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US/ICOMOS at Work

July 2020 E-News

A photograph of a dark blue wall with white text. The text reads: "...UNTIL JUSTICE ROLLS DOWN LIKE WATERS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE A MIGHTY STREAM" followed by "MARTIN LUTHER KING JR." in smaller text.

Welcome to "US/ICOMOS at Work," a monthly update on what US/ICOMOS is doing to preserve and promote world heritage and international knowledge exchange on preservation topics. We share these brief communications monthly with our members and supporters. Image: Martin Luther King Jr. inscription at the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama; Credit: Carol M. Highsmith Archive, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

Please Join Us for the Inaugural US/ICOMOS World Heritage Webinar: *U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites and the World Heritage List*



***U. S. Civil Rights Movement Sites
and the World Heritage List***

A Free Webinar

**July 30, 2020
12 pm to 1 pm EST**

**Participants:
Brent Leggs
Denise E. Gilmore
Robert Stanton**

The inaugural US/ICOMOS Webinar will feature current efforts to preserve, restore, and interpret African American heritage sites associated with the Modern Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s and the effort to develop a potential serial nomination of U.S. Civil Rights Movement Sites for possible inscription on the World Heritage List. Scheduled for 12 to 1 pm EDT, Thursday, July 30, 2020, the one-hour online seminar will feature two speakers, Brent Leggs, the executive director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, and Denise Gilmore, formerly with the Trust and now the Acting Executive Director of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

An opportunity for questions and answers from the online audience will follow. Concluding remarks will be offered by former Director Robert Stanton, the first African American to head the National Park Service. [Read more about the webinar and our speakers here.](#)

This webinar is the first in a series of webinars presented by US/ICOMOS on World Heritage topics. The webinars are currently free and open to the public. We hope that you will join us.

Register Now

**\$200,000 Matching Challenge Grant:
Please [Contribute Now](#) to Answer the Challenge!**



Our distinguished colleague and US/ICOMOS Fellow, Ronald Lee Fleming, has generously offered to double all contributions up to \$200,000 with a Matching Challenge Grant.

Ron, pictured here, was honored as a Fellow at our 2019 Celebration of World Heritage. He is recognized as a pioneer in the *Main Street Revitalization Movement*. Throughout his life, Ron has sought to address the visual impact of the environment on our sensibilities, with environmental education projects and urban design strategies.

Unfortunately, US/ICOMOS had to cancel the 2020 Celebration of World Heritage due to the pandemic. We rely on the success of the Celebration each year to fund all our programs. Since there can be no Celebration this year, Ron has generously stepped up to help US/ICOMOS offset this loss, but [we need your help to answer the challenge](#) Please consider a very generous gift to support our mission. Importantly, your gift to US/ICOMOS will be **doubled**.

Daniel Burnham urged, "Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood.... Make big plans; aim high in hope and work...."

In this spirit, for US/ICOMOS to "make big plans," and [to meet this \\$200,000 challenge grant, your gift is essential!](#) If we can meet this challenge, US/ICOMOS will emerge ready to operate successfully in a changed post-pandemic world. **Please [contribute now](#) to double the impact of your fully tax-deductible contribution.**

[Contribute Now](#)

Call to Establish National Working Groups on 'Water and Heritage'

Right: "High Bridge at Night" (2018) by Duane Bailey-Castro.

The High Bridge is an aqueduct bridge that was part of the Croton Aqueduct System in New York City. It reopened for pedestrians in 2015.

At the ICOMOS General Assembly in Delhi, India in December 2017 the ICOMOS Scientific Council encouraged ICOMOS Netherlands to initiate the establishment of an International Scientific Committee on



Water and Heritage (ISCWH). A Task Force formed for this purpose surveyed National Committees and ICOMOS members in 2020 and found that more than 80% recognized the absence of a group within ICOMOS that focused sufficiently on water-related heritage. Over 90% of survey respondents felt that the existence of a Water and Heritage ISC could encourage National Committees to organize National Scientific Committees for Water and Heritage. Building on the survey respondents' strong support, the creation of the new ISCWH was to be included on the agenda for the ICOMOS General Assembly scheduled for October 2020. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the event will not take place in Sydney.

At this time, the ISCWH Task Force seeks to establish Working Groups on Water and Heritage, comprised of heritage experts and water professionals, at national levels. The Task Force also encourages ICOMOS National Committees, in cooperation with water management institutions, to develop a portfolio of case studies, as well as methodologies to assess the significance of these examples, for present and future water management challenges. While the Task Force has set up a large network of international water management institutions, we urge National Committees to identify and collaborate with water management bodies in their own states. To learn more about the ISCWH, [a copy of the survey, the ISCWH Draft Mission Statement and Draft Statement of Significance for Water as Cultural Heritage can be found here](#).

Action items and activities for the national Working Groups are in formation. If you are interested in joining a U.S.-based Working Group on Water and Heritage, please contact ISCWH Task Force member Meisha Hunter Burkett at WaterHeritageUSICOMOS@gmail.com. We look forward to your participation in continuing to build momentum for this global initiative together. [Read the entire Call here](#).

International Exchange Program Alumni: Where Are They Now?

This summer, we're trying something new on social media: a series of "International Exchange Program: Where Are They Now?" videos featuring any and all alumni who wish to participate.

Curious to see these videos? Click on the images below to learn about Brian Lione, left, and Sukrit Sen, right.



We hope to produce many more of these and are calling on IEP Alumni to participate. Drop an email to IEP@usicomos.org with your name and year of IEP (also known as the Summer Intern Program) and we'll send you instructions on how to make and submit your video.

Follow the social media links at the bottom of this newsletter if you don't already follow us. Thanks for participating and for viewing!

— OF NOTE —

Call for Interest: Earth Observations for Climate Change Impacts on World Heritage Cities



The Group on Earth Observations is announcing an initial, open invitation to gauge the interest and support of the GEO community to propose a Community Activity, incorporating urban cultural heritage aspects into the 2020-2022 Work Programme, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). [Read more about the group here.](#)

To express your initial interest in the proposed Community Activity: [Earth Observations for Climate Change Impacts on World Heritage Cities](#), please contact Evangelos Gerasopoulos (egera@noa.gr) and Kyriakos Romios (kromios@noa.gr) from the Greek GEO Office by **July 31, 2020**. Please use [this form](#) for your expression of interest.

Image: Sankore Mosque, [Timbuktu, Mali, threatened by desertification](#). Photo by Jeanne

Menjoulet, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/jmenj/8441194496/in/photostream/>.

ICOMOS "Our Common Dignity" Working Group Training Course: "Heritage

Communities and Human Rights”

The ICOMOS "Our Common Dignity“ Working Group is honored to invite heritage experts, community leaders, and graduate students from Europe and around the world to training course "Heritage Communities and Human Rights" which will be held 2-5 September 2020 in Estonia and online. **Participation is limited to 25 participants and applications are due 31 July 2020.** [Learn more here.](#)

An Oral History: Interviews with the Pioneers of the World Heritage Convention

Would you like to know more about the World Heritage Convention and how it came to be? An international team of researchers is conducting interviews with pioneers of World Heritage to capture memories of important moments in the history of the World Heritage Convention.



Launched in 2006 under the leadership of the Canada

Research Chair on Built Heritage at the University of Montreal, and developed in collaboration with UNESCO Archives, this initiative is part of the UNESCO History project that celebrated the 60th anniversary of the creation of UNESCO.

The Oral Archives project records the precious accounts of people closely associated with the creation and implementation of the Convention. Listen to the interviews here:

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/oralarchives>

Call for Papers: LEGACIES OF DETENTION, ISOLATION, AND QUARANTINE



The journal *Change Over Time: An International Journal of Conservation and the Built Environment*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press, invites submissions for:

11.1 LEGACIES OF DETENTION, ISOLATION, AND QUARANTINE

Guest Editor: David Barnes

Historically, human societies have isolated outsiders and transgressors to defend themselves against perceived danger. Occasionally, we have isolated ourselves to protect others. The locales in which we have performed isolation range from elaborate complexes and stately edifices to prosaic makeshift shelters. Places of isolation, detention, and quarantine reveal often unspoken truths about the states and the societies that created them. This issue will explore the ways in which communities have preserved and

remembered the liminal sites they once designed to tame and physically contain their fears.

Abstracts of 200-300 words are due 15 September 2020. All abstracts should be submitted to cot@design.upenn.edu. Final manuscript submissions will be due mid-March 2021.

Read the complete Call for Papers here: <http://cotjournal.com/call-for-abstracts/>

US/ICOMOS needs your help to emerge ready to operate successfully in a changed post-pandemic world.

**Please contribute now to double the impact of your fully tax-deductible contribution
... and please join our organization as a member.**

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*and Please Forward this Newsletter to
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US/ICOMOS is a US 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.

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