

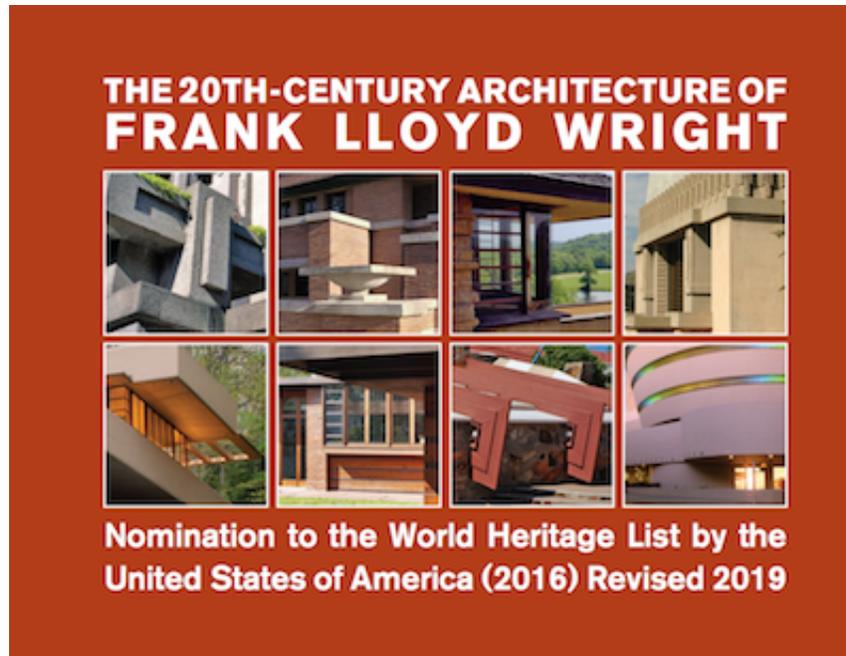


# World Heritage USA

Quarterly Newsletter for Members of US/ICOMOS

Q2 2019 (April - June)

## 2019 US Nomination to the World Heritage List: The 20th Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright



In honor of World Heritage Day on April 18th, we asked Barbara Gordon, Executive Director of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy in Chicago to answer a few questions about the revised nomination of eight Frank Lloyd Wright-designed buildings to the World Heritage List in 2019.

*Please provide a brief overview of the process of the nomination. Roughly how long did it take and how many people and organizations have been involved?*

In mid-November 2018, the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy (FLWBC) and participating sites completed a revised nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List, [The 20th-Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright](#), which includes a group of eight major works designed by Wright located across the country. Spanning his 70-year career, the buildings include Unity Temple (constructed 1906-1909, Oak Park, IL, pictured at right. Credit: Unity Temple auditorium, 2018. Photo by Tom Rossiter, courtesy of Unity Temple Restoration Foundation), the Frederick C. Robie House (constructed 1910, Chicago, Illinois), Taliesin (constructed 1911-1959, Spring Green, Wisconsin), Hollyhock House (constructed 1918-1921, Los Angeles, California), Fallingwater (constructed 1936-1939, Mill Run, Pennsylvania), the Herbert and Katherine Jacobs House (constructed 1936-1937, Madison, Wisconsin), Taliesin West (begun 1938, Scottsdale, Arizona) and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (constructed, 1956-1959, New York, New York).



The Frank Lloyd Wright nomination has been in development for more than a decade, entailing the cooperation of the parties whose sites comprise the nomination, independent scholars and a substantial

financial commitment realized through subsidies and donations, as well as countless hours donated by staff and volunteers.

The nomination was first submitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (WHC) by the United States for consideration in 2015, but the decision was referred for further refinement. At that time, 10 Frank Lloyd Wright sites were nominated. There was strong general sentiment among the Committee members that the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright is globally important and should be recognized for its “outstanding universal value.” However, at its meeting in Istanbul in July 2016, the World Heritage Committee decided to “refer” the nomination. A referral provides the nominator an opportunity to respond to comments by the WHC and resubmit the nomination.

The FLWBC has worked with the council of sites and leading scholars over the last two years to revise the nomination and rework the justification for inscription. Based on advice from ICOMOS, the group made the difficult decision to remove Price Tower (constructed 1953-1956, Bartlesville, Oklahoma) and Marin County Civic Center (constructed 1960-1969, San Rafael, California) from the nomination, dropping the list to eight Wright-designed buildings.

***What would you like our members to know about the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy and its role in the nomination preparation?***

Celebrating 30 years in existence this year, the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy is the only organization with the mission to facilitate the preservation and stewardship of the remaining structures designed by Frank Lloyd Wright through advocacy, education and technical services. This nomination is one of the most important shared endeavors the FLWBC has undertaken, and a significant way for us to reconfirm how important Frank Lloyd Wright was to the development of modern architecture. There are nearly 400 remaining structures designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Our hope is that the inscription of these eight major works spanning Wright’s influential career also brings awareness to the importance of preserving the other possibly lesser-known buildings that are also a vital part of our artistic, cultural and architectural heritage. We hope that all communities where a Wright building stands will appreciate and protect what they have as their shared responsibility to protect their local—and world—heritage.

That little Usonian house that sits on desirable land that could be redeveloped? The small commercial building that has lost its usefulness because it doesn’t fit into today’s standards of “marketable”? We hope this educates and motivates decision-makers to find solutions that preserve rather than demolish or neglect those important buildings.



***What do you hope inscription on the World Heritage list will do for Wright's reputation worldwide and within the United States and for the individual sites inscribed?***

It is exciting to think that by being inscribed to the World Heritage list, these sites belong to the people of the world and it is the joint responsibility of all nations to ensure their preservation and protection. We hope that the inscription will not only ensure the long-term preservation of these eight buildings, but also bring awareness to the need to preserve other buildings designed by Wright that remain in three-quarters of the United States as well as Japan and Canada.

Pictured above: Fallingwater, view from the southeast, 1993. Photo by Robert Buschak, courtesy of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

***Do any of the Frank Lloyd Wright sites have plans for this year's World Heritage Day (aka the International Day of Monuments and Sites) on April 18?***

As we await news of the status of our nomination, this is a day to promote through social media and to remind people that these eight Wright sites have been nominated as important contributions to the world’s cultural heritage.

**Editor's Note:** Many thanks to Barbara Gordon for this contribution to our newsletter. Please consider following the FLWBC on Facebook [@FrankLloydWrightBuildingConservancy](https://www.facebook.com/FrankLloydWrightBuildingConservancy) and

Twitter [@SaveWrightFLWBC](#). We also recommend following the National Park Service Office of International Affairs (Facebook [@NPSInternationalAffairs](#) and Twitter [@NPSInternation](#)) for updates on World Heritage nominations and other international cultural heritage activities that the NPS engages in.

## Future Nomination to the World Heritage List: U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites Serial Nomination

Dr. Glenn T. Eskew, Professor of History at Georgia State University (GSU) and head of the [GSU World Heritage Initiative](#) has provided US/ICOMOS with an update on the status of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites Serial Nomination, another set of sites on the [U.S. Tentative List](#):

Working with the [National Park Service Office of International Affairs \(NPS-OIA\)](#), the GSU World Heritage Initiative has prepared a proposal for a serial nomination of U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites, including 10 additional components, that has been submitted to the WHC for potential review by ICOMOS.

Building on the Three Alabama Churches currently on the U.S. Tentative List for World Heritage (including the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, pictured at left. Credit: Altairisfar), the U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites Serial Nomination identifies about a dozen places in order to tell more completely the globally significant postwar African American freedom struggle of the 1950s and 1960s.

More than seventy-five scholars of the U.S. civil rights struggle, state historic preservation officers, park service employees, historic property owners and stakeholders all joined in an initial symposium in April 2017 to discuss the idea of inscribing a serial nomination and to suggest potential properties that might be included. In the months that followed the scholars and preservationists drafted for debate various statements of outstanding universal value and justification.

Three thematic studies by the National Park Service identified such areas of focus for the nomination as the struggle for desegregated schools, equal access to public accommodations, and the right to vote. These studies also made suggestions of possible sites to consider. An exhaustive search revealed nearly two hundred properties of note associated with the postwar movement. Almost all of the properties have some level of state or federal designation already, with National Historic Landmark being the highest. The GSU World Heritage team visited over half of them to assess authenticity and integrity. Since then, the scholars have revised a statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and justification for inscription under [Criteria \(ii\), \(iii\) and \(vi\)](#). This allowed for the narrowing down of potential sites to a dozen that fit the OUV criteria. Meetings with property owners and stakeholders have been held to determine interest in the program and to begin discussions regarding management plans.

Earlier this month, the GSU World Heritage Initiative submitted its findings as a proposal that the NPS-OIA has sent to the World Heritage Committee with the request for “upstream advice” from ICOMOS over the months ahead. This advice can help determine early on in the process the viability of the nomination, the validity of its statement of outstanding universal value, and whether or not the nomination seems justified under the World Heritage Criteria. It is hoped that such an evaluation will allow for the Department of the Interior to update the U.S. Tentative List accordingly and then grant permission to prepare the final dossier of the Serial Nomination on U. S. Civil Rights Movement Sites for submission.



## International Exchange Program (IEP) 2019: Update from Brian Lione, IEP Program Chair



Since 1984, the US/ICOMOS IEP has provided internships to over 700 young and emerging professionals in the US and over 70 other countries representing over 120 host organizations. The IEP is the only program of its kind. On behalf of the IEP Committee, I am pleased to announce that we will have 15 interns this year. The 12 women and 3 men represent 9 nationalities, and will travel to 5 countries to work at 11 host organizations.

This is the largest group that we've had in my 5 years of involvement with the IEP, and it represents several important developments. For example, both the National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago, and the NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training will welcome two interns each this year, after only 3 years of participating as single-intern hosts in the IEP. We're also welcoming five new hosts - including a partnership between the NPS San Antonio Missions National Historic Park and the Mission Heritage Partners. We now have three hosts in San Antonio (the City's Office of Historic Preservation and the World Heritage Office are the others), up from none four years ago, and up from one just two years ago.

This year is also noteworthy for the number of host placements organized by IEP alumni. Six of the 15 can be directly attributed to the involvement of former IEP interns in Trinidad, France, Turkey, the Netherlands, and the US. Our network of IEP alumni is still nascent, but always evolving.

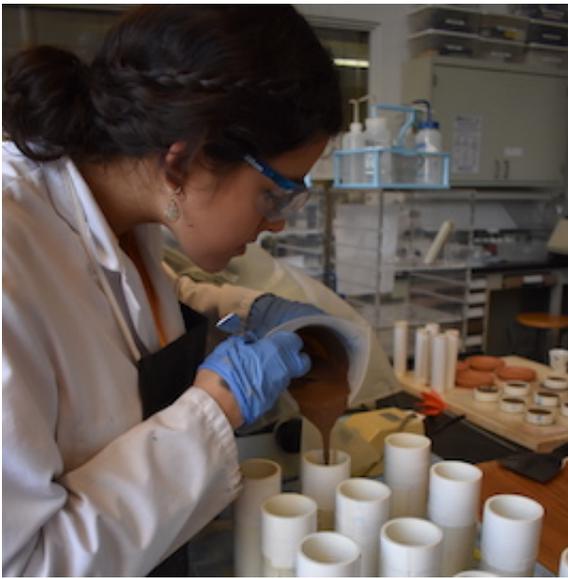
Members can do much to support the IEP:

1. **Donate to IEP.** The IEP is a stand-alone, self-funding program within US/ICOMOS that is approximately 90% managed by the IEP Committee. Hundreds upon hundreds of volunteer hours make the program possible each year. And thanks to donations, we will again be able to fully fund room, board and all travel for all interns this year. Please consider supporting the IEP financially by donating at [usicomos.org/donate/](https://usicomos.org/donate/) and clicking 'Yes' under "Contribute directly to the International Exchange Program."
2. **Participate in the Summer IEP Sessions.** The 2019 IEP Orientation will be held 29-31 May, and the Closing Session 14-16 August. There will be several opportunities to meet the interns and participate in these programs in Washington, DC. Please look for your email invitations closer to the events.
3. **Help with IEP Hosting.** Would you, your organization, or one that you know, be a good fit to host an IEP intern? Please [email me separately](#) and we can start the discussion. It's not too early to start thinking about 2020.
4. **Support the IEP Alumni Network.** Many of the IEP Alumni are young and emerging professionals, still getting started in the field. If you and your organization have internships, fellowships, job postings, etc. [please share them with me](#) and I'll make sure the network gets them.

Thank you for your interest and support in the IEP. We look forward to another great summer!

Pictured above enjoying the IEP 2018 Closing Reception are Brenda Barrett, Trustee, Aanchal Mehta (IEP 2018 alumna), and Brian Lione, IEP Chair.

Murtagh | Graham Prize [Call for Thesis Submissions](#)



US/ICOMOS annually awards the Murtagh|Graham Prize for outstanding student scholarship in the area of historic preservation technologies. The Prize was established on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of US/ICOMOS in 2015 and to honor the contributions and leadership of 2015 Ann Webster Smith Award winners William R. Murtagh, Ph.D., and Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA, to preservation education and cultural heritage stewardship. Initial funding support for this award has been provided by a generous grant from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) of the National Park Service.

This annual award invites universities that are institutional members of US/ICOMOS in good standing as of June 1, 2019, to submit one thesis or graduate capstone project for consideration.

The award will acknowledge student scholarship that demonstrates awareness of previous approaches, recognizes recent developments, provides groundwork for future research and enriches the discipline locally and/or globally. Eligible theses or projects must have been completed (i.e. defended/approved) in calendar year 2018 on a topic related to preservation and conservation technology broadly construed, including traditional preservation and conservation practices and techniques and new technologies. Complete information can be found at this link: [www.usicomos.org/us-icomos-2019-murtaghgraham-prize-call-for-thesis-submissions/](http://www.usicomos.org/us-icomos-2019-murtaghgraham-prize-call-for-thesis-submissions/). The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2019.

If you are unsure about your institution's membership status, please email [director@usicomos.org](mailto:director@usicomos.org). More information about US/ICOMOS Institutional membership can be found here: <http://membership.usicomos.org/>

Pictured above: [2018 Murtagh|Graham Prize winner Nicole Mariel Deplet Díaz](#), an emerging preservationist who recently graduated from the Historic Preservation program at the University of Pennsylvania.

# ICOMOS News

**World Heritage Day / International Day for Monuments and Sites: 18 April 2019**

In 1982, ICOMOS established 18 April as the International Day for Monuments and Sites. UNESCO approved it the following year during its 22<sup>nd</sup> General Conference. Since then, 18 April has been a day to celebrate and promote cultural heritage, and an opportunity to raise awareness about its diversity, its relevance, how vulnerable it can be and what the needs and benefits of its conservation are. Every year, ICOMOS proposes a theme for the celebrations and activities to be organized by the ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees and by other organizations that wish to participate. [In 2019, the theme is Rural Landscapes](#) - which is linked to the theme of the 2019 ICOMOS Scientific Symposium on Rural Heritage to take place in October in Marrakesh, Morocco.



To celebrate World Heritage Day 2019 in the United States, US/ICOMOS trustee and Fellow Darwina L. Neal is sponsoring a program at the National Building Museum entitled "[University of Virginia and Monticello World Heritage Site & Its Evolving Historic Interpretation.](#)"

Learn how and why the joint World Heritage Site of the University of Virginia and Monticello was established and how it is updating its historic interpretation to encourage an honest and inclusive dialogue about its past and enslaved workers. The challenges and contemporary issues that encourage evolution of management and interpretation for such a site will be discussed by **Stephen Morris**, chief of the Office of International Affairs, World Heritage Program coordinator for the National Park Service; **Mary Hughes**, FASLA, LEED AP, University of Virginia landscape architect; and **Gardiner Hallock**, Robert H. Smith director of restoration and collections, and interim director of facilities, Monticello, Thomas Jefferson Foundation.

The program starts at 6:30 pm on April 18th and will be followed by a reception. Make plans to [join us at the National Building Museum by following this link.](#)

## **World Heritage n° 90 (January 2019) Available Now:** [World Heritage Success Stories](#)



The World Heritage Convention is a legal tool. In adhering to it, countries commit to protect heritage within their borders and to refrain from any deliberate measures that might damage directly or indirectly the cultural and natural heritage of the territory of other States Parties to this Convention.

The true measure of the Convention is the effectiveness of its implementation. It is the concrete results that matter, for the sites and for the people who live in or near them. When there are positive results at one World Heritage property, all countries that are party to the Convention can benefit from this success.

In this issue, World Heritage looks at specific cases of actions at World Heritage sites that have benefited and improved their state of conservation, starting with Abu Simbel (Egypt) in the 1950s, and how the safeguarding campaign to protect it led to the birth of the World Heritage Convention; and Angkor (Cambodia),

which celebrates 25 years of conservation since its inscription on the World Heritage List, with more than 60 projects completed thanks to contributions from more than 20 countries.

# Get Involved

## Member Opportunity: Assist US/ICOMOS With Our Social Media Efforts



Are you active on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn? US/ICOMOS has accounts on all of these social media but not enough staff to effectively promote all the wonderful things that we are doing on them.

We are seeking members willing to post to our social media accounts on the following themes:

- World Heritage Management
- World Heritage Travel
- Climate Change and Heritage
- Heritage as Pillar of Sustainable Development
- Cultural Landscapes / Practice
- Culture / Nature
- Preservation Partners and Allies
- Diverse Communities & Stories
- Indigenous Heritage
- Community Empowerment
- Rights-based Approaches in Cultural Heritage
- and more

If you would like to help us with one or more social media, please [send an email to Comms@usicomos.org](mailto:Comms@usicomos.org) letting us know which areas and media particularly interest you. Please include your phone number and we will get in touch.

Thank you!

## An Interview with Douglas C. Comer, Ph.D, US/ICOMOS President and Vice-President of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee

US/ICOMOS President Douglas C. Comer, Ph.D., pictured at right, was elected as Vice-President of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee at the ICOMOS Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in November 2018. For this Members' Newsletter, Doug has kindly answered several questions about his role as VP and described opportunities for US/ICOMOS members to participate in international ICOMOS activities. Pictured at right are ICOMOS Board and Advisory Committee members visiting and discussing World Heritage Sites in Brussels. Doug is at far left.

### *What is the ICOMOS Advisory Committee?*

The Advisory Committee is composed of the Presidents of National and International Scientific Committees. Its function is to advise the ICOMOS Board and to make suggestions and recommendations on the priorities and directions of the program on behalf of national and



international scientific committees. Elected officials represent the Advisory Committee. These are:

- **President** (Mikel Landa, IWC, International Scientific Committee on Wood), who serves also as the Chair of the Scientific Council
- **Vice President:** (Douglas Comer, President, US/ICOMOS, United States National Committee) who also serves as the Chair of the National Committees (NatCom)

Also on the Advisory Committee are:

- **National Committee Officers:** (two) Tiong Kian Boon, Malaysia; Deirdre McDermott, Ireland
- **Officers of the Scientific Council:** (two) Sheridan Burke, ISC on 20th Century Heritage; Christer Gustafsson, ISC on Economics of Conservation

The Advisory Committee President and the two elected officers form the Scientific Council. The Advisory Committee Vice-President and two officers elected form the National Committees (NatCom). Together they form an ICOMOS Bureau. The Advisory Committee President and Vice-President attend a Board meeting held in Paris in the spring, a Board meeting at the Annual General Assembly (AGA), and videoconferences held four times per year. The Advisory Committee itself holds videoconferences each month (12 times per year).

The Advisory Council is responsible for organizing the Annual General Assemblies (AGA) that are held each year. This includes setting the agenda for the Scientific Council meeting and the National Committee meeting. As Chair of the National Committees (NatCom), Dr. Comer will set the agenda for the NatCom meeting.

### ***What does this mean for US/ICOMOS?***

The goals and objectives of US/ICOMOS and the ICOMOS Board and Secretariat must align, of course. Fortunately, the strategic priorities of ICOMOS as they have been set for the triennium 2017-2020 clearly align with US/ICOMOS priorities and interests. The ICOMOS priorities are:

1. Financial security through fundraising
2. Raising the public profile through communication and use of the brand
3. Increasing and rejuvenating membership through regions and emerging professionals

National committees, represented now by Dr. Comer, the US/ICOMOS President, are essential to all three of these. Financially, ICOMOS realizes approximately 80% of its operating funds by means of membership fees. The US/ICOMOS goal to double or triple membership in the near term benefits US/ICOMOS in the same way: it provides us with essential operating funds. At the same time, increased membership contributes to ICOMOS operating funds. US/ICOMOS has recently formed a Membership Committee because of this.

US/ICOMOS began the effort to raise its public profile in 2018 with the *Forward Together* conference and Soiree held last fall in San Francisco. This was a step toward localizing the objectives of the World Heritage Convention, which coincide extremely well with the UN 2030 Strategic Development Goals. To be effective, we must work closely with states and local governments: the endorsement of the World Heritage Convention and the work of US/ICOMOS by Washington State Governor Jay Inslee should be the first of such endorsements and expressions of support by many governors and mayors.

Both ICOMOS and US/ICOMOS understand that we must enhance public visibility and enlist public support by means of new technologies and social media. For this reason, US/ICOMOS has established a Communications Committee, and ICOMOS has established a Communications Working Group. In addition to the Communication ICOMOS Working Group (IWG) several other IWGs are being established. US/ICOMOS will nominate a point of contact for each. For example, I have asked several current trustees to serve as point of contact for the IWGs listed below:

- Communication (Brenda Barrett)
- The 2030 UN SDGs (Wayne Donaldson and Peyton Hall)
- Climate Change (Lisa Craig)
- Emerging Professionals (Zoe Leung and Carolyn Cheong)

I encourage qualified US/ICOMOS members to apply as points of contact for the four IWGs for which we have not yet assigned longer-term representatives; to participate otherwise in IWGs; or to serve on analogous US/ICOMOS Committees. Please [email me your statement of interest, CV, and the name of the IWG you wish to participate in](#). We are specifically seeking points of contact for:

- Culture-Nature IWG
- Indigenous Heritage IWG
- Community Empowerment IWG
- Rights-based Approaches in Cultural Heritage IWG

The outcomes of these groups can be the drafting of a charter as well as the implementation of practical activities (for example, working sessions, workshops).

Also in line with the ICOMOS goal of increasing and rejuvenating membership, US/ICOMOS is also exploring the possibility of establishing regional US/ICOMOS chapters and attracting more emerging professionals to the organization. Our long-standing and highly successful International Exchange Program, chaired for US/ICOMOS by Brian Lione, provides an important means by which to attract Emerging Professionals. All of these will enhance localization and increase US/ICOMOS membership.

**We Can't Accomplish Our 2019 Goals Without You:  
Make Plans Now to Attend the [US/ICOMOS Gala Benefit and World Heritage Celebration](#), May 2nd in Washington, DC**



Each year, we celebrate World Heritage and raise funds for US/ICOMOS at a gala reception and dinner celebration in Washington, DC. This year, we will gather on May 2nd at the Cosmos Club. [We hope that you will join us for an evening of celebration.](#)

This year's guest of honor is Henry R. Muñoz, III, Chief Executive Officer of Muñoz and Company, one of the largest and oldest minority-owned design practices in the United States. Under his leadership, Muñoz and Company developed an architecture that acknowledges the rapidly shifting demographics of the United States. Mr. Muñoz has also led the effort to create a National Latino Museum in Washington DC. We are thrilled to welcome him to our gala along with other honored attendees including Irina Bokova, former Director-General of UNESCO, and Esther Coopersmith, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.

This fun and festive event provides much-needed general operating support for US/ICOMOS and our growing number of heritage-related activities. Please support us and [purchase your tickets today!](#)

Follow us on social media for real-time reporting on calendar items and deadlines, upcoming conferences and events, and breaking news



US/ICOMOS is a U.S. historic preservation nonprofit whose mission includes both supporting the UNESCO World Heritage program and promoting international exchange in the cultural heritage field. You can learn more about us at [usicomos.org](http://usicomos.org).