UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-first session

Naples, Italy

1-6 December 1997

Information Document: Glossary of World Heritage Terms (Revised in October 1997)
Glossary of World Heritage Terms

A Glossary of Terms relating to the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention
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Preface

This Glossary of World Heritage Terms was initially prepared in accordance with the request of the World Heritage Committee at its nineteenth session in December 1995. The Committee requested that the Glossary be a separate document, independent from, but referring to, the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* and to reports of relevant expert meetings. The June 1996 version of the Glossary has been updated to include reference to recent activities relating to the implementation of the *Convention* and the revised *Operational Guidelines* (UNESCO February 1997).

Technical notes

(a) Derivation of terms

The Glossary of World Heritage Terms has been prepared primarily by extracting terms and their definitions and interpretations from the *World Heritage Convention*, the *Operational Guidelines* and reports of relevant expert meetings.

Other documents and publications consulted during the preparation of the Glossary are listed in the Bibliography.

(b) Format of entries

Each term defined or explained in this Glossary is presented alphabetically in *bold italics*.

Within the text of definitions or explanations, additional terms defined or explained elsewhere in the Glossary are presented in *italics* for ease of cross referencing.

Documents, publications and the reports of relevant expert meetings cited and referred to in the Glossary are included in the Bibliography.
Alphabetical Glossary

A

Action Plan for the Future (Cultural Landscapes)


see Cultural landscapes

Advisory bodies

Article 8(3) of the World Heritage Convention establishes the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Rome Centre), now known as ICCROM, the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), now known as the World Conservation Union as advisory bodies to the World Heritage Committee.

The Operational Guidelines outline the various rôles of the advisory bodies in relation to the implementation of the Convention (UNESCO February 1997).

The advisory bodies are also referred to as advisory organisations in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 14 and 26, Paragraphs 49, 50 and 84).

see IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Assistance

see International assistance, Preparatory assistance, Emergency assistance, Technical co-operation, Training

Associative cultural landscape

Associative cultural landscape is one of the three main categories of cultural landscapes adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its sixteenth session in December 1992 (UNESCO 14 December 1992: 54-55) and included in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 10, Paragraph 39).

Paragraph 39 (iii) of the Operational Guidelines refers to associative cultural landscapes in the following way:

39.
The final category is the associative cultural landscape. The inclusion of such landscapes on the World Heritage List is justifiable by virtue of the powerful religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element rather than material cultural evidence, which may be insignificant or even absent (UNESCO February 1997: 10, Paragraph 39).


At the Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value held in Vienna, Austria in April 1996, potential European World Heritage associative cultural landscapes were discussed (UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see Clearly defined landscape, Continuing landscape, Cultural landscape, Organically evolved landscape, Relict (or fossil) landscape

**Authenticity**

Also known as Test of authenticity and Conditions of authenticity.

Paragraph 24 of the Operational Guidelines requires that a cultural property nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List be considered for inclusion only if it meets one or more of the cultural heritage criteria and the test of authenticity.

Paragraph 24 (b) (i) of the Operational Guidelines as reproduced below refers to the test of authenticity.

24.

... (b) (i) meet the test of authenticity in design, material, workmanship or setting and in the case of cultural landscapes their distinctive character and components (the Committee stressed that reconstruction is only acceptable if it is carried out on the basis of complete and detailed documentation on the original and to no extent on conjecture) (UNESCO February 1997: 7).

The text concerning groups of urban buildings included in the Operational Guidelines also refers to the need to meet the test of authenticity (UNESCO February 1997: 7, Paragraph 27).

Paragraphs 57 and 58 of the Operational Guidelines state that cultural properties nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List should satisfy the conditions of authenticity and that the determination as to whether these conditions are met will be carried out by ICOMOS (UNESCO February 1997: 16).
Paragraph 64 of the *Operational Guidelines* notes that authenticity/integrity should be included in the completed *nomination form* under the heading of "Justification for Inscription" (UNESCO February 1997: 17).

Paragraphs 78 of the *Operational Guidelines* refers to the undefined concept of "historical authenticity" (UNESCO February 1997: 24).

It is generally acknowledged that the concept of *authenticity* is a vague one and may be subject to different cultural and social interpretations. *Authenticity* and its application in relation to the *World Heritage Convention* was the subject of a conference held in Nara, Japan in November 1994 (*Nara Conference on Authenticity in Relation to the World Heritage Convention*). A preparatory workshop was held in Bergen in Norway from 31 January to 2 February 1994. The proceedings of the preliminary workshop are published in Larson and Marstein (1994). The *Nara Conference* resulted in the adoption of a declaration known as *The Nara Document on Authenticity*. The proceedings of the *Nara Conference* and the *Nara Document on Authenticity* are published in Larson (1995).

In March 1996 an Inter-American Symposium on Authenticity in the Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage was held in San Antonio Texas, U.S.A. The Symposium was co-sponsored by US/ICOMOS, the Getty Conservation Institute and the San Antonio Conservation Society.

see Conservation, Information sources

**Authorization form**

An *authorization form* is included as part of the *nomination form*. On completion of the *authorization form* a States Party agrees to allow *UNESCO* to use photographic materials included as part of the *nomination* for *promotional activities*.

see Nomination form
Balance

Balance is first referred to in Paragraph 6(iii) of the Operational Guidelines with reference to efforts to maintain a "reasonable balance between the numbers of cultural heritage and the natural heritage properties" included in the World Heritage List. This statement is reaffirmed in Paragraph 15 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 2 and 4) and is in conformity with the spirit of the Convention as an instrument for the conservation of both the natural and the cultural heritage.

In the section of the Operational Guidelines concerned with the granting of international assistance, Paragraph 111 states that a "balance will be maintained between funds allocated to projects for the preservation of the cultural heritage on the one hand and projects for the conservation of the natural heritage on the other hand" (UNESCO February 1997: 33).

Section VI of the Operational Guidelines is entitled "Balance between the Cultural and the Natural Heritage in the Implementation of the Convention" (UNESCO February 1997: 34-35). Paragraph 121 outlines a number of measures recommended by the Committee to achieve this balance (UNESCO February 1997: 34-35).

The balance between the numbers of natural and cultural properties inscribed in the World Heritage List was the subject of discussion at the March 1996 "Expert Meeting on Evaluation of general principles and criteria for nominations of natural World Heritage sites" (UNESCO 15 April 1996). The report of the Expert Meeting notes that "'balance' is not about numbers, but about representativity for biogeographical regions or events in the history of life" (UNESCO 15 April 1996: 6).

Biogeographic(al) provinces

In the Operational Guidelines, biogeographic(al) provinces are suggested as an appropriate comparative unit for grouping similar natural properties when preparing tentative lists (Paragraph 8), for nominating a series of natural properties for nomination to the World Heritage List (Paragraph 19(iii)) and for IUCN when preparing relative evaluations of natural properties (Paragraph 60) (UNESCO February 1997: 5 and 16).

Buffer zone

Paragraph 17 of the Operational Guidelines defines a buffer zone as:

... an area surrounding the property which has restrictions placed on its use to give an added layer of protection; the area constituting the buffer zone should be determined in each case through technical studies (UNESCO February 1997: 5).
Paragraph 17 of the *Operational Guidelines* further states that:

Whenever necessary for the proper conservation of a cultural or natural property nominated, an adequate "buffer zone" around a property should be provided and should be afforded the necessary protection ... Details on the size, characteristics and authorized uses of a buffer zone, as well as a map indicating its precise boundaries, should be provided in the nomination file relating to the property in question (UNESCO February 1997: 5).

*Bureau*

see *World Heritage Bureau*
Canal

In September 1994 a meeting on "Heritage Canals" was held at Chaffeys Lock, Ontario, Canada. The expert meeting defined a canal as:

... a human-engineered waterway. It may be of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history or technology, either intrinsically or as an exceptional example representative of this category of cultural property. The canal may be a monumental work, the defining features of a linear cultural landscape, or an integral component of a complex cultural landscape (von Droste et al 1995: 433, Annex III).

see Cultural landscape

Centre

see UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Secretariat

Clearly defined landscape

Clearly defined landscape is one of the three main categories of cultural landscapes adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its sixteenth session in December 1992 (UNESCO 14 December 1992: 54-55) and included in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 10, Paragraph 39).

Paragraph 39 (i) of the Operational Guidelines refers to clearly defined landscapes in the following way:

39.

(i) The most easily identifiable is the clearly defined landscape designed and created intentionally by man. This embraces garden and parkland landscapes constructed for aesthetic reasons which are often (but not always) associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles (UNESCO February 1997: 10).

At the Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value held in Vienna, Austria in April 1996, potential European World Heritage clearly defined landscapes were discussed (UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see Associative cultural landscape, Continuing landscape, Cultural landscape, Organically evolved landscape, Relict (or fossil) landscape

CNPPA (Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas)

see WCPA
Committee

see World Heritage Committee

Comparative assessments

In stating that properties included in the World Heritage List should be carefully selected, Paragraph 9 of the Operational Guidelines further comments that "comparative assessments for the harmonization of tentative lists and nominations of cultural properties" should be performed (UNESCO February 1997: 4).

see Comparative evaluations, Tentative list, Harmonization

Comparative evaluations

Paragraph 12 of the Operational Guidelines refers to the requirement when nominating cultural properties belonging to "certain well-represented categories" to prepare "a comparative evaluation of the property in relation to other properties of a similar type" (UNESCO February 1997: 4).

In presenting "Guidelines for the evaluation and examination of nominations" the Operational Guidelines state that "ICOMOS is requested to make comparative evaluations of properties belonging to the same type of cultural property" (UNESCO February 1997: 16-17, Paragraph 61(c)). The Operational Guidelines do not contain a similar requirement for IUCN in evaluating natural properties.

see Comparative assessments, Tentative list, Harmonization

Conditions of authenticity

see Authenticity

Conservation

The World Heritage Convention does not specifically define conservation. Throughout the Convention reference is made to the "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage". Article 5 of the Convention makes reference to a number of "effective and active measures" that can be taken by States Parties in ensuring this "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission" (UNESCO 1972).

The Operational Guidelines do not include a definition of conservation. The Operational Guidelines state that one of the four essential functions of the World Heritage Committee is to "monitor the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List" (UNESCO February 1997: 1, Paragraph 3 (ii)). Guidelines for monitoring the state of conservation of properties inscribed in the World Heritage List feature prominently in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: Section II).

Paragraph 24 (b) (ii) of the Operational Guidelines stipulates that cultural properties included in the World Heritage List must "have adequate legal and/or contractual and/or
traditional protection and management mechanisms to ensure the conservation of the nominated cultural properties or cultural landscapes" (UNESCO February 1997: 7).

The *Operational Guidelines* also include reference, without definition, to "conservation policy" (Paragraph 27 (ii)), "conservation scheme" (Paragraph 34), "preventive conservation" (Paragraph 69) and "day-to-day conservation" (Paragraph 70) (UNESCO February 1997: 7, 9 and 22).

*Conservation* is used interchangeably with *preservation, safeguarding and protection* in the *Operational Guidelines*.

*The Nara Document on Authenticity* defines *conservation*, specifically with reference to the *cultural heritage*, as:

> *Conservation*: all efforts designed to understand cultural heritage, know its history and meaning, ensure its material safeguard and, as required, its presentation, restoration and enhancement (Larson 1995: xxv).

The French definition of *Conservation* is also included in Larson (1995: xxxi).

**Continuing landscape**

*Continuing landscape* and *relict (fossil) landscapes* are the two sub-categories of *organically evolved landscape*, one of the three main categories of *cultural landscapes* adopted by the *World Heritage Committee* at its sixteenth session in December 1992 (UNESCO 14 December 1992: 54-55) and included in the *Operational Guidelines* (UNESCO February 1997: 10, Paragraph 39).

Paragraph 39 (ii) of the *Operational Guidelines* refers to *continuing landscape* in the following way:

– a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. At the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time (UNESCO February 1997: 10).

At the Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value held in Vienna, Austria in April 1996, potential European World Heritage *continuing landscapes* were discussed (UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see *Associative cultural landscape, Clearly defined landscape, Continuing landscape, Cultural landscape, Organically evolved landscape, Relict (or fossil) landscape*
Convention

see Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage

Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage

The Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its seventeenth session in Paris on 16 November 1972 (UNESCO 1972). The Convention, with 152 signatory States Parties as of November 1997, is the most successful international cultural and natural heritage conservation instrument in the world. The Convention responds to the increasing threats to cultural heritage and natural heritage caused by poverty in many countries, neglect, and in some countries, by unconsidered economic growth and development and seeks to encourage States Parties to identify, protect, preserve and present cultural heritage and natural heritage for future generations in a spirit of international cooperation.

As the first step in the World Heritage conservation process, cultural properties and natural properties of outstanding universal value are identified and included on the World Heritage List. As of November 1997, the World Heritage Committee had inscribed 506 properties on the World Heritage List. The Convention also establishes a World Heritage Fund from which assistance is available for the identification and conservation of the world's heritage.

Convention for the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage

see Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage

Corrective measures

Corrective measures are referred to in Paragraphs 22, 46, 47, 82 and 83 of the Operational Guidelines without specific definition (UNESCO February 1997: 5, 14 and 26).

In Paragraph 22 an "action plan outlining corrective measures" is required when a State Party nominates a property that meets the criteria and the conditions of authenticity and/or integrity but which is threatened by human action. Similar reference is made in Paragraphs 46 and 47 (UNESCO February 1997: 5 and 15).

Paragraphs 82 and 83 of the Operational Guidelines refer to the development of "a programme of corrective measures" in the section on the "Procedure for the inclusion of properties in the List of World Heritage in Danger" (UNESCO February 1997: 26).

Criteria

Paragraphs 2 and 5 of Article 11 of the Convention refer to the definition and establishment of criteria on the basis of which a property belonging to the cultural or natural heritage may be included in the World Heritage List and/or the List of World Heritage in Danger, by the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO 1972).

In accordance with Article 11 of the Convention, the World Heritage Committee have established criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties and natural properties in the World Heritage List. The cultural heritage criteria with the associated test of authenticity
and requirements concerning protection and management mechanisms are included in Paragraph 24 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 6-7). The natural heritage criteria with the associated conditions of integrity are included in Paragraph 44 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 11-13).

In accordance with Article 11 of the Convention the World Heritage Committee have established criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties and natural properties in the List of World Heritage in Danger. The criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the List of World Heritage in Danger are included in Paragraph 78 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 23-24). The criteria for the inclusion of natural properties in the List of World Heritage in Danger are included in Paragraph 79 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 24-25).

see Cultural heritage criteria, Natural heritage criteria, List of World Heritage in Danger, World Heritage List

Criterion

The singular for criteria.

see Criteria

Cultural heritage

Cultural heritage is defined in Article 1 of the Convention as shown below:

Article 1

For the purpose of this Convention, the following shall be considered as "cultural heritage":

monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view (UNESCO 1972).
Cultural heritage criteria

A cultural property may be inscribed in the World Heritage List if it meets one or more of the cultural heritage criteria, the test of authenticity and requirements concerning protection and management mechanisms presented in Paragraph 24 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 6-7).

see Criteria, Natural heritage criteria, Protection and management mechanisms, Test of authenticity, Integrity

Cultural landscapes


Paragraphs 36 to 38 of the Operational Guidelines provide some definition of cultural landscapes.

36. Cultural landscapes represent the "combined works of nature and of man" designated in Article 1 of the Convention. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal. They should be selected on the basis both of their outstanding universal value and of their representativity in terms of a clearly defined geo-cultural region and also for their capacity to illustrate the essential and distinct cultural elements of such regions.

37. The term "cultural landscape" embraces a diversity of manifestations of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment.

38. Cultural landscapes often reflect specific techniques of sustainable land-use, considering the characteristics and limits of the natural environment they are established in, and a specific spiritual relation to nature. Protection of cultural landscapes can contribute to modern techniques of sustainable land-use and can maintain or enhance natural values in the landscape. The continued existence of traditional forms of land-use supports biological diversity in many regions of the world. The protection of traditional cultural landscapes is therefore helpful in maintaining biological diversity (UNESCO February 1997: 9-10).

Paragraph 39 of the Operational Guidelines refers to cultural landscapes as falling into three main categories - the clearly defined landscape, the organically evolved landscape (including relict (or fossil) landscapes and continuing landscapes) and associative cultural landscapes (UNESCO February 1997: 10).

Paragraphs 40 to 42 of the Operational Guidelines provide some further guidance concerning the inclusion of cultural landscapes in the World Heritage List (UNESCO February 1997: 10).
Since 1992 several regional and thematic meetings on the subject of *cultural landscapes* of *outstanding universal value* have been held (see for example, von Droste et al 1995, von Droste et al 1995: Annexes II to VI and UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see Associative cultural landscape, Canal, Clearly defined landscape, Continuing landscape, Heritage route, Organically evolved landscape, Relict (or fossil) landscape

**Cultural property**

Properties inscribed in the *World Heritage List* after having met at least one of the *cultural heritage criteria* and the *test of authenticity* are referred to as *cultural properties*.

see Cultural heritage, Mixed property, Natural property, Property
Data sheets

Standardised data sheets for each natural property nomination are prepared by IUCN using the information held by the Protected Area Data Unit of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC). These data sheets are used as the basis for monitoring natural properties (IUCN 1995: 3).

Deferral

see Deferred

Deferred

When the Bureau and Committee examine nominations of properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List they classify their decisions into those they choose to inscribe, those they decide not to inscribe, those referred back to States Parties for further information, and those whose consideration is deferred (UNESCO February 1997: 19-21, Paragraph 65).

The inscription of a property in the World Heritage List is deferred when the Committee awaits "evidence of the full commitment of the nominating government" to protect the property (UNESCO February 1997: 2, Paragraph 6 (v)).

Paragraph 32 of the Operational Guidelines recommends that examination of nominations of "new towns of the twentieth century" should be deferred pending the passage of time (UNESCO February 1997: 9).

The Bureau and Committee may defer the examination of a property for inclusion in the World Heritage List pending the completion of an "in-depth assessment or study" (UNESCO February 1997: 20, Paragraph 65 June/July (d)).

Deletion

Deletion of a property from the World Heritage List refers to the same process as delisting.

A property may be deleted or removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger when that property is no longer under threat (UNESCO February 1997: 26-27, Paragraph 89).

A property may be deleted from both the List of World Heritage in Danger and the World Heritage List if the property has deteriorated to the extent that it has lost those characteristics which determined its inclusion in the World Heritage List (UNESCO February 1997:26-27, Paragraph 89).


see Delisting

Delisting
Delisting a property from the World Heritage List refers to the same process as deletion.

Paragraph 22 of the Operational Guidelines comments that the Committee will consider delisting a property when the corrective measures agreed to by the State Party nominating a property for inclusion in the World Heritage List are not submitted "within the time proposed by the State" (UNESCO February 1997: 5).

see Deletion

**Designed landscape**

see Clearly defined landscape
Emblem

see World Heritage emblem

Emergency assistance

*Emergency assistance* is one of the types of *international assistance* available under the provisions of the *World Heritage Fund*.

*States Parties* may request *emergency assistance* "for work in connection with cultural and natural properties included or suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List and which have suffered severe damage due to sudden, unexpected phenomena" (UNESCO February 1997: 27-28, Paragraph 92).

Requests for *emergency assistance* should be submitted to the *UNESCO World Heritage Centre* on the form entitled "REquests for Emergency Assistance" (UNESCO 1996d).

see International assistance, World Heritage Fund

Evaluation

Section F of the *Operational Guidelines* establishes "Guidelines for the evaluation and examination of nominations" (UNESCO February 1997: 16-17). At the beginning of Section F, Paragraph 57 states that:

> The evaluation of whether or not individual sites nominated by States Parties satisfy the criteria and the conditions of authenticity/integrity will be carried out by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) for cultural properties and by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) for natural properties. In the case of nominations of cultural properties in the category of 'cultural landscapes', as appropriate, the evaluation will be carried out in consultation with the World Conservation Union (IUCN) (UNESCO February 1997: 16).

Paragraphs 57 to 63 of the *Operational Guidelines* provide further guidance as to the preparation of *technical evaluations* by ICOMOS and IUCN (UNESCO February 1997: 16-17).

Section H of the *Operational Guidelines* in outlining the "Procedure and timetable for the processing of nominations", refers to the timing of the preparation of *evaluations* by IUCN and ICOMOS and to their examination by the *World Heritage Committee* and its *Bureau* (UNESCO February 1997: 19-21).

see also Comparative evaluation, ICOMOS evaluation, IUCN evaluation, Timetable
F

**Fossil landscape**

see **Relict (or fossil) landscape**

**Fund**

see **World Heritage Fund**

**Fund for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage**

see **World Heritage Fund**
Geological and physiographical formations

Geological and physiographical formations are referred to as part of the definition of natural heritage in Article 2 of the Convention (UNESCO 1972).

see Natural heritage

General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention

The General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention meets during the General Conference of UNESCO, that is, every two years.

Global Strategy for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

see Global Strategy

Global Strategy

The Global Strategy is a conceptual framework devised to ensure the representativeness and credibility of the World Heritage List. The Global Strategy was adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its eighteenth session in 1994 (UNESCO 13 October 1994).

The Global Strategy was originally devised with particular reference to cultural heritage. In March 1996 a group of experts meeting in the Parc National de la Vanoise, France, affirmed the application of the Global Strategy for natural heritage (UNESCO 15 April 1996). The World Heritage Bureau and Committee will consider the substance of the report of the group of experts at their twentieth sessions in 1996.

The regional and thematic meetings held on the subject of cultural landscapes of outstanding universal value (see for example, von Droste et al 1995, von Droste et al 1995: Annexes II to VI and UNESCO 21 April 1996) and meetings on authenticity (Larson and Marstein 1994, Larson 1995 and Inter-American Symposium on Authenticity, March 1996) are all important contributions to the aims of the Global Strategy.

UNESCO (1 October 1997) includes a full list of activities and meetings carried out under the umbrella of the Global Strategy up until the end of 1997.

Groups of buildings

Groups of buildings are referred to as part of the definition of cultural heritage in Article 1 of the Convention (UNESCO 1972).

see Cultural heritage
Groups of urban buildings

The World Heritage Committee has adopted guidelines concerning the inclusion of groups of urban buildings in the World Heritage List (UNESCO February 1997: 7-9, Paragraphs 26-34).

Paragraph 27 of the Operational Guidelines refers to groups of urban buildings as falling into three main categories - the towns which are no longer inhabited but which provide unchanged archaeological evidence of the past, historic towns which are still inhabited (inhabited historic towns) and new towns of the twentieth century (UNESCO February 1997: 7).

Groups of urban buildings are not specifically referred to in the Convention.

see Inhabited historic towns

Guidelines

see Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention
Harmonization

To ensure the careful selection of properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List the Committee has recommended the harmonization of tentative lists and of cultural properties for geo-cultural regions or areas (UNESCO February 1997: 4 and 27, Paragraph 9 and Paragraph 90).

Harmonization is not mentioned in the Operational Guidelines with reference to natural properties or their inclusion on tentative lists.

Harmonization is not referred to in the Convention.

Heritage route

In November 1994 a meeting on "Routes as Part of Our Cultural Heritage" was held in Madrid, Spain. The expert meeting defined a heritage route as:

... composed of tangible elements of which the cultural significance comes from exchanges and a multi-dimensional dialogue across countries or regions, and that illustrate the interaction of movement, along the route, in space and time (von Droste et al 1995: 437, Annex IV).

see Cultural landscape

Historic towns

see Groups of urban buildings, Inhabited historic towns
ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Rome Centre))

ICCROM was created by UNESCO in 1956. ICCROM was formerly known as the Rome Centre. In 1977 the name was changed to ICCROM (the initials of the International Centre for Conservation, and given that the Centre is located in Rome, ROM, ICC+ROM=ICCROM).

Article 8 (3) of the Convention requires that a representative of the Rome Centre (ICCROM) attend meetings of the Committee in an advisory capacity (UNESCO 1972).

ICCROM is an intergovernmental body which provides expert advice on how to conserve properties inscribed in the World Heritage List, as well as training in conservation techniques. ICCROM is an active partner in the World Heritage Information Network (WHIN).

see World Heritage Information Network (WHIN)

ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Sites)

Article 8 (3) of the Convention requires that a representative of ICOMOS attend meetings of the Committee in an advisory capacity (UNESCO 1972).

ICOMOS provides evaluations on cultural properties nominated for inscription in the World Heritage List. ICOMOS is an international, non-governmental organization, founded in 1965, with an international secretariat in Paris, France. ICOMOS is one of the main participants in the World Heritage Information Network (WHIN).

see World Heritage Information Network (WHIN)

ICOMOS evaluation

The evaluation procedures used by ICOMOS for cultural property nominations are set out in the ICOMOS volume on "Evaluation of Cultural Properties" presented by ICOMOS to the World Heritage Bureau and Committee each year (see for example ICOMOS 1996).

see Evaluation and IUCN Evaluation

Identification

The World Heritage Convention does not specifically define identification. Throughout the Convention reference is made to the "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage". Article 5 of the Convention makes reference to a number of "effective and active measures" that can be taken by States Parties in ensuring this "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission" (UNESCO 1972).
Within the *Operational Guidelines* the *identification of properties* for potential *inclusion* in the *World Heritage List* is referred to as the first step in the process of *World Heritage conservation* (UNESCO February 1997: 1, 15 and 28, Paragraphs 2, 54 and 94).

"Identification of the Property" is included as part of the *nomination form* (UNESCO February 1997: 20, Paragraph 64 (1) and UNESCO 1997).

**Identification number**

The *identification number*, abbreviated to *ID No*, is an accession number given to each *property* for which a completed *nomination form* is received in the *World Heritage Centre*.

**ID No**

*see Identification number*

**Implementation**

*Implementation* refers to the act of putting the *Convention* into practice.

**Immovable property**

*Immovable property* is *property* that cannot easily be moved. The opposite of *immovable property* is *movable property*. As the *Convention* does not consider *nominations* of *immovable property" which are likely to become movable" (UNESCO February 1997: 7, Paragraph 25).

*see Movable property*

**Indicative list**

The term *indicative list* is sometimes used to refer to the *inventory of property* mentioned in Article 11(1) of the *Convention*. In the French language version of the *Operational Guidelines*, the "Orientations devant guider las mise en œuvre de al Convention du patrimoine mondial", "une liste indicative" is used to refer to this *inventory of property*. Despite this the English language version of the *Operational Guidelines* refers to *tentative list* and not to *indicative list*.

*see Inventory of property, Tentative list*

**Information sources**

*The Nara Document on Authenticity* defines *information sources* as:

*Information sources*: all material, written, oral and figurative sources which make it possible to know the nature, specifications, meaning and history of the cultural heritage (Larson 1995: xxv).

The French definition of *Sources d'information* is also included in Larson (1995: xxxi).

**Inhabited historic towns**
Paragraph 29 of the *Operational Guidelines* provides some definition of *inhabited historic towns* as:

(i) Towns which are typical of a specific period or culture, which have been almost wholly preserved and which have remained largely unaffected by subsequent developments. Here the property to be listed is the entire town together with its surroundings, which must also be protected;

(ii) Towns that have evolved along characteristic lines and have preserved, sometimes in the midst of exceptional natural surroundings, spatial arrangements and structures that are typical of the successive stages in their history. Here the clearly defined historic part takes precedence over the contemporary environment;

(iii) "Historic centres" that cover exactly the same area as ancient towns and are now enclosed within modern cities. Here it is necessary to determine the precise limits of the property in its widest historical dimensions and to make appropriate provision for its immediate surroundings;

(iv) Sectors, areas or isolated units which, even in the residual state in which they have survived, provide coherent evidence of the character of a historic town which has disappeared. In such cases surviving areas and buildings should bear sufficient testimony to the former whole (UNESCO February 1997: 8).

*see Groups of urban buildings*

**Inscription**

*Inscription* refers to the act of including or inscribing a *property* in the *World Heritage List*.

**Integrity**

Also known as *Conditions of integrity*.

The concept of *integrity* is not referred to directly in the *World Heritage Convention*.

Paragraph 44 of the *Operational Guidelines* requires that a *natural property* nominated for inclusion in the *World Heritage List* be considered for inclusion only if it meets one or more of the *natural heritage criteria* and fulfils the *conditions of integrity* (UNESCO February 1997: 11-13). This requirement is again referred to in Paragraph 45 of the *Operational Guidelines* (UNESCO February 1997: 13).

The *conditions of integrity* may be summarised from Paragraph 44 (b) (i) to (iv) of the *Operational Guidelines* as follows:
44.

... (b) ...

(i) The sites described in 44(a)(i) should contain all or most of the key interrelated and interdependent elements in their natural relationships ...

(ii) The sites described in 44(a)(ii) should have sufficient size and contain the necessary elements to demonstrate the key aspects of processes that are essential for the long-term conservation of the ecosystems and the biological diversity they contain ...

(iii) The sites described in 44(a)(iii) should be of outstanding aesthetic value and include areas that are essential for maintaining the beauty of the site ...

(iv) The sites described in paragraph 44(a)(iv) should contain habitats for maintaining the most diverse fauna and flora characteristic of the biogeographic province and ecosystems under consideration ...


Paragraphs 57 and 58 of the Operational Guidelines state that natural properties nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List should satisfy the conditions of integrity and that the determination as to whether these conditions are met will be carried out by IUCN (UNESCO February 1997: 16). Furthermore, Paragraph 61 (d) of the Operational Guidelines also requests that IUCN in examining and evaluating nominations, "make comments and recommendations on the integrity and future management of each property recommended by the Bureau, during its presentation to the Committee" (UNESCO February 1997: 16-17).

The Operational Guidelines refer to the threat to the integrity of natural properties as one of the criterion for the inclusion of natural properties in the List of World Heritage in Danger (UNESCO February 1997: 24, Paragraph 79 (i) (c)). Paragraph 80 of the Operational Guidelines makes comments concerning how threats to the integrity of natural properties may be "amenable to correction by human action" or by "administrative or legislative action, such as the cancelling of a major public works project or the improvement of legal status" (UNESCO February 1997: 25).

On only one occasion the concept of integrity is referred to with reference to the conservation of cultural properties. In Paragraph 24 (b)(ii) of the Operational Guidelines reference is made to the need to "preserve the integrity of cultural sites" (UNESCO February 1997: 7).

The possibility of applying conditions of integrity to both natural heritage and cultural heritage, "and thus of applying one common approach for the identification and evaluation of World Heritage" was the subject of discussion at the March 1996 "Expert Meeting on Evaluation of general principles and criteria for nominations of natural World Heritage sites" (UNESCO 15 April 1996).
**Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage**

see World Heritage Committee

**International assistance**

The granting of collective assistance, such as international assistance, through the participation of the international community is one of the fundamental conservation tools established by the Convention and is referred to in the Preamble to the Convention UNESCO 1972).

The Convention includes significant detail concerning the provision of international assistance - see for example Article 13, and Section V "Conditions and Arrangements for International Assistance, Articles 19-26 (UNESCO 1972). The Convention states that international assistance may be used to identify, "secure the protection, conservation, presentation or rehabilitation" of a cultural or natural property (UNESCO 1972: Article 13 (1) and (2)).

Section IV of the Operational Guidelines entitled "International Assistance" describes the various forms of assistance available under the World Heritage Fund (Preparatory assistance, Emergency assistance, Training, Technical co-operation and assistance for promotional activities), establishes the deadlines for the presentation of requests for international assistance for consideration by the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau, establishes an order of priorities for the granting of international assistance, details of the agreement to be concluded with States Parties receiving international assistance, and the implementation of projects and conditions for the granting of international assistance (UNESCO February 1997: 27-34, Paragraphs 90 to 117).

see Emergency assistance, Preparatory assistance, Promotional activities, Technical assistance, Technical co-operation, Training, World Heritage Fund

**International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Rome Centre)**

see ICCROM

**International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)**

see ICOMOS

**International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) [now the World Conservation Union]**

see IUCN
International protection

Article 7 of the Convention provides some definition of the concept of international protection when it states that:

For the purpose of this Convention, international protection of the world cultural and natural heritage shall be understood to mean the establishment of a system of international co-operation and assistance designed to support States Parties to the Convention in their efforts to conserve and identify that heritage (UNESCO 1972).

see National protection

Inventory of property

Article 11(1) of the Convention establishes the requirement for States Parties to prepare an inventory of property for submission to the World Heritage Committee.

Article 11

1. Every State Party to this Convention shall, in so far as possible, submit to the World Heritage Committee an inventory of property forming part of the cultural and natural heritage, situated in its territory and suitable for inclusion in the list provided for in paragraph 2 of this Article [the World Heritage List]. This inventory, which shall not be considered exhaustive, shall include documentation about the location of the property in question and its significance (UNESCO 1972).

This inventory is referred to in the Operational Guidelines as a tentative list.

see Indicative list, Tentative list

IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) - The World Conservation Union

Founded in 1948, the IUCN - The World Conservation Union brings together States, government agencies and a diverse range of non-governmental organisations in a world partnership. The IUCN is an international, non-governmental organization with more than 800 members from 125 countries. The IUCN seeks to ensure the conservation of the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

Article 8 (3) of the Convention requires that a representative of IUCN attend meetings of the Committee in an advisory capacity (UNESCO 1972).

The IUCN advises the World Heritage Committee on the selection of natural properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List, and through its worldwide network of specialists, reports back on the state of conservation of inscribed properties.

see IUCN evaluation

IUCN evaluation
The evaluation procedures used by IUCN for natural property nominations are set out in the IUCN volume on "Documentation on World Heritage Properties (Natural)" presented by IUCN to the World Heritage Committee each year (see for example IUCN 1995). The evaluation or "Technical Review" of natural properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List is conducted by the Natural Heritage Programme (NHP) of IUCN in association with the IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA formerly the CNPPA). The IUCN uses a standard format in presenting its documentation on natural property nominations. The documentation provided by IUCN is in three parts - a summary of the original nomination including supplementary information, an evaluation and recommendation and data sheets (IUCN 1995: 3).

see Evaluation, ICOMOS evaluation

**Itineraries**

see Heritage route
Joint nomination

Paragraphs 16 and 20 of the Operational Guidelines make reference to the submission of joint nominations of a property or series of properties when that property or series of properties extends across the national territorial borders of one State Party into the territory of another States Party (UNESCO February 1997: 5).

Examples of joint nominations include:

- Argentina and Brazil: Jesuit Missions of the Guaranis
- Belarus and Poland: Bialowieza Forest
- Canada and the United States of America: Tatshenshini-Alsek/Kluane National Park/Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Reserve and Glacier Bay National Park
- Canada and the United States of America: Waterton Glacier International Peace Park
- Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire: Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve
- Hungary and Slovak Republic: Caves of the Aggtelek and Slovak Karst

A complete list of joint nominations is included in the World Heritage List, published annually (see UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation Centre January 1996).

Justification

Section I of the Operational Guidelines entitled "Format and content of nominations" provides guidance as to how States Parties should justify the inclusion of properties in the World Heritage List under the title "Justification for Inscription" (UNESCO February 1997: 17, Paragraph 64 (2)).

The nomination form includes specific requirements for justifying cultural and/or natural property nominations.

Nominations of properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List, should be well justified and presented "in the form of a well-argued case" making reference to the natural and/or cultural heritage criteria they meet (UNESCO February 1997: 4, Paragraph 10).
List of World Heritage in Danger

The List of World Heritage in Danger is clearly defined in Article 11 (4) of the Convention:

4. ... a list of the property appearing in the World Heritage List for the conservation of which major operations are necessary and for which assistance has been requested under the Convention. This list shall contain an estimate of the cost of such operations. The list may include only such property forming part of the cultural and natural heritage as is threatened by serious and specific dangers, such as the threat of disappearance caused by accelerated deterioration, large-scale public or private projects or rapid urban or tourist development projects: destruction caused by changes in the use or ownership of the land; major alterations due to unknown causes; abandonment for any reason whatsoever; the outbreak or the threat of an armed conflict; calamities and cataclysms; serious fires, earthquakes, landslides; volcanic eruptions; changes in water level, floods, and tidal waves. The Committee may at any time, in case of urgent need, make a new entry in the List of World Heritage in Danger and publicize such entry immediately (UNESCO 1972).

Paragraph 6(vi) of the Operational Guidelines states that,

(vi) When a property has deteriorated to the extent that it has lost those characteristics which determined its inclusion in the World Heritage List. It should be placed on the World Heritage in Danger List, subsequently the procedure concerning the possible deletion from the List will be applied (UNESCO February 1997: 3).

As of November 1997 there are 22 properties included in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

see Deletion, Delisting
Management

Paragraph 63 of the Operational Guidelines clearly states that the characteristics or values which justified the inclusion of a property in the World Heritage List should be reflected in its future management (UNESCO February 1997: 17).

Management plan

States Parties to the Convention are encouraged to prepare management plans for the management of each cultural and natural property nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List (UNESCO February 1997: 5, Paragraph 21). This requirement is reflected in the conditions of integrity for natural properties (UNESCO February 1997: 11-13, Paragraphs 44 (b)(v) and (vi)) and in the requirements concerning protection and management mechanisms for cultural properties (UNESCO February 1997: 12, Paragraph 24 (b)(ii)).

Mixed property

As of November 1997 19 properties are currently included in the World Heritage List on the basis of both their natural and cultural values (UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation Centre 1996). Although these types of World Heritage properties are generally known as mixed properties, the Operational Guidelines does not use, refer to, or define this term. The Operational Guidelines do however state that "States Parties should as far as possible endeavour to include in their submissions properties which derive their outstanding universal value from a particularly significant combination of cultural and natural features" (UNESCO February 1997: 5, Paragraph 18).

Mixed site

see Mixed property

Monitoring

One of the essential functions of the World Heritage Committee is to monitor the state of conservation of properties inscribed in the World Heritage List. Section II of the Operational Guidelines describes systematic monitoring and reporting and reactive monitoring (UNESCO February 1997: 22).

Paragraphs 69 to 74 of the Operational Guidelines described the process of systematic monitoring and reporting whilst Paragraph 75 describes reactive monitoring (UNESCO February 1997: 22-23).

see Reactive monitoring, Systematic monitoring and reporting
Monuments

Monuments are referred to as part of the definition of cultural heritage in Article 1 of the Convention (UNESCO 1972).

see Cultural heritage

Movable property

Movable property is property that can easily be moved from one location to the other. As explained in the Operational Guidelines, the World Heritage Committee does not consider nominations of movable property for inclusion in the World Heritage List (UNESCO February 1997: 7, Paragraph 25).

see Immovable property
The Convention refers to national "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage" situated on its territory as national protection. National protection is distinct from international protection (UNESCO 1972: Articles 4-6). National protection of cultural and natural heritage is an essential component in the conservation of World Heritage properties.

see International protection

Natural area

The "Report of the Expert Meeting on Evaluation of general principles and criteria for nominations of natural World Heritage sites" held at the Parc national de la Vanoise, France on 22 to 24 March 1996 (UNESCO 15 April 1996) includes the following definition of natural area:

A natural area is one where bio-physical processes and landform features are still relatively intact and where a primary management goal of the area is to ensure that natural values are protected. The term "natural" is a relative one. It is recognized that no area is totally pristine and that all natural areas are in a dynamic state. Human activities in natural areas often occur and when sustainable may complement the natural values of the area (UNESCO 15 April 1996: 3).

see Natural heritage
Natural heritage

*Natural heritage* is defined in Article 2 of the *Convention* as shown below:

**Article 2**

For the purposes of this Convention, the following shall be considered as "natural heritage";

natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from the aesthetic or scientific point of view;

geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation;

natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty (UNESCO 1972).

**Natural heritage criteria**

A *natural property* may be *inscribed* in the *World Heritage List* if it meets one or more of the *natural heritage criteria* and the *conditions of integrity* presented in Paragraph 44 of the *Operational Guidelines* (UNESCO February 1997: 11-13).

see *Conditions of integrity*, *Criteria*, *Cultural heritage criteria*

**Natural property**

*Properties inscribed* in the *World Heritage List* after having met at least one of the *natural heritage criteria* and the *conditions of integrity* are referred to as *natural properties*.

**Natural sites**

*Natural sites* are referred to as part of the definition of *natural heritage* in Article 2 of the *Convention* (UNESCO 1972).

see *Natural heritage*

**Nomination**

The process whereby a *States Party*, or *States Parties*, to the *Convention* seeks to have a *property* included in the *World Heritage List* is called *nomination*.

A *nomination* of a *property* for inclusion in the *World Heritage List* must be made by the national government of a country that is a signatory to the *World Heritage Convention*. The *property* nominated, must be located on the territory of that *State Party*. 
Substantial guidance concerning the preparation of a *nomination* is provided in the *Operational Guidelines* (UNESCO February 1997: 3-5 and 17-19, Paragraphs 7-22 and 64) and in the *nomination form* (UNESCO 1997).

see *Nomination form*

**Nomination form**

The application form to be used by *States Parties* when nominating properties for *inclusion* in the *World Heritage List* is referred to as the *nomination form* (UNESCO 1997).

Blank copies of the *nomination form* (UNESCO 1997) are available from the *World Heritage Centre*. The *nomination form* is also available *electronically* via the INTERNET at the following address www.unesco.org/whc/archive/nominfrm.pdf

When nominating *properties* for inclusion in the *World Heritage List*, *States Parties* are requested to submit three copies of the completed *nomination form* to their UNESCO National Commission and/or Permanent Delegation who should then forward it to the *UNESCO World Heritage Centre* (UNESCO 1997).
Operational Guidelines

see Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, known also as the Operational Guidelines or simply as the Guidelines, were prepared by the World Heritage Committee for the purpose of informing States Parties to the Convention of the principles which guide the work of the World Heritage Committee in establishing the World Heritage List, the List of World Heritage in Danger and in granting international assistance under the World Heritage Fund (see UNESCO February 1997: 1-2, Paragraph 4). The Operational Guidelines provide guidance concerning the format and content of nominations to the World Heritage List and present the timetable for submission and evaluation of the nominations. The Operational Guidelines also provide details on other questions, mainly of a procedural nature, which relate to the implementation of the Convention. Most importantly the Operational Guidelines present the "Criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List" and the "Criteria for the inclusion of natural properties in the World Heritage List".

The Operational Guidelines have been prepared with the intention of ensuring objective and scientific decision-making on the part of the World Heritage Committee.

The first version of the Operational Guidelines were adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1977. Since 1977 the Operational Guidelines have been adjusted and expanded to reflect the subsequent decisions of the Committee. Ten major revisions of the Operational Guidelines had been produced and adopted by the World Heritage Committee up until November 1997.

Organically evolved landscape

Organically evolved landscape is one of the three main categories of cultural landscapes adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its sixteenth session in December 1992 (UNESCO 14 December 1992: 54-55) and included in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 10, Paragraph 39).

Paragraph 39 (ii) of the Operational Guidelines refers to organically evolved landscapes in the following way:

39. (ii) The second category is the organically evolved landscape. This results from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/or religious imperative and has developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. Such landscapes reflect that process of evolution in their form and component features. They fall into two sub-categories:
- a relict (or fossil) landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form.

- a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. At the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time (UNESCO February 1997: 10).

At the Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value held in Vienna, Austria in April 1996, potential European World Heritage organically evolved landscapes were discussed (UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see Associative cultural landscape, Clearly defined landscape, Continuing landscape, Cultural landscape, Relict (or fossil) landscape

**Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC)**

The Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC) was established in 1993 to develop a sense of solidarity and a cooperative relationship between World Heritage cities particularly in view of the implementation of the Convention. The OWHC thus facilitates an exchange of knowledge, management techniques and financial resources for the purpose of protecting monuments and sites. The OWHC is based on the idea that sites within populated cities endure pressures of a different nature and therefore may require a more dynamic style of management. There are over one hundred World Heritage cities to date.

**Outstanding universal value**

*Outstanding universal value* is referred to in several places in the Convention and the Operational Guidelines without specific definition. Parts of the cultural and natural heritage, "because of their exceptional qualities, can be considered to be of outstanding universal value, and as such worthy of special protection against the dangers which increasingly threaten them" (UNESCO February 1997: 1, Paragraph 1).

*Outstanding universal value* is sometimes simply referred to as World Heritage value.

At the "Expert Meeting on Evaluation of general principles and criteria for nominations of natural World Heritage sites" held at the Parc national de la Vanoise, France on 22 to 24 March 1996,

The expert group recalled that different interpretations have been made of the term "outstanding universal value" which is a key to the establishment of a selective World Heritage List. In a number of cases the term has been also interpreted as implying "best of its kind". The expert group stressed that the notion of outstanding universal value has been constructed over time and may be interpreted as a concept incorporating both uniqueness and representativeness (UNESCO 15 April 1996: 1).
OWHC

see Organization of World Heritage Cities
Precisely delineated [natural] areas

Precisely delineated [natural] areas are referred to as part of the definition of natural heritage in Article 2 of the Convention (UNESCO 1972).

see Natural heritage

Preparatory assistance

Preparatory assistance is one of the types of international assistance available to States Parties from the World Heritage Fund. Paragraphs 90 and 91 of the Operational Guidelines outline the types of activities that may be funded by preparatory assistance. The upper limit available as preparatory assistance is US$15,000 (UNESCO February 1997: 27).

The form used to request preparatory assistance (UNESCO 1996c) can be obtained from the World Heritage Centre. The Request for Preparatory Assistance form is also available electronically via the INTERNET at the following address www.unesco.org/whc/archive/prepasse.pdf

see International assistance

Presentation

The World Heritage Convention does not specifically define presentation. Throughout the Convention reference is made to the "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage". Article 5 of the Convention makes reference to a number of "effective and active measures" that can be taken by States Parties in ensuring this "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission" (UNESCO 1972).

Although presentation is used very frequently in the Operational Guidelines it is not defined.

Preservation

The World Heritage Convention and the Operational Guidelines do not specifically define preservation.

Preservation is used interchangeably with conservation, safeguarding and protection in the Operational Guidelines.

see Conservation, Protection, Safeguarding
Promotional activities

Promotional activities relating to World Heritage conservation may include meetings organised to create interest and greater awareness of the Convention, the exchange of experiences and the preparation of information material relating to the implementation of the Convention. International assistance, provided on a selective basis, to a maximum of US$5000, may be made available from the World Heritage Fund for promotional activities (UNESCO February 1997: 31-32, Paragraph 107).

Article 27 of the Convention refers to educational and information programmes as a means to "strengthen appreciation and respect by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage" (UNESCO 1972).

see International assistance, Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion

Property

The World Heritage Convention refers to properties as being component parts of the cultural and/or natural heritage. The term property is used interchangeably with site in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997).

see Sites, Cultural heritage, Natural heritage

Protection

The World Heritage Convention does not specifically define protection. Throughout the Convention reference is made to the "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage". Article 5 of the Convention makes reference to a number of "effective and active measures" that can be taken by States Parties in ensuring this "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission" (UNESCO 1972).

Although protection is used very frequently in the Operational Guidelines it is not defined (UNESCO February 1997).

Protection is used interchangeably with conservation, safeguarding and preservation in the Operational Guidelines.

see Conservation, International protection, National protection, Preservation, Safeguarding
Reactive monitoring

One of the essential functions of the World Heritage Committee is to monitor the state of conservation of properties inscribed in the World Heritage List. The Operational Guidelines describe both systematic monitoring and reporting and reactive monitoring.

75. **Reactive monitoring** is the reporting by the World Heritage Centre, other sectors of UNESCO and the advisory bodies to the Bureau and the Committee on the state of conservation of specific World Heritage sites that are under threat. To this end, the States Parties shall submit to the Committee through the World Heritage Centre, specific reports and impact studies each time exceptional circumstances occur or work is undertaken which may have an effect on the state of conservation of the site. Reactive monitoring is foreseen in the procedures for the eventual deletion of properties from the World Heritage List as set out in paras. 48-56. It is also foreseen in reference to properties inscribed, or to be inscribed, on the List of World Heritage in Danger as set out in paras. 82-89 (UNESCO February 1997: 23).

see Monitoring, State of conservation, Systematic monitoring and reporting

Referral

When examining nominations the Bureau may decide to recommend to the Committee that a nomination be referred back to the nominating State for further information or documentation” (UNESCO February 1997: 20, Paragraph 65 June/July).

Rehabilitation

The World Heritage Convention does not specifically define rehabilitation. The Convention makes reference to the "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation" of cultural and natural heritage. Article 5 of the Convention makes reference to a number of "effective and active measures" that can be taken by States Parties in ensuring this "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation" (UNESCO 1972).

Rehabilitation is not defined in the Operational Guidelines.

Relict (or fossil) landscape

Relict (or fossil) landscape and continuing landscape are the two sub-categories of organically evolved landscape adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its sixteenth session in December 1992 (UNESCO 14 December 1992: 54-55). Paragraph 39 (ii) of the Operational Guidelines refers to relict (or fossil) landscapes in the following way:

- a relict (or fossil) landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form (UNESCO February 1997: 10).
At the Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value held in Vienna, Austria in April 1996, potential European World Heritage relict (or fossil) landscapes were discussed (UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see Associative cultural landscape, Clearly defined landscape, Continuing landscape, Cultural landscape, Organically evolved landscape

**Renomination**

Renomination is not referred to specifically in the Convention or the Operational Guidelines.

Renomination refers to the process where a States Party submits a new nomination of a property already inscribed in the World Heritage List. Renominations may be useful for the purpose of boundary change or expansion and/or re-evaluation of the values and the criteria for which the property had been previously inscribed in the World Heritage List.

**Reporting**

see Monitoring, Reactive monitoring, Systematic monitoring and reporting

**Rome Centre**

see (ICCROM) International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property

**Routes**

see Heritage route

**Rules of Procedure**

In complying with Article 10 (1) of the Convention the World Heritage Committee adopted Rules of Procedure at its first session and amended them at its second and third sessions (UNESCO n.d.). The Rules of Procedure include reference to the conduct of World Heritage Bureau and Committee meetings.
Safeguarding

Safeguarding is used interchangeably with conservation, preservation and protection in the Convention and the Operational Guidelines.

see Conservation, Preservation, Protection

Secretariat

Article 14 of the Convention notes that the World Heritage Committee "shall be assisted by a Secretariat appointed by the Director-General" of UNESCO. Since 1992 the World Heritage Centre, located at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, has performed the role of the Secretariat to the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau. The Secretariat is responsible for the daily administrative and technical management of the Convention. The World Heritage Centre prepares the documentation for the Committee and its Bureau and has the responsibility for the implementation of their decisions.

Series

A series of cultural or natural properties situated in different geographical locations may be proposed for inclusion in the World Heritage List in a single nomination provided they are related because they belong to:

(i) the same historico-cultural group or

(ii) the same type of property which is characteristic of the geographical zone

(iii) the same geomorphological formation, the same biogeographic province, or the same ecosystem type

and provided that it is the series as such, and not its components taken individually, which is of outstanding universal value (UNESCO February 1997: 5, Paragraph 19).

Furthermore, Paragraph 20 of the Operational Guidelines states that:

When a series of cultural or natural properties ... consists of properties situated in the territory of more than one State Party to the Convention, the States Parties concerned are encouraged to jointly submit a single nomination (UNESCO February 1997: 5).

see Serial property

Serial nomination

see Serial property, series
Serial property

A serial property is a property nominated and/or inscribed in the World Heritage List as a series in accordance with Paragraphs 19 and 20 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 5).

see Series

Serial site

see Serial property, Series

Sites

Sites are referred to as part of the definition of cultural heritage in Article 1 of the Convention (UNESCO 1972). Apart from this specific usage, the term site is not used in the Convention.

The term site is used interchangeably with property in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997).

see Cultural heritage, Property

Spirit of the Convention

The term spirit of the Convention refers to the special qualities of the Convention as an international heritage protection instrument reliant on collective international protection, the notion of outstanding universal value, and the conservation of both natural and cultural heritage in a single protective instrument.

see Convention

State of conservation

State of conservation reports for natural and cultural properties included in the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger are examined by the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau. State of Conservation reports are prepared by the advisory bodies IUCN and ICOMOS, the World Heritage Centre and States Parties as part of the system of monitoring and reporting of World Heritage properties.

see Monitoring, Reactive monitoring, Systematic monitoring and reporting

States Parties

States Parties are those Member States of UNESCO who have ratified, accepted or acceded to the World Heritage Convention. There were 152 States Parties to the Convention as of November 1997 (UNESCO 28 October 1997).
**Systematic monitoring and reporting**

One of the essential functions of the *World Heritage Committee* is to monitor the state of conservation of properties inscribed in the *World Heritage List*. The *Operational Guidelines* describe systematic monitoring and reporting and reactive monitoring.

69. Systematic monitoring and reporting is the continuous process of observing the conditions of World Heritage sites with periodic reporting on its state of conservation (UNESCO February 1997: 22, Paragraph 69).

Guidance concerning the objectives, process and importance of systematic monitoring and reporting is included in Paragraphs 69 to 74 of the *Operational Guidelines* (UNESCO February 1997: 22).

see *Monitoring, Reactive monitoring, State of conservation*
Technical evaluations

see Evaluation, ICOMOS evaluation, IUCN evaluation

Technical co-operation

Article 22 of the Convention establishes the provision of assistance for technical co-operation to States Parties for the conservation of properties included in the World Heritage List. Technical co-operation is one of the types of international assistance available from the World Heritage Fund. States Parties can request technical co-operation for a number of specified purposes as outlined in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 29-31, Paragraphs 99-106) using the form entitled "Request for Technical Co-operation" (UNESCO 1996a). The form is also available electronically via the INTERNET at the following address www.unesco.org/whc/archive/techcoop.pdf

see International assistance

Tentative list

Article 11 of the Convention establishes the requirement for States Parties to prepare an inventory of property (UNESCO 1972). The Operational Guidelines refer to these inventories as tentative lists.

Paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Operational Guidelines provide further advice to States Parties as to the definition of tentative lists.

7. The Committee requests each State Party to submit to it a tentative list of properties which it intends to nominate for inscription to the World Heritage List during the following five to ten years. This tentative list will constitute the "inventory" (provided for in Article 11 of the Convention) of the cultural and natural properties situated within the territory of each State Party and which it considers suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List. The purpose of these tentative lists is to enable the Committee to evaluate within the widest possible context the "outstanding universal value" of each property nominated to the List. The Committee hopes that States Parties that have not yet submitted a tentative list will do so as early as possible. States Parties are reminded of the Committee's earlier decision not to consider cultural nominations unless such a list of cultural properties has been submitted.

8. In order to facilitate the work of all concerned, the Committee requests States Parties to submit their tentative lists in a standard format (see Annex 1) which provides for information under the following headings:

- the name of the property;
- the geographical location of the property;
- a brief description of the property;
- a justification of the "outstanding universal value" of the property in accordance with the criteria and conditions of authenticity or integrity set out in paragraphs 24 and 44 below, taking account of similar properties both inside and outside the boundaries of the State concerned.

Natural properties should be grouped according to biogeographical provinces and cultural properties should be grouped according to cultural periods or areas. The order in which the properties listed would be presented for inscription should also be indicated, if possible (UNESCO February 1997: 3-4).

As stated above the "Model for presenting a tentative list" is included as Annex 1 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997).

see Inventory of property

Test of authenticity

see Authenticity

Thematic studies

Thematic and regional studies of cultural and natural heritage are important contributions of the Global Strategy. Such studies provide the comparative basis from which to evaluate the outstanding universal value of properties nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List.

In recent years a number of regional and thematic meetings have been held on the subject of cultural landscapes of outstanding universal value (see for example, von Droste et al 1995, von Droste et al 1995: Annexes II to VI and UNESCO 21 April 1996).

see Global Strategy

Timetable

The procedure and timetable for the processing of nominations (including deadlines for the receipt, examination and evaluation of nominations) is presented in Paragraphs 65 to 67 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 19-21).

Towns

see Groups of urban buildings, Inhabited historic towns

Training

Articles 22(c) and 23 of the World Heritage Convention provide for international assistance in the form of training of staff and specialists in the conservation of cultural and natural heritage relating to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972). Priority is given to group training at the local or regional level. States Parties may submit requests for international assistance with training as outlined in Paragraphs 94 to 98 of the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO February 1997: 28-29) using the form entitled "Requests for the Organization of Training Activities" (UNESCO 1996b).
In adopting a Training Strategy at its nineteenth session in Berlin, Germany in December 1995 the Committee stated that:

Training is defined as a broadly encompassing term that includes education, training and promotion (UNESCO 31 January 1996: 55-56).

see International assistance

Training Strategy

see Training

Transmission

The World Heritage Convention and the Operational Guidelines do not specifically define transmission. Throughout the Convention reference is made to the "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage". Article 5 of the Convention makes reference to a number of "effective and active measures" that can be taken by States Parties in ensuring this "identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission" (UNESCO 1972).
UNESCO

see United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Constitution of UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) was signed in London on 16 November 1945 and came into force with the twentieth ratification on 4 November 1946. The purposes of UNESCO as stated in the Constitution are:

... to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations (UNESCO 1945).

The Article 14 of the Convention notes that the World Heritage Committee "shall be assisted by a Secretariat appointed by the Director-General" of UNESCO. Since 1992 the UNESCO World Heritage Centre has functioned as this Secretariat (UNESCO 1972).

UNESCO World Heritage Centre

see Secretariat
W

WCMC (World Conservation Monitoring Centre)

The WCMC (World Conservation Monitoring Centre) is an independent charity established by the IUCN (The World Conservation Union), the WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) and UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme). The WCMC provides an information service on global conservation. The WCMC aims to provide reliable up-to-date information on the conservation of species and ecosystems and to promote the application of such information for enlightened conservation planning. The WCMC provides research, information and technical services so that decisions affecting the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources may be based on the best available information. The WCMC provides information support to both IUCN and UNESCO to assist them in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

WCPA (World Commission on Protected Areas)

The WCPA (formerly known as the CNPPA or Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas) is one of the six voluntary Commissions of IUCN - The World Conservation Union. The WCPA is the largest worldwide network of protected area managers and specialists. The WCPA mission is to promote the establishment and effective management of a worldwide network of terrestrial and marine protected areas.

see IUCN, IUCN evaluation

World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC)

see WCMC

World Conservation Union (IUCN)

see IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) - The World Conservation Union

World Heritage

World Heritage may best be defined with reference to the Preamble to the World Heritage Convention which states that:

... parts of the cultural or natural heritage are of outstanding interest and therefore need to be preserved as part of the world heritage of mankind as a whole (UNESCO 1972: Preamble).

Paragraph 1 of the Operational Guidelines refers to the World Heritage (cultural heritage and natural heritage) as being

... among the priceless and irreplaceable possessions, not only of each nation, but of mankind as a whole. The loss, through deterioration or disappearance, of any of these most prized possessions constitutes an impoverishment of the heritage of all the peoples in the world. Parts of that heritage, because of their exceptional qualities, can be considered to be of outstanding universal value and as such worthy of special protection against the dangers which increasingly threaten them (UNESCO February 1997: 1).
World Heritage Bureau

Of the 21 States Parties who are members of the World Heritage Committee, 7 are also members of the World Heritage Bureau. The World Heritage Bureau meets twice a year, once in June/July and a second time immediately preceding the Committee's regular session, to prepare the work of the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO February 1997: 48, Paragraph 132).

World Heritage Centre

see Secretariat

World Heritage Committee

21 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention make up the World Heritage Committee in accordance with Article 8 (1) of the Convention (UNESCO 1972). The intergovernmental World Heritage Committee meets once each year.

Paragraph 3 of the Operational Guidelines outlines the four essential functions of the World Heritage Committee as being:

(i) to identify, on the basis of nominations submitted by States Parties, cultural and natural properties of outstanding universal value which are to be protected under the Convention and to list those properties on the "World Heritage List";

(ii) monitor the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List.

(iii) to decide in case of urgent need which properties included in the World Heritage List are to be inscribed on the "List of World Heritage in Danger" ((only properties which require for their conservation major operations and for which assistance has been requested under the Convention can be considered));

(iv) to determine in what way and under what conditions the resources in the World Heritage Fund can most advantageously be used to assist States Parties, as far as possible, in the Protection of their properties of outstanding universal value (UNESCO February 1997: 1).

World Heritage Convention

see Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage
World Heritage Education (WHE)

see World Heritage Youth Forum/Fora, Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion

World Heritage emblem

The World Heritage emblem was designed by Mr Michel Olyff and adopted by the Committee at its second session in 1978. The emblem, reproduced on the front cover of this Glossary, symbolizes the interdependence of cultural and natural properties: the central square is a form created by man and the circle represents nature, the two being intimately linked. The emblem is round, like the world, but at the same time it is a symbol of protection.

At its eighteenth session in December 1994 the World Heritage Committee adopted the addition of text to the World Heritage emblem. The use of the emblem with text is explained in Paragraph 122 of the Operational Guidelines:

The emblem should always carry the text "World Heritage. Patrimoine Mondial". The space occupied by "Patrimonio Mundial" can be used for its translation into the national language of the country where the logo is to be used (UNESCO February 1997: 36).

Paragraphs 122 to 125 of the Operational Guidelines include guidance as to the appropriate use of the World Heritage emblem as adopted by the Committee (UNESCO February 1997: 36, Paragraphs 122-125).

World Heritage Fund

The World Heritage Fund was established according to Article 15 of the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972). The World Heritage Fund is a trust fund composed of contributions from a number of sources (including compulsory and voluntary contributions made by the States Parties to the Convention) referred to in Article 15 (3) of the World Heritage Convention. The Fund provides the financial resources for the provision of international assistance (Preparatory assistance, Emergency assistance, Training, Technical co-operation and assistance for promotional activities).

see Emergency assistance, International assistance, Preparatory assistance, Promotional activities, Technical assistance, Technical co-operation, Training

World Heritage List

Article 11 (2) of the Convention refers to the World Heritage List as:

... a list of properties forming part of the cultural heritage and natural heritage, as defined in Articles 1 and 2 of this, as defined in Articles 1 and 2 of this Convention, which it considers as having outstanding universal value in terms of such criteria as it shall have established. An updated list shall be distributed at least every two years (UNESCO 1972).

The World Heritage List is intended to be a select list of cultural and natural heritage properties of outstanding universal value (UNESCO February 1997: 2, Paragraph 6 (i).
In accordance with Paragraph 135 of the *Operational Guidelines* the *World Heritage List* is published every year (see UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation Centre 1996 and UNESCO 1997).

**World Heritage logo**

see *World Heritage emblem*

**World Heritage value**

see *Outstanding universal value*

**World Heritage Youth Forum/Fora**

*World Heritage Youth Fora* are part of the *Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion*. Youth fora are convened to bring together Associated School's Project (ASP) students and teachers to share their experience of World Heritage Education (WHE), to catalyse the development of World Heritage curricula and to facilitate an exchange of information between schools in different countries. Youth fora were held in Bergen, Norway in June 1996 and in Dubrovnik, Croatia in May 1996. In September 1996 a Youth Forum will be held in Zimbabwe and in Beijing, China in September 1997.

see *Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion, Young People's World Heritage Education Project*

**World Heritage Youth Project**

see *World Heritage Youth Forum/Fora, Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion*
Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion

Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion is an inter-regional project coordinated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and UNESCO's Associated School's Project (coordinated by UNESCO's Sector for Humanistic, Cultural and International Education). The project, now more commonly known as the Young People's World Heritage Education Project, was launched in 1994 in order to sensitize young people at secondary school level to the importance of World Heritage. The project's aim is to initiate or reinforce teaching and activities in the area of World Heritage Education (WHE) and to produce an education kit to this end. A World Heritage Education Resource Kit for teachers entitled "World Heritage in Young Hands" will be launched by UNESOC in early 1998.

see World Heritage Youth Forum/Fora

Young People's World Heritage Education Project

see Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion

Youth Forum

see World Heritage Youth Forum/Fora, Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion, Young People's World Heritage Education Project

Youth Project

see World Heritage Youth Forum/Fora, Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion, Young People's World Heritage Education Project
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WCPA
World Heritage
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World Heritage emblem
World Heritage Fund
World Heritage List

Y

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