validity of our efforts to fight this deterioration of the world cultural heritage, which entails the disappearance of the meaning of our past. May it also provide the opportunity to pause to ponder our achievements and frustrations in an attempt to understand the basic difficulties that hinder our good will and efforts.

In the last generation, the evolution of world events has made it increasingly difficult for us to attain the goals stated in our Statutes, but we have tried to remain faithful to our basic objectives. Let me mention a few of these events.

 First of all there is the growth of the world population, which has almost doubled since the idea originated of establishing an International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property. This population growth has entailed the voluntary or involuntary destruction of our heritage through increased urbanization and pollution, leading in turn to

- rapid awareness of the need to preserve the remaining limited stock.
- 2. Despite progress in science which has contributed to the "ways and means" of conservation, the uneven distribution and availability of scientific knowledge and new technologies has been increasingly felt. But on the other side of the coin, the heedless application of miraculous products such as portland cement or synthetic resins has often created more problems than it has solved.
- 3. Finally, industrialization has led to the loss of traditional skills and techniques and has created a new generation who have forgotten the lessons of the past.

To face this alarming situation of rapidly disappearing cultural patrimony, efforts are being made both at the national level (with the creation of conservation centres in many countries) and at the international level (with the involvement of organizations such as Unesco, ICOM, ICOMOS, and ICCROM). But these efforts, which were already hard pressed by the demands placed on them in the past, are being eroded ever more today by the drastic reduction of funds available for culture in general.

You are all aware that our mandate is to collect, study and circulate documentation concerned with scientific and technical problems of the conservation of cultural property, to coordinate conservation research and training dealing with archaelogical sites, historic centres, libraries and archives, museums and monuments. But it is essential to note here that ICCROM is serving 72 countries – with a total staff of 25 people. You can imagine the enormous gap that is arising between Member State requests and ICCROM's ability to respond. Naturally, priorities had to be defined, and we decided to concentrate on documentation and training.

The importance of the stress laid on training is obvious to all of us. Over the past years, there has been a general increase of involvement with training programmes. The Working Group on Training of the ICOM Conservation Committee is meeting more frequently than in the past. ICOMOS set up its own Committee on Training in 1984. Last year, three important meetings on training were held. The first was organized in Japan by the Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties; the second was held in Bogota by the UNDP Regional Centre of Lima; and the third in Paris by the Unesco Cultural Heritage Division. ICCROM was very pleased to take an active part in all three gatherings.

During this past biennium, ICCROM has been working on developing its own traditional courses and is also creating others. We have promoted on-site training in Latin America, Africa, South and Southeast Asia, thus reaching a greater number of national staff and comprehending and answering local needs more accurately. In 1986-87, an eleven-month training course for museum conservation staff of African countries will help to set up a network of professionals who could in turn train others at the national



ICCROM's director, Cevat Erder, addresses the General Assembly. At right: C. Taliani, V. Dragut, R. Tamiozzo, F. Sisinni.

level, thus ultimately improving the situation of conservation of the African patrimony.

At this point, we should like to express our gratitude to the numerous people who have lent support to our activities. May a special message of thanks go to Philip Ravenhill of the International African Institute of Abidjan – who has promoted ICCROM activities in Africa, Colin Pearson – who has been active in the Pacific area, O.P. Agrawal – who has worked tirelessly in Southeast Asia, and Sylvio Mutal, Chief Technical Adviser and Regional Coordinator of Unesco and UNDP in Lima – who has promoted ICCROM's activities in Latin America, also launching the distribution of the Spanish edition of our "Newsletter" to conservation colleagues and institutions in that region.

On the organizational level, we have continued in numerous activities with our old friends – the Division of Cultural Heritage of Unesco, ICOM, and ICOMOS – and are also embarking on various promising joint ventures with the Getty Conservation Institute. Their involvement will provide a welcome impetus in the conservation scene.

Nevertheless, our efforts will not take root if the Member States do not establish long-term cultural heritage conservation programmes, channelling available resources for development toward the benefit of the most vulnerable areas and the most effective actions.

It is evident that the policies most likely to generate motivation and trust must be developed and implemented primarily in the national context. If these policies are not well formulated, they will continue being ineffective and costly, and require endless outside support. Careful long-term planning is the only way to protect national resources, to promote national awareness, and to deal with the many problems of a specialized nature that are due to local environmental and technological change. This will also provide scientific and technical grounds where ICCROM could play a more effective role.

In the last 27 years, as the number of our Member States has grown, so too has the level of their involvement and the kinds or response they expect from us. ICCROM has closely followed these developments and has adjusted its course of action to reflect more accurately the aims set forth in its Statutes. ICCROM is committed to remaining a forum for consultation and debate on almost every aspect of our field of interest, and for diffusion of knowledge through courses, conferences and technical assistance.

We are still small enough to avoid the complexities of bureaucracy, yet we also have a wide range of experience and expertise. This gives us the potential to be an essential partner in gathering and providing the information needed by governments or organizations in the development of their conservation sectors and policies.

This accumulated experience and expertise has also shown us that much remains to be done. As we now face many demanding assignments, we are confident and convinced that *your* interest and increasing participation will support the healthy growth of ICCROM and enable us to cope with the dramatically escalating problems of conservation of the cultural heritage.

## **ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION**

#### **MEMBER STATES**

We are pleased to announce that three new countries have become Member States of ICCROM, bringing the total number to 75 by the end of the year. They are the People's Republic of Benin, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Ireland.

#### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

The following institutions were accepted as Associate Members in 1986:

- Centraal Laboratorium voor Anderzoek van Voorwerpen van Kunst en Wetenschap, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- CIDAV (Centro Internacional de Documentación Audiovisual), Caracas, Venezuela.
- INTACH Conservation Centre, Lucknow, India.
- Getty Conservation Institute, Marina del Rey, CA, U.S.A.
- National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, Washington, DC, U.S.A.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The 14th General Assembly was held in Rome from 5-7 May 1986. Delegates from 46 Member States attended, together with observers from the International Council of Museums (ICOM), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Istituto Centrale del Restauro (ICR), the Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique (IRPA), UNDP/Unesco, and numerous Associate Members.

The session was inaugurated with speeches by Cevat Erder, Director of ICCROM; Raffaele Tamiozzo, Chief of Cabinet, Italian Ministry for Cultural and Environmental Heritage; H.E. Minister Corrado Taliani, Director-General of Cultural Relations, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Ludovico Gatto, Councillor for Cultural Affairs, Council of Rome.

A.C. da Silva Telles (Brazil) was elected President of the Assembly, while the Vice-Presidents were Sid Ahmed

Baghli (Algeria), L. Masschelein-Kleiner (Belgium) and L. Rasamimanana (Madagascar).

ICCROM awards for outstanding contributions to conservation were presented to Tomokichi Iwasaki and Garry Thomson.

The business sessions of the Assembly offered a review of the past two years' activities, including presentations by staff members on work done in their sections. The budget was carefully scrutinized to deal with the combined effects of lower assessments and the shrinking dollar. Some overall trimming has been necessary, but the major thrust of ICCROM's programme remains intact. To meet future needs, extrabudgetary sources of income will be actively explored.

The Assembly also provided a forum for delegates to speak about conservation activities and needs in their own countries or regions, and a number of important presentations were made on this subject.

There were also several less formal events during the three days, including a buffet luncheon offered by ICCROM and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a gathering of scientists and technicians in the magnificent courtyard of Villa Giulia, offered by ICCROM and the Archaeological Superintendence for Southern Etruria. An excursion took delegates to an exhibition on biodeterioration of library and archive materials (prepared jointly by ICCROM and several local institutions), a special presentation on the cleaning of the Sistine Chapel, and a luncheon at Ostia Antica, followed by a technical visit to the site. We are grateful to all the organizations and individuals who facilitated these events.

The 1986/87 Council was elected as follows: Om Prakash Agrawal (India); Antonio Almagro Gorbea (Spain); Camille Asmar (Lebanon); Helmut Bansa (Federal Republic of Germany); Demos Christou (Cyprus); Jean Coural (France); Abdelaziz Daoulatli (Tunisia); Vasile Dragut (Romania); Abd Alla Abdel Hamid El Attar (Egypt); Abdelmalek Fizazi (Morocco); Nobuo Ito (Japan); Tae Young Lee (Republic of Korea); Tomislav Marasovic (Yugoslavia); Liliane Masschelein-Kleiner (Belgium); Colin Pearson (Australia); Paul N. Perrot (U.S.A.); Darío A. Rodriguez-Ramirez (Colombia); Augusto da Silva Telles (Brazil); Ste-





The excursion ended at Ostia Antica, where Superintendent Valnea Scrinari (standing, second from right) and her staff discussed conservation problems with delegates.

phan Tschudi-Madsen (Norway); Blanche Weicherding Goergen (Luxembourg).

The Council subsequently unanimously elected P. Perrot as Chairman, V. Dragut and L. Masschelein-Kleiner as Vice-Chairmen. We should like to take the opportunity here to thank the outgoing Chairman, Johan Lodewijks, for his many years of devoted and informed guidance, which have been of invaluable benefit to ICCROM.

#### **PREMISES**

Following consultations with the Director General, Prof. Sisinni, the restoration of the premises assigned to ICCROM in San Michele in Rome, has continued. The major structural consolidation is completed, the last floor structures are nearing completion, the main staircase in the corner near Via di San Michele is under construction, and the working schedule includes installation of a heating plant and other utilities in a new area under the courtyard. The restoration will continue with the southern wing, including the Conference Hall on the ground floor; it will begin from the Via di San Michele side and proceed towards the Lungotevere in order to facilitate the future installation of ICCROM in the restored premises.

#### **PERSONNEL**

ICCROM welcomes new staff members:

Pietro Baldi, who was employed on 1 November as Driver and for general services duties (mail, customs clearance, etc.).

Eftichia Greenway, who has joined us to act as Public Relations Officer/Press Attaché.

Maria Valys, who was employed on 1 June as Secretary for Technical Assistance and Coordination of Training Programmes in Conservation of Cultural Property on a two year fixed-term contract.

#### Departures

Elena Charola, employed as Associate Scientist, left ICCROM on 1 December. Her services were retained for 1987 under a consultancy agreement.

Susanne Peters, employed as Documentalist responsible for the organization of the office for the Coordination of Training Programmes in Conservation of Cultural Property, resigned and left ICCROM on 30 June.

Nicholas Stanley Price, employed as Assistant Coordinator to the Scientific Principles of Conservation Course, left ICCROM on 31 December at the end of a two-year fixed-term contract.

Giorgio Torraca, Deputy Director, left ICCROM on 8 May to return to his post at Rome University upon termination of his leave of absence. His services were retained under a consultancy agreement.

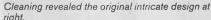


T. Iwasaki (above) and G. Thomson receive ICCROM awards.



### **VIEWPOINTS**







Paul Schwartzbaum and Isam Awwad inspect the work at close range.



The restored dome.

# THE RESTORATION OF AL-AQSA MOSQUE

The project for restoration of the dome of al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem received special recognition this year as it was granted one of the six Aga Khan Awards for Architecture. At presentation ceremonies in Marrakesh, Morocco, the following were honoured: Arch. Isam Awwad (JOR – Resident Architect of the al-Aqsa Restoration Committee), Sheikh Mohammad M'Hilan (JOR), Chief of Qadis, Chairman of the al-Aqsa Restoration Committee, Cevat Erder, Sir Bernard Feilden and Paul M. Schwartzbaum (ICCROM project coordinator).

The citation accompanying the Award is given below.

#### Citation

The Award is made for the high quality of the conservation work on this Mosque and in the Haram al-Sharif generally. Until recently the state of this, one of the three most important monuments of Islam, was a sorry one. Extensive alterations took place in the 1950s and 1960s in the name of "restoration", which only resulted in the creation of adverse conditions. In particular, the dome of the mosque was reconstructed in concrete and recovered with anodised aluminium instead of the original ribbed lead sheeting.

Following explosions and fire in the mosque in 1969 which severely damaged the fourteenth-century paintings and the timber construction of the inner dome, together with the aluminium external cladding, the al-Aqsa Mosque and Dome of the Rock Restoration Committee undertook, with the continuous assistance and involvement of ICCROM in Rome, a programme of extensive conservation beginning with the damaged dome and its paintings. From the purely technical point of view – taking into consideration the methodology, analytical precision, structural and constructional features, and criteria related to the

principles of scientific restoration - most of the works

which were done, and which are being done, are of very high quality (including the exterior works, mosaics,

masonry work, windows, etc.). The ribbed outer covering of the dome was replaced in lead to match the original. The restoration of the inner decoration of the dome is exceptional and aesthetically satisfying.

In the course of conservation, it was possible to bring to light the original painted decorations of the dome which were hidden under newer layers and which at the beginning seemed to be irreparably lost. Because of the religious significance of the building, of the repetitive nature of the decoration and of the significance of the calligraphic inscriptions, it was thought necessary to have a complete reconstruction of the paintings on the dome. The wooden inner dome construction was repaired, gaping holes closed with timber cladding, and a relief plaster surface to match the original was added. The missing paintings were executed using the "tratteggio" technique, a complete and exact reconstruction using fine vertical lines to distinguish reconstructed areas from original ones. For this purpose, water colour was employed as the medium.

Parallel to the works in the dome, other restoration works were done and part of these are still continuing. They consist of the consolidation and restoration of inner and outer wall surfaces; the restoration of columns and capitals which were either damaged by fire or ageing or badly restored during earlier works; the restoration of decorated marble panels; the decoration of the ceilings of the naves (mosaics and paintings); the restoration of leaded glass decoration windows; the restoration of marble mosaics; the restoration of pavements. Finally, a work similar to the exterior dome is being done on the pitched roof of the nave, which consists of replacing the aluminium with lead, after stripping the aluminium sheets and removing the heavy concrete roof construction which was introduced during the engineering "restoration" works of the 1950s.

Besides the ambitious restoration works in al-Aqsa Mosque, a series of other restorations have been done or are being done or are programmed within the Haram area.

A full description of the project was published in *Studies in Conservation*, Vol. 30 n. 3 (1985) 129-135. Here follows a brief summary of the work.

#### History of the Project

Since 1979 the painted wooden dome of the al-Aqsa Mosque has been the subject of a series of site investigations and restoration interventions aimed at correcting the disastrous damage suffered in 1969 from a bomb and subsequent fire.

Phase I (1980) of the restoration of the painted decoration was devoted to the consolidation and reattachment of the preparatory layers of plaster and flaking pictorial surface. The preparatory plaster, composed of gypsum and glue, presented serious problems of adhesion between the various layers as well as separation of the whole from the wooden support. The damage had been provoked by the intense heat and the large quantities of water used to extinguish the fire.

During the first phase, all dangerously loose areas were readhered, by the ICCROM team, with injections of a synthetic resin emulsion (polyvinyl acetate) applied with hypodermic syringes. In addition, sections of the wooden structure destroyed during the fire were replaced with original cedars-of-Lebanon planking, recovered from building materials which had been discarded during an earlier restoration in the 1920s. The carpentry work was performed by a group of Dutch wood restorers under the direction of H. Mannetje.

During phase II (1981), the problems of removing the layers of repainting which completely covered the original pictorial surface were confronted. Because of the insolubility of the superimposed layers, it was necessary to resort to the

use of paint-removing compounds. Old stuccoes obscuring original decoration were removed by first swelling and softening in water and then by mechanical action, scalpels.

During the third and final phase (1982-1983), a revision of the consolidation and cleaning was carried out, followed by various interventions of reintegration to effect a uniform aesthetic presentation of the paintings of the dome.

#### State of Preservation at the Start of Phase III

Pictorial Layer: the painted surface was almost completely illegible in some areas, to the extent that it was difficult at times to recognize the individual decorative elements. This was due to the disturbing effect of numerous and extensive lacunae.

Almost all areas showed extensive damage and were judged difficult to recover or to reconstruct. The conserved portions of original colour and gilding were strongly compromised from abrasion, superficial and deep lacunae, and loss of metallic leaf.

The worst state of conservation was encountered in the lower register (where the most extensive decorative motifs are found); the best-preserved areas were towards the top of the dome. Damage was still more serious in the register containing the calligraphic inscription: large areas of the decoration were not original but consisted of layers of cloth glued directly to the wooden support. Removal of these later repairs subsequently necessitated the reconstruction of more than 60% of the painted surface in this section.



Marrakesh: presentation of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. From left: C. Erder, H.R.H. Crown Prince Hassan Ibn Talal (Jordan), H.R.H. Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed (Morocco), and H.H. The Aga Khan.

### **VIEWPOINTS**

#### **Restoration Interventions**

The conservation treatments enacted in Phase III consisted of the following:

- a. completion of the cleaning and removal of previous repaintings;
- consolidation of any portions of the preparation that still remained detached from the support;
- repair of any missing areas of decoration in relief, in the lacunae of the damaged original areas, or in areas to be completely reconstructed;
- d. reintegration of damaged areas and presentation of the ensemble.

#### A) Removal of the repaintings

After the first preliminary cleaning undertaken by the local team, surface repaintings were still present. Further cleaning was carried out according to the system described for phase II above.

#### B) Consolidation

Because of the continuous natural movements of the supporting wooden structure and its deteriorated condition, new areas of detachment could occur. Therefore a survey of the entire decorated dome was undertaken and any detached areas were readhered with injections of polyvinyl acetate emulsion.

#### C) Repair of missing areas of decoration

Plastering of lost areas was carried out by the local team after further cleaning and the removal of the old stuccoes were completed. The missing parts were reconstructed, the reliefs remodelled and small and large lacunae were filled.

Destroyed areas of preparation were restuccoed, employing a technique analogous to the original one:

- covering the bare cedars-of-Lebanon wood surface with palm fibre to cover joins and irregularities;
- application of a "scratch coat" of gypsum plaster upon which was drawn the preparatory drawing or sinopia;
- insertion of brass screws to act as a mechanical key for attachment of areas in relief;
- sculpting of relief decoration.

In addition, other lacunae of minor dimensions were filled and areas of the reconstructed reliefs were gilded with pure gold leaf.

D) Reintegration of damaged areas and the aesthetic presentation of the ensemble

Pictorial reintegration was necessitated by the fact that



Detail of restoration.

the conserved portions of original colour and gilding were greatly damaged and almost illegible. Given the religious significance of the building and the repetitive nature of the decoration, it was deemed necessary and feasible in this case to reconstruct the damaged paintings, using the "tratteggio" technique. A protective coating of Paraloid B72 solution dissolved in lacquer thinner completed the treatment.

The conservation and restoration of the 150 m² of the painted dome were completed in mid-September of 1983. All phases of the work were organized and coordinated by Paul Schwartzbaum, in collaboration with a local team of personnel under the supervision of Isam Awwad. Funding for the entire project was provided by the al-Aqsa Restoration Committee, formerly chaired by Sheik Ibrahim Kattan

Our thanks to the following ICCROM team members, who were highly instrumental in the success of the project:

September-December 1979 and 1981: Laura Spada (leader), Franco Adamo, Sandro Di Giambattista, George Farrugia, Gabriella Jolles, Niccolo Leto, Carmelo Scandurra.

July-September 1982: Giuseppina Fazio (leader); Peter Chamberlain (gilder); Sebastiano D'Alessandro; Gabriella Jolles; Marie-Jo Mano (ICCROM).

September-December 1982; April-June 1983: Nino D'Alessandro; Rodolfo Luján.

Reintegration of the lower portions of the dome and final control of the presentation of the entire dome were undertaken from *July-September 1983*: Carlo Giantomassi (leader); Mario Pulieri; Donatella and Paola Zari.

The local team included the following: Jehad Nammar (Asst. Resident Architect); Adel Ja'bari (MUR84); Nader Ishtayeh; Ya'akob Khafrawi; Sheif Soumera; Yehya Syam.

With the aim of deepening our knowledge of the original techniques of execution and materials used, a thorough chemical and stratigraphic analysis of the pigments and preparatory layers was conducted by Dr Lorenzo Lazzarini, geologist, Laboratory of the Superintendence of Monuments, Venice.

### **COURSES**

#### TRAINING AT ICCROM

#### Architectural Conservation - ARC86

The course was held this year from 8 January to 6 June. Participants (20) and observers (8) included architects, planners, engineers, archaeologists and art historians from 21 countries.

Both course structure and content underwent significant development in 1986. Changes in the general organization led to a more effective use of time and a greater variety of course activity. In particular, more emphasis was given to the participants' presentations of their own work, to seminar discussions, and to the independent study project.

In terms of content, certain specific goals were achieved through the choice of lecturers, the input of course staff, and allocation of time. These included more attention to general heritage recording in the section dealing with historic structures; an overall strengthening of the technology section through increased emphasis on laboratory sessions; the inclusion of new lecturers on topics such as earthquakes, earthen construction and rehabilitation technology; and the development of issues such as the role of craftsmanship in conservation, industrial archaeology and the economics of rehabilitation.

These changes have had several results, including a better relationship between theory and practice and a general improvement in the technical foundation of the curriculum. Structural changes have also led to a more active contribution on the part of course participants and an increased level of professional interchange.

The course is coordinated by Jukka Jokilehto and Alejandro Alva, who also contribute as principal lecturers in some weeks of the programme. Laboratory work is coordinated and taught by Jeanne Marie Teutonico (USA-ARC82), while Roberto Marta (ITA) organizes the course visits.

#### Rome University Architectural Conservation Course

The regular two-year programme of the Scuola di Specializzazione per lo Studio ed il Restauro dei Monumenti was again conducted on the premises of ICCROM in 1986. As before, this course drew an international group of participants, with 10 foreigners among the 37 trainees accepted for the 1986-87 session. The programme was coordinated by Prof. Stefano Marani with the assistance of Franca lolle and Bruno Menichelli.

The school is now directed by Prof. Gaetano Miarelli Mariani, who took over in December 1986, upon the retirement of Prof. Renato Bonelli.

(J.J.

#### Conservation of Mural Paintings - MUR86

The course was held from 11 February to 6 June under the direction of Paolo and Laura Mora and in collaboration with the Istituto Centrale del Restauro (ICR). Fourteen participants from thirteen countries attended on a full-time basis and five observers were accepted for limited periods.

The course was bilingual, in English and French, with consecutive interpretation into the other language. The programme was basically similar to that of previous years, and included theoretical lessons, visits and practical worksites. The first three weeks of the course were held jointly with the SPC course; then each group started on its own theoretical lectures in the morning and practical work in the afternoon.

Each participant gave a presentation on his or her own experience in the field of conservation, thus providing some information about the conservation of cultural property in the various countries represented.

Visits and study trips were taken in Rome, Tarquinia, Assisi, Spello, and Pompeii. These visits were supplemented by a five-day study tour in April, designed to give partici-



### **COURSES**



Participants of the SPC course.

pants an overview of the restoration techniques used throughout Italy. Worksites were visited in Florence, Milan, Mantova, and Venice.

Practical work in Rome included conservation of the eighth-century external mural paintings of S. Maria Antiqua in the Roman Forum, and in S. Maria dell'Orto. Work also continued in the Caetani Castle at Sermoneta, where four different worksites were undertaken.

The course assistants in Rome were Mónica Martelli-Castaldi (ECU-SPC82) and Rodolfo Luján (GTM). In Sermoneta they were joined by Heinz Leitner (AUT-MUR78) and Karen Berner (AUT). The course was coordinated by Paul M. Schwartzbaum.

(P.M.S.)

#### Scientific Principles of Conservation - SPC86

The course was held from 11 February to 6 June, with 13 participants from as many countries taking part.

It was in English only, since all participants were Englishspeaking, and followed a similar programme to that of previous years. There were, however, some changes in the course facilities and the teachers. The lecture component of the course took place in a new lecture room created on the first floor of ICCROM, while the practical work continued to be organized in the third floor laboratory.

A number of new lecturers were invited to teach, principally Henry Hodges (CAN) on ceramics and glass; Judith Hofenk de Graaff (NLD) on textiles; Anthony Cains (IRL) on paper; Eva Astrup and Gustav Klem (both NOR) on wood. Additional visits to laboratories in Rome were organized as part of these new sections, including one to the ceramics restoration laboratory of the Museo Nazionale delle Terme and another to the Casanatense Library during the week devoted to paper.

Two study tours outside Rome were arranged, one to the north to laboratories and other restoration centres in Florence, Bologna and Venice, the other south to Naples and Pompeii. In Rome, close cooperation was maintained with the ICR, the Istituto Centrale per la Patologia del Libro (ICPL) and other institutes, while the Museo Pigorini again allowed its galleries to be used in a study exercise by the participants.

The course was coordinated by Giorgio Torraca and Nicholas Stanley Price, with Francine Van Hertsen (FRA-SPC85) as course assistant with particular responsibility for the laboratory.

(N.S.P.)

#### Preventive Conservation in Museums - SEC86

Organized by Gaël de Guichen in collaboration with Marina Regni and Maria Valys, the 12th session of the course took place from 23 September to 10 October. As requested by the participants of previous years, the length of the course was extended to three weeks, which allowed for one additional day of lectures on lighting and two more half days on climate and fire.

The course was given in English this year for 17 participants from 12 countries, including a group of four participants from Zambia, sponsored by the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD).

Problems relating to climate, fire, security and lighting were covered by three lecturers, and visits were made to the Vatican Museums' technical installations, the Archaeological Museum of Chieti and the Ethnographic Collection of the Pigorini Museum. In addition, an excursion was organized to the Etruscan tombs at Tarquinia and Cerveteri. As case studies, the visits compensated for the lack of time during the three-week period to undertake more practical work.

(G.G.)

### Seminar on Teaching Skills and the Use of Teaching Materials

A fourth seminar, led by Robert Ferguson (GBR) of the Institute of Education, University of London, was held from 9-13 June. There were 12 participants, including seven trainees from the 1986 ICCROM courses and five from outside organizations. This course has now reached cruising speed, but future developments will need to be studied, especially in view of the problem of finding lecturers free at this time of year.

#### PREMA 86

ICCROM embarked last autumn on a challenging new course intended for conservation/restoration technicians from sub-Saharan Africa. This project is the fruit of active cooperation with four other organizations, not to mention generous funding from several others.

The 13 course participants are all employees of national museums in their countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Senegal and Togo.

The 11-month course began in September and will run until July 1987. Lectures (30%) and practical work (60%) take place primarily at the L. Pigorini Museum of Prehistory and Ethnography, thanks to the kind collaboration of Francesco Sisinni, Director-General of the Ministry of Cultural Property, Prof. Fausto Zevi, Superintendent for Prehistory and Ethnography, and Alessandra Antinori, Curator of the museum's African Department. The emphasis of the course is on *preventive conservation* (collections management, storage, climate, light, disinfestation, prevention of theft and fire), conservation and restoration of *ethnographic materials*, and introductory *teaching techniques*. ICCROM's library is also available for research work (10%).

Italian language instruction, housing and cultural activities are being provided by Intercultura, an Italian association with long experience in the field of international exchange. The participants live with students from other countries, working in different disciplines.

In addition to fund raising, ICCROM's role is to coordinate the teaching personnel and the course content, in partner-ship with the Maîtrise de Sciences et Techniques (MST) of the University of Paris – Sorbonne, which is providing several lecturers and will award a diploma at the end of the course to participants who successfully complete the programme. Local coordination is supervised by Gaël de Guichen and Catherine Antomarchi (SEC83), together with course assistants Béatrice Coquille (FRA) and Baba Keita (MLI). Another active partner in the enterprise is the International African Institute (IAI), whose representative, Philip Ravenhill, has assisted with the selection of candidates and contacts in Africa.

Financing for the course and participant's expenses has come from the following sources: AGECOOP, the British Council, the European Economic Community, Ford Foundation, the French Ministry of Cooperation, the J. Paul Getty Trust, the Norwegian Ministry for Development (NORAD), the Olfert Dapper Foundation, the Skaggs Foundation, Unesco, and the Union des transports aériens (UTA). We are extremely grateful for their significant and enthusiastic support.

The course is being given this year in French, and a second course in English is planned for 1987/88.

To give an outside perspective on this course, we have asked two of the lecturers to share their impressions.



PREMA 86 (Prévention dans les Musées Africains) course participants at the Pigorini Museum, where they do most of their practical work.

### **COURSES**

"A three term course in theory and practice of organic and inorganic conservation together with the relevant documentation and museology studies is intensive by anyone's standards, but it is a strength of this course that a very large percentage of the teaching is practical. This is only possible through the good offices of the Pigorini Museum which has made available its stored collections for the work of the participants and their supervisors. Teaching has been based on identification of the techniques and materials used in the objects and the recognition of their inherent dangers, followed by basic cleaning and preparation of the pieces for storage. In this way it is hoped that we are teaching real passive conservation which may protect the collections to which the students return at less cost and far better than ill-considered interventive treatments".

Margaret McCord British Museum

"We are all aware of the challenges awaiting these young people when they return home. What they learn here will not help them to work miracles. But they will have learned to distinguish between the possible and the impossible, and to expand the possible by exploiting the resources available. I also hope that their training will help them to negotiate the acquisition of new means to put at the service of African museums.

I am glad that a French university has left the beaten track in order to participate in this training venture, and that this university is my own. Thanks to ICCROM for providing the opportunity. Thanks to the African participants for having demonstrated, by the quality of their work, the worthiness of this effort."

Marie Berducou University of Paris-Sorbonne



The Easter Island course focused on preservation of the famous sites.

#### TRAINING OUTSIDE ICCROM

### Conservation and Maintenance of Archaeological Sites

Easter Island, Chile: 5-18 January. The course was organized by the Centro Nacional de Restauración in Santiago (within the UNDP/Chile Dirección de Bibliotecas, Archivos y Museos proyecto CHI/79/013 Patrimonio Cultural) and ICCROM. It was held on the island itself, with local arrangements in the hands of the Corporación Nacional Forestal (CONAF).

Fourteen participants followed the entire course, of a total of eighteen selected by the CNR in Santiago. Ten were CONAF site guards, the others were from public services on the island.

Lecturers from ICCROM were Elena Charola and N. Stanley Price. Carlos Weber of CONAF was the third lecturer, and Mónica Bahamóndez gave some lectures on the conservation treatment that was being applied, for the first time, to one of the statues.

The course included lectures and site visits, where participants assessed deterioration factors and recommended action for improvement and maintenance of the sites.

#### Preventive Conservation, Niger

Under Unesco contract, ICCROM organized a month of teaching on preventive conservation at the Institut régional de formation en muséologie in Niamey. This training was given in March within the framework of a six-month training course for museum technicians financed by UNDP.

D. Guillemard (FRA) and G. de Guichen gave 85 hours of lectures for eight participants. Mr Guillemard developed the part on handling, disinfestation and storage and Mr de Guichen that on climate control, lighting and the role of museum personnel. Equipment was provided for the institute's use, and books and documents were later sent to the participants, the subjects varying with the special problems encountered in each country.

### Introduction to the Conservation of Cultural Property, Victoria B.C. University, Canada

Under the programme of Advanced Studies in Cultural Management of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Victoria B.C., Extension and Community Relations, Department of History of Art, a course on Introduction to the Conservation of Cultural Property was organized with the Director Emeritus of ICCROM, Sir Bernard Feilden, as principal instructor. The course was held from 9 to 27 June, with 21 participants.

#### International Course on Wood Conservation Technology, Trondheim, Norway

Sixteen participants from thirteen countries attended the second wood conservation course, which was held at the



Trondheim: wooden polychrome pieces were studied in the local museum.

Polytechnic of Trondheim from 16 June to 25 July. It was organized by ICCROM in coordination with ICOMOS, the Norwegian Central Office of Historic Monuments, and the Norwegian Institute of Technology (NTH), with the sponsorship of Unesco, the Norwegian Ministry of Environment and ICCROM.

Compared with the previous course, there were fewer lecturers and the schedule was also less tightly packed. The tours were limited to Norway, instead of also going to Stockholm as in 1984. The programme also had a more practical component, with laboratory work and exercises, which had not been organized in previous years. The participants gave presentations on their work.

J. Jokilehto, L. and P. Mora were sent by ICCROM to lecture during the fourth week of the course. They covered the topics of wooden sculpture and panels, polychrome sculpture and panel paintings, and conservation principles and restoration theory. The lectures were accompanied by a visit to the local art museum to examine polychrome wooden objects, and by discussions. During the week, the participants also presented their work experiences and problems, which offered a good occasion for further fruitful discussions.

#### Summer Courses

A number of refresher courses were offered this summer with ICCROM sponsorship and funding. In addition to ongoing support of programmes at the Institute of Archaeology, London, and the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, York, ICCROM also promoted new courses with a growing network of institutions that have developed special expertise in different aspects of conservation. The courses were as follows:

- Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique, Brussels, on the theme, "Use of Natural and Synthetic Film-forming Substances in the Conservation of Paintings", in which 14 people participated.
- Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen, on "Structural Stabilization of Canvas Paintings, Low Pressure Techniques". Twenty persons took part.
- Winterthur Museum, as part of the Art Conservation Program of the University of Delaware, on "Conservation of Photographic Material". There were 12 participants.

### Summer School, Institute of Archaeology, University of London, U.K.

In the framework of the summer refresher courses orga-

nized in July by the Institute of Archaeology with the financial support of ICCROM, G. de Guichen repeated the week-long course on climate given the preceding summer. G. Torraca took part in the organization and teaching of the week on stone conservation. Numerous other topics were also covered in the programme.

### Conservation of Historic Structures, University of York, U.K.

This practitioners' course was organized jointly with ICCROM and the British Council at the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies. The principal aim was to acquaint professionals with conservation practices in England, with up-to-date information about the conservation of traditional structures and building materials. The entire period of study was spent in York, but there were also visits to representative country houses, gardens, monuments and towns in the vicinity. The programme consisted of lectures and discussions and there were opportunities for participants to present short seminars on their own work and experience. The course was held from 22 September to 2 October.

# Workshop on Structural and Functional Rehabilitation of Housing in Historic Buildings Located in Seismic Regions, Mexico City, Mexico

From 25 August to 12 September, this workshop was given at the National School of Conservation, Restoration and Museography of the INAH, under the auspices of ICCROM. Several organizations took a very active role in setting up the course, including UNDP/Unesco, Lima; the U.N. Center for Human Settlements; the Mexican Secretariats of Public Education, Foreign Relations, and Urban Development and Ecology; the College of Engineering of the National Autonomous University of Mexico; the INAH and the National Popular Housing Fund.

It was based on the experience gained from the course held in Skopje, Yugoslavia, in 1985, organized by ICCROM and IZIIS, with Unesco support. Carlo Cesari, ICCROM consultant, undertook a preliminary mission to Mexico in April to develop the course structure.

Thirty-two technicians and specialists, architects, engineers, urbanists, sociologists, anthropologists and historians participated in the event, nineteen of them from Mexico and thirteen from eight other countries. Lectures were given by distinguished Mexican specialists and five international experts, including Jef Malliet from ICCROM. The working language was Spanish, with simultaneous interpretation from English, where necessary.

### **COURSES**

After three weeks of workshops, round-table discussions, lectures, presentations of case studies from different countries, and visits to various parts of Mexico City, the participants drew up a document containing their conclusions and recommendations in political, socio-economic, physico-spatial and technical areas.

#### Seminar on Climate Control, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Financed by UNDP Lima, G. de Guichen was invited to CECOR of Belo Horizonte to give a seminar on climate control from 5-12 November. CECOR is the only school for restorers in Brazil, and ten-month courses are given as part of the federal university's programme. Fifteen restorers, five museum directors and five teachers took part in the course. Two chemists in the latter group were encouraged to develop an interest in preventive conservation and to teach it. CECOR translated ICCROM's publication, Climate in Museums – Technical Notes, into Portuguese and distributed it as background reading to participants prior to the course.

#### Mural Paintings, Havana, Cuba

From 19-26 November, the Cuban authorities were assisted by ICCROM in recruiting lecturers for a short course on the conservation of mural paintings. Prof. Guido Botticelli (ITA) acted as the principal lecturer.

### Regional Post-graduate Course on the Principles of Architectural Restoration, Havana, Cuba

This course was organized under the auspices of ICCROM from 5 to 19 October. Architect C. Cesari (ITA) lectured to the course on urban conservation methodology.

### Proposed Course on Mural Painting Conservation, Sri Lanka

19 February – 6 March. At the invitation of Roland Silva, Director-General of the Central Cultural Fund, and Prof. Senake Bandaranayake of the Post-graduate Institute of Archaeology, in conjunction with the Cultural Triangle Project, P. Schwartzbaum made a preliminary inspection of various sites in preparation for an eventual mural painting conservation training project. A detailed proposal was formulated and there are indications that it will be accepted for funding by the Ford Foundation. Schwartzbaum was accompanied by J. Weerasinghe (LKA) and E. Holford (GBR) both MUR85 participants.

#### **ICCROM PARTICIPATION IN OTHER COURSES**

#### **Belgium**

Louvain: 19-24 May. J. Jokilehto represented ICCROM at the inauguration of the International Refresher Course on

Structural Consolidation of Ancient Buildings, and J. Malliet presented a paper on "Injection Grouting for the Repair of Masonry Monuments: Grout Design Parameters" (with A. Miltiadou). The course was organized by the Centre for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Buildings of the University of Louvain.

#### Canada

Ottawa: 28 September – 3 October. The Canadian Conservation Institute organized a symposium on "The Care and Preservation of Ethnological Materials". ICCROM provided funds to assist participants from developing countries with travel grants.

#### France

Paris: 28 November. In the context of a three-day information course organized for curators, the Laboratoire de Recherches des Musées de France invited G. de Guichen to present the problem of climate and its control. Sixteen curators from provincial museums participated.

#### India

New Delhi: 8-11 January. Sir Bernard Feilden lectured at the School of Planning and Architecture on "Development of Conservation in Europe", "Inspections and Reports", and "Interdisciplinary Collaboration – Is It Possible"?

Lucknow: September. The 9th Training Course on the Conservation of Cultural Property was organized by the National Research Laboratory, in collaboration with the Unesco Regional Training Centre for Conservation. ICCROM provided financial assistance to two course participants, one from the Philippines and one from Thailand.

#### Iraq

Baghdad: 2 February – 15 March. The Regional Centre for Conservation of Cultural Property in the Arab States, in collaboration with Unesco, organized a course on documentation of monuments and sites. The course programme was prepared in consultation with ICCROM. Fifteen trainees participated in the course, including archaeologists, engineers and lecturers.

ICCROM coordinated the mission of two lecturers, Robin Letellier (CAN) and John Stewart (CAN-ARC82), who dealt with the function and techniques of written and photographic documentation, measured drawings, photogrammetric surveys, low-budget documentation, and case studies.

#### Italy

Rome: 27 February. C. Erder lectured at the Rome University course on "Integration and Conservation on Archaeological Sites".

Rome: 3 April. A.E. Charola lectured on case studies of stone deterioration and on consolidation treatments involving silicone resins and acrylic-silicone resin mixtures at the ICR.

#### Portugal

Lisbon: 20-24 July. C. Erder gave lectures at the postgraduate course of the Department of Architecture, Technical University of Lisbon, on "Conservation and Rehabilitation of Historic Sites and Monuments".

#### **United Kingdom**

London: 12-16 May. P. Schwartzbaum gave a week of lectures on various aspects of mural painting conservation to students in the post-graduate course in the Conservation of Wall Paintings of the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London.

York: 17-21 November. During the International Week of the M.A. course of the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, J. Jokilehto lectured on the activities of ICCROM, on the World Heritage Convention, and on conservation approaches in different countries, with special emphasis on restoration in seismic risk areas and on urban conservation.



#### COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Teaching Skills and the Use of Teaching Materials

A fifth seminar, led by Robert Ferguson of the Institute of Education, University of London, will be held at ICCROM from 8-12 June 1987. It is open to 12 teachers and future teachers of conservation/restoration training programmes. There are no course fees, but participants must cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. Contact Elena Fiorini at ICCROM.

### Refresher Courses at the School of Conservation, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts

Two courses are being offered from 8-12 June in Denmark:

A) Structural Stabilization of Canvas Painting: Low-pressure Techniques; B) Conservation of Photographic Material. The maximum number of places is 15 for each course, and the fee will be 2.000 Danish crowns. For further details write to: A) Steen Bjarnhof or B) Mogens S. Koch, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Conservation, Esplanaden 34, DK-1263 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

### Summer School. Institute of Archaeology, University of London

The programmes for June/July/August offer a selection of individual short courses (normally five days), and will cover a wide variety of topics in archaeology, conservation and museology. For further information, contact James Black, Coordinator, Summer Schools, Institute of Archaeology, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H OPY.

### Summer School: The Conservation of Historic Structures. 21 September – 1 October 1987

This well-established summer school will once again be held in collaboration with ICCROM and the British Council. It has attracted participants from all over the world, and it is intended to introduce the theoretical and practical realities of conservation in the U.K. The fee of 470 pounds sterling includes accommodation on the university campus, all meals, transport on visits and admission to buildings and sites. For further information please write to the Secretary, Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, King's Manor, York Y01 2EP, U.K.

### Regional Course on Conservation of Mural Paintings

In collaboration with the Centro Nacional de Restauración de Santa Clara, and UNDP, Lima, ICCROM is offering a regional course on conservation of mural paintings for participants from Latin America and Spanish-speaking countries. The two-month course will be held in Bogotá, Colombia, in September-October 1987; the working language will be Spanish. It is open to applicants with at least 4 years of experience, with preference given to those working in governmental or non-profit agencies.

#### Tunisia, Refresher Course for Restorers in Mosaics

This course, requested by the International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics, is planned for 1988. The National Institute of Art and Archaeology of Tunisia has already agreed to host the course, which will be coordinated under ICCROM supervision. It will be aimed at persons responsible for excavations in archaeological sites in the Mediterranean region.

The World Heritage Fund has already granted funding to ICCROM for half the course expenses, but additional financing must also be found.

# LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION

### THE CONSERVATION INFORMATION NETWORK

1986 marked a second revolution in the library, almost ten years after the first, when ICCROM's computer data bank was initially introduced. In 1977, ICCROM decided to computerize the library's acquisitions in order to make them more available to Member States. With the new system, we decided to expand the bibliographic analysis with an abstract, subject key-words, and technical notes (dating, typology, place, material of the object, etc.). This innovation increased the work of analysis, but it also enabled us to provide researchers with higher quality information. On the other hand, acquisitions prior to 1977 had to be gradually re-registered according to the new system. The library made a great effort in this area, and now, ten years later, the total number of items registered in our data bank is about 35,000. This data bank was virtually unique of its kind but, due to lack of funds, it was still only accessible online from ICCROM headquarters in Rome, although a printed List of Acquisitions and Subject Index provided updated information for our readers.

The need to broaden the audience for this data bank and to create a true network was felt very strongly by ICCROM and by other institutions - all the more so because other data banks, such as that of "ICOMMOS" at Unesco, had been created in the meantime. At this point, the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) appeared as "catalyst and accoucheur" for the projects that each institution was not able to implement alone. The GCI had already taken over publication of the Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts (AATA), and understood the need to computerize all the abstracts that had been published in its previous volumes. The next step was to merge the AATA abstracts and the ICCROM acquisitions in the same data bank, and an agreement between the GCI and ICCROM was reached on this point. Problems of conversion, storage and maintenance of the common data bank were resolved by an agreement between the GCI and the National Museums of Canada, which permitted us to use the equipment and technical support of the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), based in Ottawa.

The project rapidly took shape: the initial core formed by the AATA and ICCROM was expanded, and the data bank is currently fed by AATA, the Conservation Analytical Laboratory of the Smithsonian Institution, ICCROM, ICOMOS, and the Canadian Conservation Institute. The latter institution has also created a data bank, together with the GCI, of technical information on materials used in conservation. The result of this common effort is the Conservation Information Network (CIN), which is composed of a bibliographic data bank (BCIN), and another on materials (MCIN).

The bibliographic data, currently more than 60,000 entries, was supplied by the Network's institutional partners. ICCROM has undertaken to supply some 3,500 references yearly. Liaison with CHIN is ensured through telephone link-ups. The GCI has agreed to subsidize the

startup costs of the Network, on the understanding that each institution will eventually shoulder a fair share of the expense, thus also demonstrating their commitment to the programme.

A group called the Bibliographic Content Review Board, with members from each participating institution, has met regularly since 1986 in order to work out a uniform registration system that will facilitate standardization of data. Discussions are also underway to create a single subject the saurus, based on the experience of the Art and Architecture Thesaurus (AAT), a project of the Art and History Information Program of the GCI. Once agreement has been reached on registration methods, the publications to be indexed will be divided among the partners in order to avoid duplication of effort among several institutions. Naturally, the initial group of BCIN members could be enlarged, in order to spread the indexing work more broadly.

Dissemination of the data collected in CIN will first occur through the participating institutions, and then, as soon as possible, any interested person will have access.

The first beneficiaries will thus be the institutions themselves, for whom belonging to CIN will be a great advantage, especially in financial terms. This is true of the ICCROM library, which has had difficulties recently maintaining its data bank in an external computer, due to rising costs for storage and maintenance of data at commercial firms. Online research, which we have had to reduce to the minimum due to expense, will again become the normal practice it should always have been. In short, the ICCROM library will be able to obtain the following products from CIN at a greatly lower cost than before: bibliographic searches, original copy for printing the List of Acquisitions and Subject Index, and cards for the manual card index of the library.

The other beneficiaries of CIN will eventually be all interested researchers and institutions who, without necessarily passing through member institutions, will be able to tap into the data bank through their own equipment (telephone, modem and terminal). If not, they should be able to contact the institution closest to home and ask to have the research done for them.

The programme of publication of the annual acquisitions list and subject indices has not been abandoned, however, considering that only a small part of researchers throughout the world now have access to the equipment necessary to interrogate a mainframe computer.

This sketches in the broad outlines of the Conservation Information Network, which is the outcome of several years of gestation of projects, ideas, and hopes of the conservation community to enjoy direct access to international information on conservation. ICCROM was the pioneer, and it is gratifying to note that the library's work, supported with foresight by the ICCROM Council and Assembly, has been recognized at the international level, and that the ICCROM data bank has been one of the essential elements for the creation of CIN.

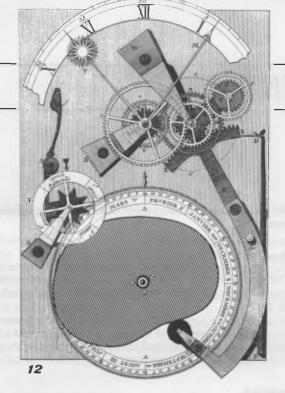


Illustration from La réparation des pendules anciennes, mentioned in these pages.

#### RECENT ACQUISITIONS

#### Archaeology

PELLETIER, André, Ed., L'archéologie et ses méthodes. Roanne, Editions Howarth, 1985, 384 p.

Collective work on archaeological techniques, including 24 contributions on the following subjects: prospection, excavation techniques (land and underwater), analysis, dating, conservation. Extensive bibliography and numerous drawings and illustrations.

HUGHES, Mike – ROWLEY, Linda. *The Management and Presentation of Field Monuments*. Oxford, Oxford University Department for External Studies, 1986, 133 p.

Proceedings of a conference organized in 1985 by the Oxford University Department for External Studies. The papers are grouped under five sections: the role of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission; ancient monuments and the landowner; preservation and integration of monuments; management of monuments – the regional approach; case studies.

#### Architecture - Buildings

Guide Veritas du Bâtiment 2. Réhabilitation. Maintenance. Paris, Editions du Moniteur, 1985, 407 p.

Collection of technical cards grouped under four main headings: diagnosis, maintenance, repair, demolition. Each card deals clearly and in detail with a particular subject, describing the steps to take, hypotheses, and possible solutions. Numerous drawings, index and systematic bibliography.

ORTEGA ANDRADE, Francisco. Patología de la Construcción "La obra de fábrica". Seville, Editores Técnicos Andaluces, 1983, 159 p.

Manual describing in detail, with the aid of numerous drawings, the different types of masonry (stone, fired brick, mudbrick), their facings, characteristics and problems.

#### Architecture - Historic Centres

HARDOY, Jorge E. – DOS SANTOS, Mario R. – GUTIER-REZ, Ramón – ROFMAN, Alejandro B. *El Centro Histórico de Quito*. Quito, Banco Central del Ecuador, 1984, 131 p.

Study of the problem of the preservation and development of the historic centre of Quito, seen through its historical evolution, planning projects, the social and economic context and the architectural heritage.

SCHARABI, Mohamed. Der Bazar. Das traditionelle Stadtzentrum im Nahen Osten und seine Handelseinrichtungen. Tübingen, Verlag Ernst Wasmuth, 1985, 262 p. In-depth study of the architecture and the function of bazaars in the Middle East: definition, purpose, organization, social and economic background, and architecture. Numerous plans and illustrations and an extensive bibliography complete the work.

museums and monuments · xx

Cevat Erder

Our architectural heritage: from consciousness to conservation

unesco

#### Architecture - History

ERDER, Cevat. Our Architectural Heritage: From Consciousness to Conservation. Paris, Unesco, 1986, 236 p. (Museums and Monuments XX).

Abridged and revised English translation of a two-volume study originally published in Turkish. It presents historical research on concepts and attitudes towards the architec-

### LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION

tural heritage, from antiquity to the present day, with particular reference to the situation in France, Italy and the United Kingdom. The appendix provides texts of restoration charters and an extensive bibliography.

#### Architecture - Rehabilitation

SABNIS, Gajanan, Ed. Rehabilitation, Renovation and Preservation of Concrete and Masonry Structures. Detroit, American Concrete Institute, 1985, 268 p. ACI SP-85.

Publication of 13 papers prepared for three symposia of the American Concrete Institute. They present the current state of knowledge on evaluation, diagnosis and rehabilitation of existing structures, especially those in concrete.

#### **Atmospheric Pollution**

VANDERBORGHT, O.L.J., Ed. Belgian Research on Acid Deposition and the Sulphur Cycle. Brussels, The Royal Belgian Academy of Sciences, Letters and Fine Arts/ Scope Committee, 1984, 304 p.

Proceedings of a conference held in Brussels on 6 June 1984. The papers are divided into seven sections: sources – sulphur in coal; emission, deposition, atmospheric transport; effects on monuments; effects on plants; effects on forests; effects on soil; effects on aquatic ecosystems.

#### Clocks

JENDRITZKI, H. – MATTHEY, J.P. La réparation des pendules anciennes. Lausanne, Editions Scriptar, 1979, 96 p.

Manual describing in detail the various operations required to repair clock mechanisms: works, escapements and pendulums, chiming, indication of the time. Advice is given for the manufacture of missing or defective pieces. Numerous drawings and bibliography.

#### Conservation - General

KUHN, Hermann. Conservation and Restoration of Works of Art and Antiquities. Vol. 1. London, Butterworths, 1986, 262 p.

English translation of the second edition of Volume 1 of the work, *Erhaltung und Pflege von Kunstwerken und Antiquitäten*. This reference book for the conservation of works of art deals with different types of works and their materials; (characteristics, deterioration and conservation) and the influence of the environment. Numerous illustrations and an extensive systematic bibliography.

#### **Furniture**

BRACHERT, Thomas, Ed., Beiträge zu Konstruktion und Restaurierung alter Möbel. Munich, Callwey, 1986, 251 p. Edition of 17 articles that appeared in the journal Maltechnik-Restauro, on conservation and restoration of furniture, marquetry in particular. Each article is accompanied by an

English abstract and bibliographic notes. Numerous illustrations.

#### Globes

BAYNES-COPE, A.D. *The Study and Conservation of Globes*. Vienna, Internationale Coronelli-Gesellschaft, 1985, 80 p.

Short work on the conservation of globes. Cleaning, examination of the exterior and interior, and replacement of damaged parts are described in detail. English-German glossary, illustrations and diagrams.

#### Mummies

La momie de Ramsès II. Paris, Editions Recherche sur les civilisations, 1985, 428 + 130 p.

Collective work presenting all the examinations carried out on the mummy of Ramses II at the Museum of Man in Paris, from September 1976 to May 1977: bacteriological study; radiation treatment; restoration of the mummy and its sarcophagus; photogrammetry; placement of the mummy in its showcase. Numerous illustrations, and abstracts in English and Arabic.

#### **Mural Paintings**

BURMAN, Peter, Ed. Conservation of Wall Paintings. London, The Council for the Care of Churches, 1986, 84 p. Publication of the proceedings of the International Symposium on Conservation of Wall Paintings, organized in 1979 with ICCROM support at Farnham Castle, Surrey, and Oxford. The papers present case studies of mural painting restoration in Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland.

#### Museology

KUHNEL-KUNZE, Irene. Bergung-Evakuierung-Rückführung. Die Berliner Museen in den Jahren 1939-1959. Berlin, Gebr. Mann Verlag, 1984, 533 p.

Monograph on the vicissitudes of the collections of the Berlin Museum between 1939 and 1959: dismounting and storage of the works during the war, recovery, restoration, restitution and general reorganization after the war. The appendix provides numerous examples of legislation, reports and speeches on the subject. Extensive bibliography.

THOMSON, Garry. *The Museum Environment*. 2nd Ed. London, Butterworths, 1986, 293 p. (Butterworth Series in Conservation and Museology).

Revised and expanded second edition of this classic and exhaustive work on environmental control in museums: lighting, relative humidity, atmospheric pollution. The appendix gives a summary of specifications for museums and an extensive bibliography.

#### **Painting**

Watteau. Technique picturale et problèmes de restauration. Université libre de Bruxelles, 22 novembre – 12 décembre 1986. Brussels, Wallonie-Bruxelles diffusions, 1986, 127 p.

Catalogue of a didactic exhibition organized at Brussels. The studies presented are divided in two parts: the first devoted to studies of style and technique, and the second to restoration policy in general and the problems of cleaning Watteau's paintings in particular. Technical annexes, systematic bibliography and numerous illustrations.

#### **Photography**

CARTIER-BRESSON, Anne. Les papiers salés. Paris, Direction des affaires culturelles de la Ville de Paris. Paris audiovisuel, 1984, 123 p.

Monograph on the deterioration and restoration of the first photographs on paper: analysis and control of results, study of deterioration, chemical restoration of images, experimental treatments. The appendix provides restoration formulas and the results of analyses of the resistance of the treated papers. English summary and comprehensive systematic bibliography.

Conservation et restauration du patrimoine photographique. Actes du colloque de novembre 1984. Paris, Direction des affaires culturelles de la Ville de Paris, Paris audiovisuel, 1985, 123 p.

Publication of the papers presented at the conference. They are grouped in two main sections: photographic techniques and structures of images; restoration treatments and archiving of photographs. Some of the papers are presented in both French and English.

#### Sculpture

El Retablo Mayor de la Catedral de Sevilla. Seville, Monte de Piedad y Caja de Ahorros de Sevilla, 1981, 315 p. Collective work presenting studies carried out by a group of specialists on the polychrome wood main altar of Seville Cathedral: iconography; historical and stylistic analysis; structural consolidation; biological examination; physicochemical study; restoration report. Richly illustrated.

#### Skin

HAWKS, Catherine A. – WILLIAMS, Stephen L. – GARD-NER, Joan S. *The Care of Tanned Skins in Mammal Research Collections*. Lubbock, Texas Tech University, 1984, 32 p. (Museology n. 6).

Short work on t e problems inherent in the conservation of tanned skins in museums: environmental control (light, atmospheric pollution), various methods of storage, labelling, handling and documentation. Bibliography.



Marble altar support a year after consolidation treatment (from II Restauro della Pietra).

#### Stone

LAZZARINI, Lorenzo – LAURENZI TABASSO, Marisa, *II Restauro della Pietra*. Padova, CEDAM, 1986, 320 p. Basic work presenting a synthesis of recent research results in the field of stone conservation: deterioration phenomena, scientific examination prior to restoration, cleaning, consolidation, protection, control of conservation treatments. Each section is accompanied by bibliographic references; an appendix provides a list of suppliers of equipment and products mentioned in the text.

#### **Textiles**

FINCH, Karen – PUTMAN, Greta. *The Care and Preservation of Textiles*. London, Batsford, 1985, 144 p.

New revised and expanded edition of a book issued in 1977. Every aspect of textiles conservation is studied in a clear and detailed manner, with the aid of numerous illustrations: colour, display and preventive conservation, storage, cleaning, conservation and restoration, equipment. One chapter is devoted to tapestries. A list of suppliers in the United Kingdom and the United States is given in the appendix.

Tecniche di Conservazione degli Arazzi. Tre giornate di studio, Firenze, 18-20 Settembre 1981. Florence, Leo Olschki Ed., 1986, 106 p. (Accademia Toscana di Scienze e Lettere, Studi LXXVII).

Edition of ten papers presented at the international congress on conservation of tapestries, organized in Florence in 1981. It describes the most appropriate and well-tested conservation techniques and precise examples of restoration work in Italian and foreign museums.

#### Wood

CRONYN, J.M. – HORIE, C.V. St. Cuthbert's Coffin. The History, Technology and Conservation. Durham, The Dean and Chapter, Durham Cathedral, 1985, 92 p. Publication of the conservation report on the wooden coffin of St. Cuthbert in Durham Cathedral. Every stage of the treatment is described in detail with many drawings, plates and illustrations. Results of analyses, a restoration proposal made in 1977, and the materials used during the restoration are given, among other things, in the appendix.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### LATEST ICCROM PUBLICATIONS

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The proceedings of this international conference, which was held in Ghent from 6-8 November 1985, include papers on five topics: Preventive Measures – Problems and Approaches; Preventive Measures – Techniques; Protection of Sites Underwater; Protection of Sites on Display; Roofs and Shelters. The papers are in either English or French, and there are numerous illustrations. ISBN 92-9077-070-8.

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1986, 521 and 602 pages respectively. \$35.00 each.

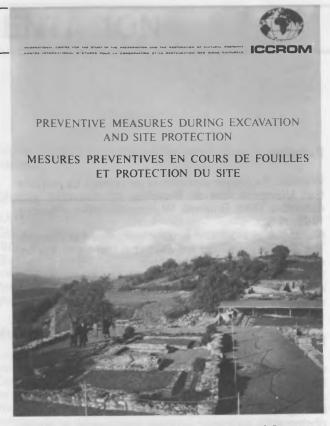
Matériaux de construction poreux.

By Giorgio Torraca. French translation by Colette di Matteo.

This edition now makes this popular text available in French. Like the English version, it is illustrated with the author's line drawings. ISBN 92-9077-071-6.

1986, 160 pages. \$6.00





#### **ICCROM PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

International Index on Training in Conservation of Cultural Property. 4th edition.

A joint project with the Getty Conservation Institute, the fourth edition of this index will provide updated information on more than 400 conservation courses at some 250 training institutions around the world. It is now in press.

Conservation of Metal Statuary and Architectural Decoration in Open Air Exposure. Champs-sur-Marne, France, 6-8 October 1986.

The papers presented at this symposium (see Conference Reports) will be published in our series of ICCROM conference proceedings. The papers are in either English or French and are extensively illustrated with photos and drawings.

Photogrammétrie appliquée aux relevés des monuments et des centres historiques.

Photogrammetry Applied to the Survey of Monuments and Historic Centres.

By Maurice Carbonnell. English translation by Ross Dallas.

Printing of this publication has been temporarily postponed for budgetary reasons.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Cevat Erder's book, Our Architectural Heritage: From Consciousness to Conservation, has recently been published by Unesco, and is available from our sales office (\$16).

The Mora-Philippot book on *The Conservation of Wall Paintings* has been translated into Romanian and published by Editura Meridiane under the title, *Conservarea Picturilor Murale*. A copy has been donated to the ICCROM library.

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Catalogues of technical exhibitions; catalogues d'expositions techniques; cataloghi, mostre tecniche: n. 2: Theft – Vol – Furto. 59 pp. (1977) ISBN 92-9077-013-9 (E/F/I) \$ 3.50
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### **CONFERENCE REPORTS**



Conference participants visit Versailles.

#### CONSERVATION OF METAL STATUARY AND ARCHI-TECTURAL DECORATION IN OPEN AIR EXPOSURE. 6-8 October, Paris, France.

The symposium was organized by ICCROM in collaboration with the Laboratoire de recherche des monuments historiques, Champs-sur-Marne. J.M. Bettembourg coordinated the programme from the French side, with G. Torraca and S. Inman handling the organization at ICCROM.

Forty-five experts from ten countries took part in the meeting, which was by invitation only. Eighteen papers were presented, mostly in camera-ready form. They dealt with such topics as the Statue of Liberty, evaluation of protective coatings, ornamental grillwork, zinc sculpture, bronze monuments, the archangel of the bell tower of Mont Saint Michel, and the Fountain of the Turtles in Rome. Preprints were issued at the meeting and the proceedings will be published by ICCROM in 1987.

The meeting also offered an occasion for inspection of field problems in Versailles, Fontainebleau and St. Rémyles-Chevreuse (Fondation De Coubertin).

### AIR POLLUTION AND CONSERVATION

15-17 October, Rome, Italy.

An international symposium on Air Pollution and Conservation: Safeguarding Our Architectural Heritage was organized in Rome by the Swedish Institute of Classical Studies in collaboration with the Department of Conservation of the University of Gothenburg and with the support of ICCROM and Italian institutions. The symposium was financed by AB Volvo, Sweden. A.E. Charola, Sir Bernard Feilden, J. Jokilehto, N. Stanley Price and G. Torraca participated in the symposium and presented papers.

Following the symposium, an abridged verison of a booklet, edited by A.E. Charola C. Nylander and N. Stanley Price for the symposium, was distributed to political and conservation authorities in Italy.

#### CONSERVATION OF GEOLOGICAL MATERIAL 23-24 January, London, U.K.

An international conference was organized by the Geological Curators' Group in association with the British Museum (Natural History). The aim of the conference was to promote the field of geological conservation, and to set up an international network of geological conservators. The programme covered most aspects of geological conservation and promoted discussion about current techniques and future developments. Archaeological and art conservators were included in the lecture programme to give the geological conservator an insight into new and modern techniques which can be developed for the field. Over 100 delegates from Australia, Austria, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. attended. This conference was sponsored by ICCROM and the Geological Society.



A trip to a bronze foundry provided technical background for the confer ence on outdoor metal statuary.

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



The Capalbio team (with mascot).

#### Capalbio - Industrial Archaeology

The excavation of the casting room of the Capalbio blast furnace, organized by ICCROM in cooperation with the Ironbridge Gorge Museum and the University of Sheffield, was carried out from 14 June to 5 July under the direction of Prof. David Crossley.

The programme, which has a strong didactic component, was attended by six students of the Institute of Industrial Archaeology and two inspectors from the Superintendent's Office in Siena.

J. Malliet coordinated the field operations for ICCROM and carried out an experiment of vertical stratigraphy (archaeological analysis of walls) in the same room.

Prof. Crossley issued a provisional report including a detailed plan of the findings. It is hoped to repeat the operation in 1987.

#### Göreme - Structural Consolidation

The studies of structural problems in the rock churches were continued under a Unesco contract.

The METU Architectural Conservation Laboratory received a subvention to enable it to resume its laboratory and field studies, coordinated by E. Caner. Temperature and humidity ranges were studied in some of the churches selected as pilot projects.

Samples of the Göreme rock were collected by Prof. B. Canik of Ankara University, acting as ICCROM consultant, and sent to Dr E. de Witte at IRPA, Brussels, to start consolidation and ageing experiments for materials intended to slow down the erosion rate on some rock domes.

J. Malliet and P.P. Rossi (ITA) carried out a mission to Göreme in late July to install gauges for measurement of crack movements and erosion of the rock and to check the results of experiments carried out in 1985 for the protection of erosion domes by means of sacrifice mortar layers. As anticipated in last year's report, such mortar layers proved unsatisfactory as a protection method, mostly for lack of adhesion to the clay-rich rock.

Following his 1985 mission to Göreme with the ICCROM team, F. Lizzi submitted a report on the structural consolidation of El Nazar church, which will be sent to the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums in Ankara.

The equipment of the four meteorological stations installed in Göreme under the direction of R. Bowen (Unesco consultant, 1984-85) was also completed this year.

#### Naples - Conservation of Glazed Tiles (Faïence)

The first part of the study on the causes of deterioration of the glazed tiles in the Cloister of Santa Chiara in Naples was completed in the fall of 1986, and G. Torraca wrote a report summarizing the provisional conclusions reached by the group of experts.

Plans for the experimental restoration of a small part of the decoration (1,000 tiles out of 20,000) were prepared. This part of the project will be executed in 1987 by the local superintendent's office, under the direction of P. Mora and I. Massari (ICCROM consultants).

J. Malliet prepared an original computer programme for surveying the state of conservation of the tiles. The programme, made possible by the support of Apple Computers, combines a graphic presentation with a data base.

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Pompeii - Restoration of Mural Paintings

The restoration of paintings in the peristyle of the House of Menander was continued thanks to a grant awarded by the Getty Trust and matching funds raised by Prof. V. Bonito of Yale University. The conservation of the parapets in the north branch of the court was completed in September.

As usual, the conservation work, under the direction of Laura and Paolo Mora, was combined with a didactic programme aimed at U.S. students and professionals. Seven students and one conservator from the Getty Museum took part in the four-week programme which included one week of lectures and visits in Rome (lecturers: V. Bonito, C. Giantommasi, L. and P. Mora, G. Torraca, assisted by L. D'Alessandro). The scientific analysis of the paintings was coordinated by Dr N. Weiss of Columbia University, New York.

#### **Adobe Project**

A project designed to study the in-situ consolidation of adobe is under way. The first stage will deal with the moisture content equilibration, which is a critical factor for any treatment involving silicate ester consolidation. The work will be carried out by A.Alva, A.E. Charola and J.M. Teutonico.

### History and Theory of Architectural Conservation

This project, undertaken by J. Jokilehto in 1978 under the tutelage of Sir Bernard Feilden and Prof. D. Linstrum, was completed in September and submitted as a Ph.D. thesis to the University of York, under the title, "A History of Architectural Conservation: The Contribution of English, French, German and Italian Thought towards an International Approach to the Conservation of Cultural Property".

## ICOM Conservation Committee Working Group on Climate and Lighting Control

The third information letter of the Working Group (coordinated by G. de Guichen) was distributed in the spring. Some 14-16 articles are being collected for the preprints of the meeting in Sydney.

#### **Injection Grouts**

J. Malliet continued research on injection grouts in the laboratory, examining alternative grout compositions with the previously developed test procedure. Larger-scale injection tests on 40 x 40 x 90 cm samples were also carried out in collaboration with the Department of Construction of the Faculty of Architecture, University of Rome.

#### **International Conservation Research Index**

This index, whose purpose is to produce a directory of researchers who are active in the field of conservation, was conceived during the meeting of research laboratory directors that was held at ICCROM in December 1985.

During 1986, over 1,200 forms were distributed, both by mail and during congresses and symposia. Very good response was obtained (over 45%) and these forms are now being classified into different subject categories, using key words selected from our library list. The addresses have been checked against our mailing list, and the data base prepared for computerization of the index. The project is coordinated by A.E. Charola and J.M. Teutonico.

#### **Mortar Project**

Analysis of samples of mortars and plasters from the Taj Mahal, India, were carried out in view of their characterization and determination of their state of conservation. The work was carried out by Dr M. Aslam, on an individual training grant, in collaboration with the ICR and the ICPL.

#### Seismic Test

In September, J. Jokilehto and J. Malliet attended a seismic experiment sponsored by the Politecnico di Milano and the Umbria Region at the ISMES laboratories in Bergamo. A test building of traditional masonry construction was subjected to various degrees of simulated earthquakes on a vibration table. Its low-cost reinforcement enabled it to hold up remarkably well.

#### Stone Deterioration and Conservation

Collaboration in the research on the effect of acid rain on calcite crystals has continued with the Metropolitan Museum of Art. New York.

A.E. Charola presented papers on this topic at various professional meetings (see Conferences and Cooperation). Coordination of research on consolidation methods applicable to the volcanic tuff of the Easter Island statues is in progress, and the first consolidation tests were carried out in January.

### Use of Titanium in Conservation as Reinforcement Metal

Kobe Steel Ltd. donated to ICCROM an amount of Titanium plate and bar sufficient for experimental application on stone structures and stucco decoration in Rome. The material was tested in the laboratory of the Rome Faculty of Architecture, Science of Construction. The remarkably low thermal expansion coefficient was considered as particularly interesting for conservation purposes.

Suitable cases for application were not found in 1986, but active contact is kept with local restoration bodies so that medium-size experiments will be carried out in 1987.

## CONFERENCES AND COOPERATION

#### **Albania**

3-9 September. At a symposium on "Cultural Monuments in Albania", C. Erder presented a paper on "International Activities for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage and the Role of ICCROM". He also visited several towns, archaeological sites and museums, and spoke to the local news media. C. Erder was also received by H.E. Mrs Tefta Cami, Minister of Education and Culture, and Professor Aleks Buda, President of the Academy of Science.

#### Algeria

19-21 April, Algiers. C. Erder represented ICCROM at the Third Meeting for Unification of Preliminary Lists of Cultural Property in North African Countries. The following subjects were discussed: architecture in desert and semi-desert regions and its conservation; sites and monuments recording famous persons in North Africa; and the preparation of a plan for an Atlas of Cultural Properties in North Africa, already entered on the World Cultural Heritage List.

The meeting coincided with the International Day of Monuments and Sites, on which occasion the delegates were received by H.E. Mr Boualem Bessaieh, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Algeria, and several exhibitions were inaugurated.

#### Argentina

27 October - 4 November, Buenos Aires. C. Erder and G. de Guichen attended the 14th General Conference of ICOM. At the inauguration, G. de Guichen presented a slide lecture entitled "Last Night an Angel Told Me...", which stressed the role of personnel in the protection of collections and the importance of training for all employees in this field. They also participated in the programme of site visits and presentations organized by the ICOM Conservation Committee.

While in Argentina, C. Erder met with officials responsible for conservation of museums, and monuments, together with the president and other members of the ICOMOS-Argentina National Committee. A presentation was made on the progress of the inventorying of monuments in the country. The Treasurer-General of ICO-MOS, Prof. Gazaneo, organized a visit for C. Erder and J. Jessurun, President of ICO-MOS La Plate and J. Jessurun and J. Jessur MOS-Holland, to the University of La Plata to view the newly-founded Architectural Photogrammetry Centre, and held a technical meeting after visits of monuments of La Plata with the technicians, and with the members of ICOMOS and CIPA. The meeting was chaired by Juan Carlos Alberti, mayor of La Plata.



At Apollonia, C. Erder and Albanian colleagues in the courtyard of the monastery.

24-25 October, Rio de Janeiro. En route to the ICOM General Conference in Argentina, C. Erder and G. de Guichen stopped in Brazil and met Dr M.J. Falcao, new director of ProMemória, and presented ICCROM's activities to ProMemória's staff. On 14 November, returning from Buenos Aires, G. de Guichen visited the National Historical Museum, whose director is a former ICCROM participant. During this visit, discussions and lectures on preventive conservation were held.

#### Canada

14 July, Calgary. G. de Guichen gave a lecture on "Climate Control in Museums" at the Glenbow Museum.

16 July, Victoria, B.C. Sir Bernard Feilden gave a lecture on "Structural Consolidation of York Minster" at the University of Victoria.

13 January, Easter Island. A.E. Charola and N. Stanley Price lectured on stone deterioration and conservation and site protection, within the framework of a series of public lectures held at the Town Hall.

#### **Ecuador**

7-16 November, Quito. At the invitation of the Association of Architects of Ecuador, A. Alva lectured at a seminar on earthen architecture, organized within the context of the Vth Biennial of Architecture.

#### France

Paris. ICCROM representation on various boards and committees of other organizations continued throughout the year. This included attendance at the following meet-

ings: - GCI Advisory Committee (G. de Guichen);

ICOM Executive Council (C. Erder, Jean Taralon, former ICCROM Council); Vice-Chairman

ICOMOS Advisory Council, 28th Ses-

sion (C. Erder); Unesco Executive Bureau – 124th and

125th Sessions (J. Taralon);
World Cultural Heritage Committee
Board (C. Erder);
World Cultural Heritage Committee,
10th Session (J. Jokilehto).

12 September, Paris. G. Torraca gave a paper on "Air Pollution and the Conservation of Monuments: Conventional Solutions" at a symposium organized by the European Environmental Bureau and Europa Nostra.

1-6 October, Strasbourg. A.E. Charola represented ICCROM as an invited observer at the Select Committee of Experts on "Effects of Atmospheric Pollution on the Architectural Heritage", organized by the Council of Europe with the aim of helping to establish guidelines for governments regarding the importance of the different sources of air pollution and their control.

15-16 October, Strasbourg, C. Erder participated in the 17th Annual Meeting of the ICOMOS International Committee on Architectural Photogrammetry, on the occasion of a colloquium on "Application of Photogrammetry to Historic Centres: Survey, Analysis, Development, Protection", with the patronage of the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe.

#### German Democratic Republic

31 August - 6 September, Dresden, Tomislav Marasovic, member of ICCROM Coun-

### CONFERENCES AND COOPERATION

cil, represented ICCROM at a colloquium entitled "Conservation as a Matter of University Education". During the meeting, problems of conservation education were thoroughly treated by participants from many countries and international organizations.

#### Germany, Federal Republic

31 August – 9 September, Esslingen and Burghausen. A.E. Charola attended the 2nd International Colloquium on Materials Science and Restoration, and presented a paper entitled "A Simplified Chemical Analysis System for the Characterization of Mortars", written jointly with Monique Dupas of IRPA. She also visited the Wacker Chemie laboratories to discuss treatment of the Easter Island statues.

#### India

5-30 January, New Delhi. Sir Bernard Feilden met with INTACH officials and lectured at the National School of Planning and Architecture. He also inspected and made recommendations for numerous sites in other parts of the country.

#### Italy

14-17 March, Bologna. At the invitation of the National Confederation for Crafts, A. Alva represented ICCROM at the official presentation of the Agency for the Restoration of Urban and Architectural Heritage.

10-11 April, Naples. C. Erder and J. Jokilehto represented ICCROM at an international

meeting organized by the Italian Ministry of Education and the ICOMOS Italian National Committee. The theme of the meeting was "University and Post University Training of Restoration Technicians for Monuments". C. Erder chaired the first session and gave a presentation on "Training for Architectural Heritage Conservation and ICCROM". Jokilehto spoke on "Finland and Architectural Heritage Conservation" and joined the Recommendations Committee.

17 May, Ferrara. At a national conference on Mortars, Plasters and Colour for Conservation of External Walls, G. Torraca presented a paper entitled "Causes of Deterioration of Wall Plasters and Consolidation Experiences".

30 June – 1 July. A. Alva attended a national meeting organized by the town of Ferrara and the Istituto di Studi Rinascimentali to discuss rehabilitation of the Ferrara town walls as part of the urban renovation plan. Alva also attended a meeting of the Scientific Committee of ARPEA.

21-26 September, Bologna. An ICCROM contingent consisting of A.E. Charola, P.M. Schwartzbaum, and G. Torraca attended the IIC Congress on "Case Studies in the Conservation of Stone and Wall Paintings". Torraca gave the traditional Forbes lecture, and all contributed papers, which will be published in the preprints.

3-4 October, Modena. At the invitation of city officials, G. de Guichen participated and lectured in a conference on the conservation of the Gandini textile collection of the Modena Museum.

#### Luxembourg

17 October. C. Erder was shown different restoration projects by Blanche Weicherding-Goergen, President of the ICOMOS National Committee and member of ICCROM Council. Discussions were held on conservation problems in the historic areas of the city.

#### Mexico

3-7 March, Guadalajara. On ICCROM's behalf, former Council member Salvador Diaz-Berrio and Paul Philippot, Director Emeritus, attended a Unesco Interregional Seminar on Museums and Education. The main objectives of the seminar were to propose strategies at all levels to strengthen the educational activities of museums, to develop and increase cooperation between museums and schools, and to improve the training of museum educators.

6-13 April, Mexico City. N. Stanley Price was an invited speaker at the GCI/Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia conference on "In-situ Archaeological Conservation"

10-12 August, Mexico City. Paul Perrot, Chairman of ICCROM Council, represented ICCROM at a major gathering of experts to review proposals for the adaptive reuse of monuments damaged by the earthquake, as well as to advise, in general, concerning the restoration effort and the development of the area economically. The American Express Foundation underwrote the travel expenses for this mission.





The 35th anniversary of the PKZ of Poland.

8-12 October, Puebla. S. Diaz-Berrio represented ICCROM and presented a paper at the VIIth International Symposium on Cultural Heritage, which was organized by the ICOMOS Mexican National Committee. The theme of the meeting was "Contemporary Use of Historic Buildings".

#### Peru

17-30 November, Lima. A. Alva held meetings to coordinate future ICCROM activities with Sylvio Mutal, UNDP/Unesco Regional Coordinator, Dr Julio Vargas Neumann, Vice-Minister of Housing, Arch. Bertha Estela Benavides (ARC79), Director for Conservation of Monumental and Cultural Heritage and Dr Lucia Ayasta, Legal Advisor of the National Institute of Culture.

#### **Poland**

18-24 October, Warsaw and Krakow. On the invitation of T. Polak, the Director-General of PKZ of Poland, J. Jokilehto attended the celebration of the 35th anniversary of PKZ and visited various restoration works.

#### Puerto Rico

18-22 June, San Juan. J.M. Teutonico was invited to lecture by the local AIA Chapter and the Colegio de Arquitectos.

#### Spain

13-20 September, Soria. G. de Guichen and R. Luján attended the 3rd meeting of the International Committee for Mosaics Conservation and continued planning for a mosaics conservation course to be held in Tunisia.

#### Turkey

25-31 May, Ankara. C. Erder attended the

VIIIth Symposium on Archaeological Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry, and also attended meetings for research projects on consolidation of Cappadocian rock-cut structures and with the Central Conservation Laboratory in Istanbul.

#### United Kingdom

1-7 September, Southampton. N. Stanley Price took part in the World Archaeological Congress, and presented two papers.

3-8 September, London. P.M. Schwartzbaum attended a meeting of the Board of Studies of the Courtauld Institute Course on Conservation of Wall Paintings. He also participated in a symposium on Horsham St. Faith Priory and its wall paintings.

9-12 September, York. J. Jokilehto represented ICCROM at an international conference on "Funding the Architectural Heritage", organized jointly by the IAAS of York University and the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Department of the Environment.

#### **United States**

20-29 May, Chicago. At the AIC Congress, P.M. Schwartzbaum spoke about ICCROM's conservation of mural paintings project in the U.S.A.

2 June – 7 July. A.E. Charola went to promote support for some of ICCROM's research projects, to coordinate research efforts on acid rain with different laboratories, and to discuss the International Conservation Research Index. She also lectured at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the CAL, Smithsonian Institution.

25-27 June, Marina del Rey, CA. N. Stanley Price visited the GCI to discuss follow-up activities to the Mexico City conference on "In situ Archaeological Conservation". 28 June – 3 July, Washington, DC. J.M. Teutonico met with several national preservation organizations regarding support of the International Conservation Research

30 June – 1 July, Marina del Rey, CA. B.M. Feilden and J. Malliet attended the second meeting of the Disaster Planning Steering Committee of the GCI. The group reviewed various proposals that could be implemented for the protection of cultural property threatened by disasters.

1-9 July. G. de Guichen attended a threeday meeting of the Advisory Committee of the GCI. This was followed by a meeting of directors of conservation training programmes, who discussed priorities in training worldwide. Among the recommendations were the following: development of didactic material; improvement of training techniques and the conception of basic programmes; creation of refresher courses.

1-8 October, Austin, TX. J.M. Teutonico participated in the Annual Conference of the Association for Preservation Technology: "Handcrafted to Machine-Made". She presented a paper entitled "The Restoration of the Manoel Theatre in Valletta, Malta: A Meeting of New and Old Technologies", which was awarded the Preservation Resources Group Speakers's Prize in recognition of its value to the overall success of the conference.

#### Yugoslavia

16-19 April, Split. I. Brock represented ICCROM at a Seminar on the Protection and Rehabilitation of Selected Mediterranean Historic Settlements. The meeting was organized by the Regional Activity Centre of the Priority Actions Programme, UNEP – Mediterranean Action Plan.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

#### **Technical Assistance Programme**

A total of 70 requests for technical assistance were processed in 1986. We sent out 1,179 publications, minor equipment of various sorts including 52 precision instruments and an assortment of materials and chemical products needed for conservation work. The costs ranged anywhere from a mere \$2 to over \$1,000, not including shipping.

In addition to the above, 70 sets of ICCROM library catalogues and indexes were sent out, as well as 281 subscriptions to four essential conservation periodicals, distributed to institutions in 72 countries.

The scope of the programme is limited to providing only the basic materials necessary for setting up or maintaining the work of conservation. In processing requests, we run into a number of logistical and administrative challenges. Some of these are as follows:

- unrealistic requests for expensive or unwieldy items such as large laboratory equipment and furniture, heavy-duty electrical appliances and corrosive chemicals;
- products mentioned only by their trade name rather than by their equivalent generic name, and lack of information on the intended use of the product;
- requests for delicate instruments, which are best transported by hand rather than despatched through regular mail channels;
- lack of proper follow-up information.
   Feed-back from the receiving institutions is essential, in order to check what materials have or have not reached their destination.

Operating funds this year came from ICCROM's regular budget and from a grant of \$20,000 from the Unesco World Heritage Fund. Cooperation in the form of gifts and discounts from private individuals, organizations, manufacturers and publishers also provided significant support.

The programme was coordinated by Maria Valys, with assistance from Elisabetta Campa.

#### **Argentina**

Buenos Aires, 20-25 January. At the request of the J. Paul Getty Trust, E. Charola consulted with various museums regarding the possibility of carrying out a survey on their conservation facilities and staff. This would be a first step in an overall survey of museum conservation facilities in Latin America.

#### Burma

Pagan, 12 January-10 February. Under Unesco contract and as part of the UNDP project BUR/78/023, ICCROM continued the conservation of the wall paintings and external murals of a pilot monument, the temple of Kubyaukgyi. C. Giantomassi, M. Martelli, assisted by P. Schwartzbaum during an inspection visit, enacted the work with 19 trainees from the Department of Archaeology, in collaboration with two Burmese chemist-restorers, U Ba Tint and U Aye Maung.



The historic centre of Nicosia.

#### Cyprus

1-5 June. As part of a programme sponsored by the Italian Government, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, G. Pignatelli and G. Torraca (ICCROM consultants) visited Cyprus, with the experts of the Directorate of Antiquities to discuss conservation problems concerning mural paintings and stone.

The members of the ICCROM mission to Rhodes (see below) also agreed to work in Cyprus, and their specialized experience was of great help in several cases. A report covering the technical aspects of the mission was submitted to the Cypriot authorities in December.

8-13 December. At the invitation of Cypriot authorities and in collaboration with the Nicosia Master Plan office, a technical mission was carried out by J. Jokilehto and T. Marasovic (YUG). Particular attention was paid to questions of urban conservation planning for the pilot project area of Chrysaliniotissa in the historic walled city of Nicosia. This was the first mission organized within the project "Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Mediterranean Historic Settlements", one of the ten projects of the Priority Action Programme of the Regional Activity Centre at Split, in connection with the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan.

#### Greece

Rhodes, 5-10 June. At the invitation of the Society of the Friends of Cultural Patrimony, an Associate Member of ICCROM, and of the mayor, a mission composed of ICCROM staff members and consultants visited the island.

The group, composed of G. Torraca (coordinator), D. Ferragni (architectural conservation), J. Malliet (seismic preparedness and structural consolidation), G. Pignatelli (paper, paintings), P. Schwartzbaum (mural paintings), accompanied by the local technical staff, inspected the island's most important cultural monuments to assess the main problems and suggest the possible support that could be offered by the international community.

A detailed report with the recommendation of the experts was submitted in November. It stressed the importance of the walls of Rhodes as a monument of international significance and outlined a conservation plan.

#### Italy

Rome, June-August. Under a contract from the Turkish Government, the painted ceilings and walls of the offices of the Turkish Ambassador to Italy were restored under the direction of the staff of the conservation of mural paintings section and with a team of Turkish restorers who had been trained at ICCROM and under the Göreme project. The work was supervised by R. Luján (GTM), and the team consisted of R. Ozil (MUR79), A. Aksoy (MUR85) and M. Kul (Gorëme Project).

Rome. L. and P. Mora, I. Massari and J. Jokilehto were consulted by the Institutum Romanum Finlandiae for the restoration of mosaics and the problems of humidity in the repair of the courtyard of Villa Lante in Rome.

#### Mexico

After the earthquake in Mexico in 1985, ICCROM has assisted in providing some material to be used in photogrammetric recording of damaged buildings.

Similarly, at the request of Mexican authorities, ICCROM sent C. Cesari in April as an expert in urban conservation to advise in the planning of restoration and reconstruction works in Mexico City and for initial contacts for the Workshop on Historic Buildings in Seismic Areas (see Courses).

#### Turkey

Göreme, 2-24 October. I. Dangas (FRAMUR75) and A. Micheletto (ITA) continued work on the joint ICCROM/Turkish Ministry of Culture project for the conservation of the Byzantine wall paintings. Further conservation interventions were carried out in the church of Karanlik Kilise in cooperation with the team of local conservators who have been trained during the project.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### CALENDAR - 1987

8-14 June
VIIIth International Symposium on
American Rock Art. Santo Domingo,
Dominican Republic.

Information:
Prof. Dato Pagán Perdono
Museo del Hombre Dominicano
Calle Pedro Henriquez Ureña
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

6-10 July
University of London Institute of
Archaeology Jubilee Conservation Conference: Recent Advances in the Conservation and Analysis of Artifacts. London,
U.K.

Information:
Jubilee Conservation Conference
Institute of Archaeology
31-34 Gordon Square
London WC1H 0PY, U.K.

12-17 July 16th Congress of the International Union of Architects (IUA 87): Cities and Shelters: Building Tomorrow's World. Brighton, U.K.

Information: UIA 51 rue Raynouard F-75016 Paris, France

3-9 August Joint meeting: ICOM Security Committee and Smithsonian Institution's Annual National Security Conference. Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Information: Robert B. Burke, Director Office of Protection Services Smithsonian Institution 900 Jefferson Drive, SW, Room 2480 Washington, DC 20560, U.S.A.

20-30 August XVIth Pacific Science Congress. Section D of the Congress will be devoted to museums and similar institutions in the Pacific Region. Seoul, Rep. of Korea.

Information:
Organizing Committee
XVI Pacific Science Congress
K.P.O. Box 1008
Seoul 110, Rep. of Korea

September ICOMOS International Committee on Vernacular Architecture, General Assembly and meeting on "Open-air Museums". Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Information: CIAV BP 715 4000 Plovdiv, Bulgaria

1-4 September 1987 IFLA World Congress: Plaisir du Paysage. Paris, France. City of Paris.

Information: Fédération Française du Paysage 4 rue Hardy F-78000 Versailles, France

5-12 September Fifth International Colloqium on Ancient Mosaics. Bath, U.K. L'Association Internationale pour l'Etude de la Mosaïque Antique, Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics in association with the University of Bath.

Information: Peter Johnson Roman Research Trust Littlecote Roman Villa Nr. Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 0SU, U.K.

6-11 September 8th Triennial Meeting of the ICOM Committee for Conservation. Sydney, Australia.

Information: ICOM 87 Secretariat Dulcie Stretton Associates 70 Glenmore Road Paddington NSW 2021, Australia

6-14 September 6th International Conference on the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage. Austria. TICCIH.

Information: Marie Nisser Chairman, TICCIH Drömstigen 12 S-161 38 Bromma, Sweden

7-11 September First International Congress: From Materials Science to Materials Engineering. Paris, France. RILEM/AFREM.

Information: A.F.R.E.M. Congress Secretariat 12 rue Brancion F-75737 Paris Cedex 15, France

7-11 September 6th International Congress of Maritime Museums (ICMM). Amsterdam and Rotterdam, Netherlands. Information:
W.F.J. Mörzer Bruyns,
Nederlands Scheepvaart Museum
Kattenburgerplein 1
1018 KK Amsterdam, Netherlands

12-14 September
VIth International Congress on Deterioration and Conservation of Stone. Torun, Poland.
International Committee for Organizing Congresses on Deterioration and Conservation of Stone.
Information:
Instytut

Instytut Zabytkoznawstwa i Konserwatorstwa Uniwersystetu Nikolaja Kopernika Kongres Konserwacji Kamienia ul. Sienkiewicza 30/32 87-100 Torun, Poland

13-16 September
The English Landscape Park, Concept
and Conservation. Oxford, U.K.
UK/ICOMOS
Information:

UK/ICOMOS c/o 34-36 Bedford Square London WC1B 3ES, U.K.

17-20 September 1987 Association for Preservation Technology Conference: Wood and Water. Victoria, B.C., Canada.

Information: APT '87, Conference Office University of Victoria P.O. Box 1700 Victoria, BC, V8W 2Y2, Canada

21-25 September
Symposium on the Storage of Recorded
Images. Oxford, U.K.
The Royal Photographic Society.

Information:
Conference Convenor
Miss H.M. Graves
Kodak Ltd, Research Division
Headstone Drive
Harrow, Middlessex HA1 4TY, U.K.

7-15 October ICOMOS 8th General Assembly and International Symposium: Old Cultures in New Worlds. Washington DC, U.S.A.

Information: US/ICOMOS Decatur House 1600 H Street N.W. Washington DC, 20006, U.S.A.

or:
ICOMOS International
Secretariat
75 rue du Temple
F-75003 Paris, France

### **MISCELLANEOUS**



The Scripta Volant exhibition on biodeterioration of library and archive materials.

26-30 October Integration of Old and New in Historic Cities. Seville, Spain.

Information: IFHP Wasserbaarseweg 43 2596 CG The Hague, Netherlands

November **Museology Fair.** Paris, France. Muséologie Nouvelle et Expérimentation Sociale.

Information: Catherine Sauvage Passion S.A. 25 rue Falguière F-75015 Paris, France

#### CALENDAR - 1988

14-15 April Modern Organic Materials Meeting. Edinburgh, Scotland. The Scottish Society for Conservation & Restoration.

Information: Linda Eaton Royal Museum of Scotland York Buildings, Queen Street Edinburgh EH2 1JD, Scotland, U.K.

17-20 April Second International Conference on Non-destructive Tests, Micro-analytical Methods and Environmental Studies for the Conservation of Works of Art. Perugia, Italy.

Italian Association for Non-destructive Testing, ICR.

Call for papers: title, detailed abstract (in English, French or Italian), author(s) and institution.

Information: Segreteria Scientifica M. Marabelli/P. Santopadre Istituto Centrale del Restauro Piazza San Francesco di Paola 9 I-00184 Rome, Italy

29 August – 2 September
First Congress of the Australian Rock Art
Research Organization. Darwin, Australia.
AURA

Information: R.G. Bednarik Co-Chairman, AURA 1988 Congress P.O. Box 216 Caulfield South 3162 Victoria. Australia

19-23 September Engineering Geology as Related to the Study, Preservation and Protection of Ancient Works, Monuments and Historical Sites. Athens, Greece.

Greek National Group of IAEG.

Information: 1988 Symposium Secretariat P.O. Box 19140 GR-117 10, Athens, Greece

21-26 September IIC Congress: Conservation of Far Eastern Art. Kyoto, Japan. International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works.

Information: IIC Office 6 Buckingham Street London WC2N 6BA, U.K. September UKIC 30th Anniversary Conference. London. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.

Information: Victoria Todd UKIC 37 Upper Addison Gardens London W14 8AJ, U.K.

November Former Methods of Conservation and Restoration. London. Department of Conservation, British Museum.

Information:
Mrs H. Lane
Department of Conservation
British Museum
Great Russell Street
London WC1B 3DG, U.K.

### Natural History Specimen Conservation

A new issue of the newsletter of the Natural History Group of the ICOM Committee for Conservation has just been published in both French and English. This is the only periodical dealing specifically with this neglected topic. The newsletter will therefore be of interest to all individuals and museums who have the care of botanical, geological and zoological material. It will also be of interest to workers in allied fields, e.g. taxidermy, ethnology, and archaeology, who must deal with similar materials. The newsletter can be obtained (stating which language) from C.V. Horie, the Manchester Museum, the University, Manchester, M13 9PL, U.K.

#### **New Association Formed**

L'Associazione Italiana per la Conservazione e il Restauro (Italian Association for Conservation and Restoration) has recently been founded, with headquarters at Corso di Porta Ticinese 12, 20123 Milan Ml. The aim of the association is to spread and develop scientific and technical knowledge concerned with the conservation and restoration of paper and membranous supports, sensitive materials and textiles. For this pur-

pose, the association plans to promote studies, research and cultural exchange, to collect, produce and distribute information, and to cooperate with other representative organizations: Italian, foreign and international. The first workshop, including a seminar and discussion of future activities, will be held in June 1987.

#### Scripta-Volant Exhibition

This exhibition, which deals with biodeterioration in libraries and archives, is the fruit of efforts which began in 1983, coordinated in the initial phase by ICCROM, with the participation of six Italian institutes: Istituto Centrale per la Patologia del Libro, Centro di Fotoriproduzione, Legatoria e Restauro degli Archivi di Stato, Istituto Nazionale per la Grafica, Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Istituto dei Beni Culturali della regione Emilia-Romagna, and CEPAC. A 200-page catalogue was prepared for the event.

Despite the technical subject matter and didactic presentation, the exhibition is entertaining, and its opening was given extensive local press coverage. Some newspapers dedicated several articles to it.

Visitors were requested to fill in a questionnaire to aid the organizers in ascertaining whether the general public understood the urgent need to reduce damage caused by insects and micro-organisms in libraries and archives. The response was encouraging.

The exhibition has been shown in four Italian cities: Bologna, Rome, Ravello and Udine. Later, it will be travelling to Turin and Urbino, and then on to Holland, and perhaps Spain as well.

#### Travelling Exhibition

The exhibition on Control of Climate and Light was requested by the Bundesdenk-malamt of Vienna, Austria. It was inaugurated in Vienna in November, and then was shown for about ten days in Graz, Linz, Salzburg and Innsbruck, accompanied by a catalogue specially prepared in German. After this Austrian tour, the exhibition will probably go on to Turkey.

#### In Memoriam



Giovanni Massari.

Giovannini Massari, engineer, died on 4 October at the age of 92. A pioneer in the field of humidity in buildings, he received the ICCROM award in 1981 for his outstanding contribution to conservation as a consultant, lecturer and author. He is survived by his daughter, Maria, and his son, Ippolito, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.



Natale Proietti.

Natale Proietti died on 26 September after a sudden illness. In his 18 years on the ICCROM staff, Natalino was unfailingly cheerful and reliable in his many duties and greatly beloved by all the staff and course participants. Our most sincere condolences to his wife, Rita, and two daughters.

### **OPEN FORUM**

This paper was given by Philip Ravenhill at the inauguration of the PREMA86 course, which took place in the Pigorini Museum in Rome. The event was attended by numerous representatives of the local conservation community and was given extensive press coverage. (More information on the course can be found on page 11.)

### THE PAST AND THE FUTURE OF MUSEOLOGY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

It would be presumptuous to attempt to deal globally with the entire past, the present and the future of Africa's museums, and that is not my intention. My task, rather, is to reflect upon some of the legacies that Africa's museums have often received from the West as institutions inherited from the colonial past, and the challenges that confront them in the future.

The African continent has been - and still is - viewed by the West as a source of exotic ethnographic material culture: tools, weapons, costumes, regalia, furniture, sculpture, and that all-encompassing category "fetish". First brought back to Europe as material witnesses to the newly discovered continent and later as a by-product of a burgeoning trading relationship, these objects were either placed in curiosity cabinets or displayed in museums of natural history. It was not really until the beginnings of the present century that some of these objects caught the attention of European artists and came to be considered, rightly, to be ART. Three quarters of a century later, Africa's contribution to universal art is secure, and we no longer have to plead for the recognition of the intrinsic worth of African art. And yet, it seems to me, this century has seen the birth of a paradox, the growth of an enigma, and the development of an irony. The paradox is that on the one hand an African object is seen as art, and on the other hand that its creator - the artist - and its social nexus remain invisible. The enigma is that in embracing African art as ART, we Westerners have in some way diminished it; instead of adding to it another dimension or distinction, we have lessened it by reducing it to being only art. The very affirmation of its equivalence to our own arts has somehow robbed it of its uniqueness; its success as art has transformed it into yet another profitable commodity. The irony arises from the fact that the recognition of some elements of African material culture as ART, has led to the almost total neglect of many other domains. The ultimate ethnocentrism is one in which recognition of the other is based solely upon the similarity to self.

If one looks at the history of museums in Africa, one is led to conclude that the Western ambivalence to African material culture has also been transferred to African museums. This ambivalence, by which I mean the sharp dichotomy that is implicitly posited between ART versus CRAFT, can create either institutional schizophrenia or amnesia; the schizophrenia of rigidly separating ART from other material culture, and the amnesia that is manifest by the absence of certain arts or crafts that are so conveniently forgotten. It was not always so. In the early 1860's,

almost 150 years ago, the municipal Musée de Saint-Louis de Sénégal (perhaps the first museum in sub-Saharan Africa), had a single category of objects: "350 objets ethnographiques". The ethnographic museums created in colonies or "overseas departments" tended initially to cast a large net in their acquisition of material culture, although some museums, such as the Musée d'Abidjan, sought from almost the beginning to focus on aesthetically interesting objects. The developing Western appreciation and passion for African ART has now created multiple effects in Africa: it has had a positive effect in as much as it has recognized the art's inherent worth and corrected former prejudices, but has had a negative effect through the art trade which brings about a national aesthetic impoverishment when art is expatriated. The effect has furthermore been negative when it has caused African museums to neglect and lose sight of other arts in favour of sculpture, or when it has led them to add to their collections "art" objects denuded from the associated paraphernalia and lacking the documentation necessary for their interpreta-

The dilemma facing many African museologists today is how to define the future mission and responsibilities of their museums. The insidious idea that museums should only be museums of ART has created an unfortunate situation in many countries, where the definition of *cultural patrimony* is assumed to be self-evident, even though it has never been debated and practically defined. On the slippery continuum from ART to CRAFT to TECHNOLOGY, what do we choose to research, to conserve, and to exhibit? What are the *things*, the objects, that are important or that become important as witnesses of a nation's cultural heritage?

Here it is important to note that while to the Western mind a given museum in Africa may be readily assimilated to the category of "ethnographic museum", due to its contents, its veritable mission is to become a truly national museum with collections and exhibits that are fully representative of the history, the crafts, the arts, and the technologies of the nation-state in which it lives. And it is here, I feel, that the Western world has done a disservice to Africa's museums. Because of our own preoccupations and prejudices, we have virtually restricted our interest in African material culture to those objects which we consider art objects, and we have propagated a selective image of African creativity. We have seized hold of the notion that stresses the aesthetic autonomy of the art object - in itself a valid concept and have chosen to ignore the object's full social and historical contexts, even though it is these contexts that gave it life and continue to give it meaning. Our insistence on the instrinsic worth of an African objet d'art, on its plastic selfsufficiency, cannot be separated from the fact that all too often the African art object in a Western museum or art collection is otherwise mute; its provenance and real history have been lost due to the series of commercial transactions that have brought it out of Africa, and its "identity" has been shrunk to a stark ethnic label. It may be "saved" as art, yet "lost" as a cultural and historical document.



Inauguration of PREMA86. From left: C. Erder, Prof. Zevi of the Pigorini Museum, P. Ravenhill of the International African Institute, and Prof. Sodini of the University of Paris – Sorbonne.

Given the general lack of significant documentation that accompanies African art outside of its African context, it should not surprise us that while the West has established and refined a certain connoisseurship of African art, we have not yet seen the development of a real art history of Africa. All too often art geography has been substituted for art history. In spite of some extremely valuable attempts to interpret and contextualize certain African art traditions, we must admit that there have been relatively few attempts to look at different traditions comparatively and historically, and this is due in large part to the absence of primary data. We simply do not know the extent and distribution of most art forms. We have limited knowledge of the artists and workshops that created the art we so much admire. We have too narrowly focused on the ethnic group as the producer and consumer of art forms. We have stressed synchronic description rather than diachronic investigation. And our definition of art has been too narrow, and insufficlent to deal with the full-dimensionality of African arts. Western research on African art has tended to focus on single art products, instead of material culture complexes, and there are few studies that have sought to examine globally the diverse forms of art and their interrelations in a given community.

This then is the current challenge for Africa's museums: to be effective research institutions whose staffs can conceive and carry out the field work necessary for the true preservation of national cultural heritage: the preservation not only of the objects themselves but the knowledge of their artists and clients, their social history, their meaning, their function and use – in short, the total range of extrinsic information that is crucial to a real understanding of the art forms. A true art history begins with the object but then

moves out to examine its total context in order to return with new understanding and appreciation to the object itself.

As national museums, African museums have a responsibility to constitute fully representative collections of national arts and material culture. Not only must they preserve the cultural past, they must be chroniclers of the cultural present. Contemporary arts and crafts, which are changing so rapidly, must be documented and preserved for future generations. The distant past, too, must also be investigated through archaeology, and the archaeological record itself must be protected from the pillage that takes place when archaeological objects become an export commodity as art.

The challenge is enormous, but happily we can say that positive developments are taking place and that there is a new commitment to the importance of museums in the countries represented by the conservators, here present, who have come to Rome to gain specialized training in preventive conservation. In the Republic of Mali, the National Museum has successfully undertaken a major research and collecting mission on the textiles of the Niger Inland Delta region which resulted in an exquisite exhibition that made accessible to the Malian public an art form that is currently undergoing rapid change due to the devastating ecological changes of recent years. On the basis of this experience the Musée National of Mali has created, and found funding for, a new project called CODDAV - Collecte et Diffusion des Données Audio-Visuelles - which is designed to research and document all types of traditional material culture and especially those aspects, such as technological production, architecture, dance, and per-

### **OPEN FORUM**

formance, that cannot be acquired and housed in the storeroom of a museum. In the Republic of Senegal, the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire will shortly be opening a new national historical museum in a renovated fort on the Island of Gorée, and will soon be initiating a new conservation programme in its Musée d'art africain. In the southern region of Senegal, the Casamance, a local committee is trying to launch a regional eco-museum. On the other side of the border, in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, planning is underway for the creation of a new national museum, and this past May saw the opening of a temporary exposition de sensibilisation devoted to the textiles of Guinea-Bissau. In the Republic of Guinea, new efforts are being devoted to the newly relocated national museum as well as the regional museums. In Côte d'Ivoire, my adoptive country, the museum situation has dramatically improved in recent years, and a young, able and committed staff is seeking to reshape the Musée National and transform it into a research institution capable of bringing to its national public an informed, scholarly view of Ivorian culture history. In Togo, in addition to the national museum, a new initiative has been launched in the creation of a regional museum in Anecho. The Popular Republic of Benin, with its four national museums, is developing a new museum policy and is laying the groundwork for a new, active acquisitions policy. In the Republic of Gabon, CICIBA, the Centre International des Civilisations Bantu will house a new museum in its headquarters building currently under construction. In other countries, too, young museologists are also initiating positive actions which seek to place their museums in the vanguard of battle in the fight for cultural preservation.

The sine qua non of effective museology is conservation;

collections must be maintained and preserved if they are to be used for research, exhibition, and educational outreach. Thus the training of conservators is a priority for general museum development in Africa, and it brings me great pleasure and satisfaction to be present here today, to join with ICCROM, Intercultura, the University of Paris I, and the Pigorini Museum at the launching of a brand-new venture in the training of African museum conservators, a venture which promises to lay the groundwork for a leap forward in African museology and one which will have a salutary effect on the museum profession in Africa.

Seated in the middle of this impressive museum, in the heart of the Eternal City, it is perhaps difficult to try and imagine the realities that confront Africa's museums and the difficulties that these conservators will face on the return to their own museums. They will not, however, be alone when they return. They will first of all have their colleagues from the course as a supportive network. They will continue to maintain relations with ICCROM and be supporters of ICCROM even while they are supported by ICCROM. They will have benefited from this great Pigorini museum and have found committed partners on its staff. They will undoubtedly remember with pleasure and nostalgia their sojourn in the Ezio Aletti Centre of Intercultura. And after this year they themselves will have changed and will carry within the knowledge that they will apply to the preservation of the collections for which they are responsible, and in so doing they will train others.

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#### **KEEP IN TOUCH!**

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Cover: PREMA course participants examine a wooden piece in the workshop at the Pigorini Museum.

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