The 28th session of the World Heritage Committee in Suzhou, China achieved important results, with 34 new properties being inscribed on the World Heritage List, bringing the total number to 788. Following this fruitful meeting, the World Heritage Centre can now look forward to organizing and participating in a series of significant events, which will bring the conservation and preservation of cultural and natural heritage to the fore of the international scene.

In September the United Nations Foundation and UNESCO are organizing the first major international event in support of the World Heritage sites in Danger in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. From 10 - 26 September the general public will be invited to a major exhibition, ‘Congo – Nature and Culture in the DRC’, conceived by the Royal Museum for Central Africa of Tervuren, Belgium and supported by the government of Belgium. This multi-themed exhibition will demonstrate the links between culture and nature in the DRC, highlighting the diversity of the country’s natural resources, languages and symbolic rituals. There will also be a one-off Congolese Rumba fund-raising concert on 23 September, featuring major artists from the DRC. From 13-14 September a technical workshop will be held with natural heritage conservation experts to assess the lessons learned from conservation in regions of conflict. On 15 September a workshop with private sector representatives will explore ways and means for the private sector to support biodiversity conservation in the DRC. The highlight of the event will be an International Donors’ Conference, ‘Promoting and Preserving Congolese Heritage’, from 16-17 September, under the patronage of President Joseph Kabila of the DRC and President Jacques Chirac of France, with the objective of launching a global partnership initiative for World Heritage conservation in the DRC.

Another major event on the WHC calendar is the Fourth International Experts’ Meeting on the Main Inca Road, to be held in Chile (7-10 November) to prepare the nomination process of the Qhapaq Nan ‘Camino Principal Andino’ for inscription on the World Heritage List. One of the main themes of this meeting is the participation of the indigenous/local communities in the nomination process.

The WHC will also participate in the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress in Bangkok, Thailand (17-25 November), ‘People and Nature – Only One World.’ Discussions at this largest environmental gathering ever held in Asia will center on the issues dealing with safeguarding of ecosystems.

As decided by the World Heritage Committee at its 28th session, an extraordinary session will be held from 6 to 11 December at UNESCO Headquarters to deal with policy, administrative and financial issues as well as with the implementation of the World Heritage Strategic Objectives.

Finally, looking into next year, the WHC, the Austrian Government and ICOMOS are organizing an international conference, ‘World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture: Managing the Historic Urban Landscape’, to be hosted by the Municipal Government of Vienna from 12-14 May. This conference will look into the challenges of the conservation of historic urban environments, in order to reach a consensus among the different stakeholders on an international agreement on principles and guidelines for regulation and management.

Francesco Bandarin, Director of the World Heritage Centre
The 28th session of the World Heritage Committee was held in Suzhou, China, under the chairmanship of Zhang Xinsheng, Vice Minister of Education of China and Chairperson of China’s National Commission for UNESCO, from 28 June to 7 July 2004. Over 700 delegates from States Parties, Advisory Bodies and non-governmental organizations participated. 29 cultural sites and 5 natural sites were added to the World Heritage List, bringing the total number of sites inscribed to 788 (611 cultural, 154 natural, and 23 mixed). 157 reports on the state of conservation were examined. Three properties were added to the List of World Heritage in Danger and three were removed from it (see page 3). The Committee elected its Chairperson: Thembisile Tshabalala of South Africa, Deputy Director-General for Heritage at the South Africa National Archives and Library Services; its Rapporteur: Ariel Gonzalez of Argentina, and its Vice-Chairpersons: Colombia, Lebanon, New Zealand, Nigeria and Portugal. The mandate of this Bureau will last until the end of the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2005.

D uring this eight-day session, in a warm and hospitable atmosphere created by the host country and by the city of Suzhou, the World Heritage Committee examined a considerable number of issues aimed at making its work, and the implementation of the World Heritage Convention more efficient.

Towards a balanced World Heritage List

One of its main concerns was to encourage the growth of under-represented categories of sites and improve geographical coverage. The Committee acknowledged that the so-called ‘Cairns Decision’ aimed to develop a more balanced World Heritage List had not been fully implemented. On an experimental and transitory basis the Committee therefore decided to adopt a different mechanism that will be applicable at the 30th session. At that time it will examine up to two complete nominations per State Party, provided that nominations concern a new property. It has also set at 45 the limit on the number of nominations it will review at the 30th session, inclusive of nominations deferred and referred by previous sessions of the Committee, extensions, transboundary nominations and nominations submitted on an emergency basis.

The Committee called on the Secretariat to indicate to States Parties, within 30 days of reception of nomination proposals, whether their dossiers were complete. It also decided to develop a mechanism that would allow a State Party to correct what it considers to be factual errors in its inscription proposal.

The Committee also called on the WHC, in co-operation with States Parties, ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM, and other relevant partners to convene, no later than March 2005, a meeting of experts which is to make specific proposals to enable less-represented and non-represented States Parties to improve the quality of nominations and identify sufficient funding sources for the sustainable conservation of properties inscribed. The goal is to decrease, by the year 2007, by at least 30 % the number of less-represented and non-represented States Parties and to lower by 20% the number of properties inscribed as of today on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The WHC is to report on the proposals and conclusions of this Experts Meeting at the 29th session of the Committee.

**WHC – Work in Progress**

The Committee also examined the work of the World Heritage Centre. It expressed its appreciation of the special activity in support of World Heritage in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It also expressed strong concern at the critical shortages of permanent staff at the WHC, particularly in the Latin America and Caribbean, the Europe and North America and the Policy and Statutory Implementation Units as well as staff dedicated to natural heritage. It urged that these shortages be addressed in the Mission to the Volcanoes of Kamchatka

The Indian government has put a very high priority on eco-tourism. This programme will integrate science into management and give economic incentives to communities outside the parks. Alternatives to the depletion of natural resources must be given.

**What role will ecotourism play in this programme?**

The Indian government has put a very high priority on eco-tourism. This programme will integrate science into management and give economic incentives to communities outside the parks. Alternatives to the depletion of natural resources must be given.

**What are the goals of the World Heritage Biodiversity Programme for India?**

The World Heritage philosophy, which singles out sites of outstanding universal value serves as a beacon for a larger network of protected areas. The first challenge is to put that philosophy into practice. We must improve the state of conservation of the World Heritage biodiversity sites, as well as improve management and capacity building of staff and the local communities. This will serve as an example and lift the standard for other protected areas as well.

**What challenges lie ahead?**

Much needs to be done. Park authorities are overburdened. Local populations need to be more sensitized to the needs of conservation. Where they are sensitized, skills have not been provided. Therefore there is sometimes a sense of conflict. Once the implementation stage and the hiring of staff are completed, then the work of integrating park authorities, government departments and local communities will begin. The challenge is to get all actors to work in a coordinated way.

**What role will ecotourism play in this programme?**

The Indian government has put a very high priority on eco-tourism. India has been lagging behind in access to training and equipment in the area of ecotourism. This programme will integrate science into management and give economic incentives for conservation.

The United Nations Foundation has catalyzed public-private partnerships in support of India’s natural heritage sites. Together with its partners – the American-Indian Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Suri Sehgal Foundation and others – the UN Foundation will provide US$5 million for the first four-year phase of UNESCO’s ten-year programme, which will be implemented by the Wildlife Institute of India and the Ashoka Trust for Research in Environment and Ecology and other partners. Four of India’s five World Heritage Biodiversity sites (Kaziranga National Park, the Manas National Park, the Keoladeo National Park and Nanda Devi) are targeted. The Newsletter spoke to Seema Paul, Senior Program Officer, Biodiversity at the United Nations Foundation. The WHC was also requested to submit the thematic initiatives on ‘Astronomy and World Heritage’ and ‘Marine Conservation’ for consideration at the 29th session.

The WHC was requested to report on the on-line database at the 29th session, with the understanding that it would become operational as of 1 April 2005. This database is to include information on the implementation of the decisions adopted at all the Committee’s sessions from the 26th onwards. The WHC was also requested to develop a similar database for the decisions adopted by the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention and to report on its progress at the 29th session.

The Committee decided that the revised Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the Convention, subject to approval by the 29th session, would be applied as of 1 November 2004.

Despite this longer-than-usual Committee session, there was not sufficient time to discuss all items on the Agenda. It was decided to hold a 7th extraordinary session at UNESCO headquarters, Paris 6-11 December 2004.

The 29th session of the Committee will be held in Durban, South Africa in July 2005.
At its 28th session the World Heritage Committee simultaneously inscribed Bam and its Cultural Landscape (Iran) on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Committee also inscribed the Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) and the Cologne Cathedral (Germany) on the Danger List. Three sites, Angkor (Cambodia), Bahia Fort (Oman) and Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda) were removed from this List. There are now 35 properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Bam and its Cultural Landscape (Iran)

Situated in the desert on the southern edge of the iranian high plateau, Bam developed as a crossroads of trade in silk and cotton. Its origins can be traced to the Achaemenid period (6th-4th century BC) and it was in its heyday from the 7th to 11th centuries. This is the most representative example of a fortified medieval town built in vernacular technique using mud layers. An earthquake in December 2003 caused the death of 26,000 people and severely damaged the rich archaeological remains of Bam. As a result of the destruction, archaeologists have discovered new evidence of the history of the place. This includes remains of ancient settlements and irrigation systems at least to the Parthian-Hellenistic period, 2nd century BC. UNESCO is to continue efforts to salvage the cultural heritage of this property.

Removal from the Danger List

Angkor (Cambodia)

Angkor is one of the most important archaeological sites in South-East Asia. Stretching over some 400 sq km, including forested area, Angkor Archaeological Park is a magnificent ensemble of the different capitals of the Khmer Empire, from the 9th to the 15th century. These include the famous Temple of Angkor Wat and, at Angkor Thom, the Bayon Temple with its countless sculptural decorations. Illicit excavation, pillaging and landmines were the main threats that led to the inscription of the remarkable complex on the Danger List. The Committee noted that the preservation of the site from destruction is already secure and that the restoration activities, coordinated by UNESCO since 1993, could be considered a ‘success story’.

Bahia Fort (Oman)

The oases of Bahia owed its prominence to the Banu Nebhan tribe which dominated the area from the 12th to the end of the 15th century. The ruins of the immense fort, with its walls and towers of unbacked brick and its stone foundations, are a remarkable example of this type of fortification and attest to the power of the Banu Nebhan. Bahia Fort was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1987, and put on the Danger List in 1988, mainly because of the collapse of some of its structures following heavy rainfall. In the last decade, however, the rapid urbanization of the oasis added another element of concern. Improved conservation and the development of a management plan in consultation with the local stakeholders led the Committee to approve the site’s removal from the Danger List.

Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda)

The Rwenzori Mountains National Park covers the main part of the Rwenzori mountain chain in western Uganda. The region’s glaciers, waterfalls and lakes make it one of Africa’s most beautiful alpine areas. The park is the home to endangered species and to a rich and unusual flora including, among other species, the giant heather. The site was put on the Danger List due to insecurity and a lack of resources. The Committee was satisfied that the authorities had regained control over the site, that security has been restored and that proper management has been re-established.

Update on Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)

On 6 May the new, completely redesigned World Heritage web site was launched, using the most advanced database-driven technology. The web site is the official site of the Secretariat for the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the source of the most up-to-date information about the World Heritage List, the Convention, and its many partners around the world. It features information about sites, projects, meetings and activities, events, publications, news, partnership opportunities, as well as contacts for the many organizations involved in the protection of our common cultural heritage.

New World Heritage Web Site

The World Heritage Centre now has a dynamic engine which provides the public with more updated content. Each of the 788 sites on the World Heritage List has its own page and can be accessed geographically using a dynamic world map, by region, or by simply typing in its name. Each page provides the public with more updated content. Each of the 788 sites on the World Heritage List has its own page and can be accessed geographically using a dynamic world map, by region, or by simply typing in its name. Each page provides information about the World Heritage List, the Convention and its many partners around the world.

The new sections include ‘Activities’ which presents information about programmes, projects, and actions for the promotion and protection of World Heritage sites. ‘Partners With Us’ provides opportunities for the public to form sustainable partnerships to mobilise resources in order to conserve and protect the World’s most valued sites.

Satellites and Conservation in Latin America

More than 50 experts in the conservation of World Heritage sites in Latin America, representing ten countries, gathered at a workshop at the facilities of the Argentinian Space Agency (CONAE) from 18 to 23 April (Salta del Carmen, Cordoba, Argentina). The workshop was organized jointly by UNESCO, the European Space Agency (ESA), CONAE and EURISYS (a non-profit organization which promotes capacity building in the use of space technologies).

In the course of this workshop experts discussed the conservation problems World Heritage sites in Latin America have in common. They also examined how satellite images and associated space technologies can be used to support tools to strengthen conservation and to detect potential threats to sites. Several areas of co-operation in which CONAE and UNESCO will assist were also identified.

On the sidelines of the workshop experts from CONAE, ESA and UNESCO met with site managers and conservation organizations from Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil to discuss the Iguazu Falls National Park in Argentina. The conservation expert group concluded that satellite images should be used to identify priority areas for the extension of the park and to monitor the current World Heritage site. CONAE and UNESCO are to help with this initiative.

COANA, a major UNESCO partner, will continue to assist this partner in the world in obtaining access to satellite images which can be used in day-to-day conservation activities.
On 25 May an agreement between UNESCO and the
World Heritage Foundation (WHF) was
signed, which formalizes the status of the Foundation as a Regional Centre under the auspices of UNESCO. It was
created by the Moroccan Ministry of the Environment and collaborates closely with the Nordic countries to support the implementation of the Convention.

A Stakeholders’ Meeting for the Elaboration of a Management Plan for Galli, Sri Lanka was organized by the WHC, and the Sri Lanka Heritage Foundation in Galle (6-7 May), to enhance consultation and thus establishing an effective monitoring system on the site. The workshop carried out a
needs-assessment for the elaboration of a comprehensive site management plan for the conservation and management of this World Heritage property.

Within the framework of the project for ‘Information Management Capacity Building for World Heritage in the Arab States Region’, financed by the Flemish Fundus voor Studies, a training session on World Heritage was organized in Tunis, Tunisia (13-15 May), with the co-operation of the National Environmental Protection Agency of Tunisia and the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and
Hydraulic Resources. It was attended by national site managers from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Tunisia.

Twenty university students from Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia, Zambia, Lesotho, Cameroon, Botswana, Malawi, Reunion Islands, Germany and Zimbabwe gathered at Khami World Heritage site for the fifth International Restoration Youth Volunteer Camp (13-26 June), Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Since 2000 UNESCO, the National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe and the French Embassy have helped with the rehabilitation of the Khami World Heritage site by organizing yearly volunteer youth camps with the collabora-
tion of ‘Studienkolleg für Architektur und Medienkultur’ and a French association.

The UNESCO-UNI TECHNICAL TWIN Heritage Studies Chair, the first dealing with World Heritage, was inaugurated (3 June) at the University of Cottbus (Germany). The Chair is the result of continuous co-operation between the WHC and the BTU Cottbus, since the inauguration of the World Heritage Studies Programme there in 1999. The ‘Inauguration of CHAM (Chantiers Histoire et Architecture Medievales), a French association. The first reactive monitoring mission to Benin (31 May – 4 June), was organized by the WHC and the Sri Lanka Heritage Foundation in Galle (26-27 May), to enhance management of this World Heritage property.

The Safeguard of American Indian Fortifications, organized by the Spanish Fund in Trust for the World Monuments Fund; Salamat Ali Tabbasum, Associate Expert, Asia Pacific Unit, was in Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand (3 May-3 April) to inform the relevant national authorities and heritage experts from the Pacific Island countries about the launch of the World Heritage – Pacific 2008 Programme to be held in New Zealand (7-22 October). Kerstin Manz, Consultant Europe and North America Unit, participated in the first Benin Meeting on World Heritage Management, Lisbon, Portugal (14-15 May), organized by the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO and supported by the Spanish National Commission for UNESCO. Karolyn Schenk, Editorial Assistant to the Promotion, Publications and Education Unit, was at Mount Emei, China (29-30 April) to present the Convention and its mechanisms at a Journalists Training Workshop, organ-
ized by the UNESCO Beijing Office and the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO. Marielle Richon has joined the WHC Publications, Promotion and Education Unit as a Consultant to work as a consultant on the ‘Four Corners of a Round Table: The Heritage of Humankind’, an event organized by the Spanish Fund in Trust for the World Monuments Fund.


FRANCESCO BANDARIN, WHC Director, was in La Paz, Bolivia, to attend the Third International Expert Meeting, organized with financial support from extra-
budgetary funds from France and the Netherlands, to prepare the nomination process of the Qhapag Gn ‘Camino Principal Andino’. Mr Bandarin, along with Feng Jing, Programme Specialist, and Junke Okahashi, Assistant Programme Specialist, Asia, attended the technical meeting of the Conservation of the Kتاحtham Man Valley World Heritage Property in Danger (3-7 May). Mechtild Rössler, Chief, Europe and North America Unit, attended the First International Expert Meeting on World Heritage in Young Hands Skills Development Course for Eastern and Central Africa at Mount Kenya (19-23 April), organized in co-operation with the UNESCO Nairobi Office and the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO.

Participants included teachers and students from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Lazare Eloundou, Programme Specialist, Africa Unit, undertook a joint

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The World Heritage Review. No. 36, June 2004 is a special issue honoring the 29 World Heritage sites in China, on the occasion of the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee. Aside from articles devoted to the preservation of the Great Wall of China, the Yellow River and the Jade Emperor Temple, 21 case studies on World Heritage sites in China are presented by themes, includ-
ing Imperial sites and tombs, Historic towns, Sacred mountains, Ancient Chinese cities and towns, China’s natural World Heritage, Religious grottoes and China’s heritage legislation. This special issue has been generously supported by the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO and the French Ministry for Culture and Communication.

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New World Heritage Sites

Thirty-four new sites (five natural and twenty-nine cultural properties) were added to the World Heritage List at the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Suzhou, China (28 June – 7 July 2004). This brings to 788 the total number of cultural, natural and mixed sites now inscribed. Andorra, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Iceland, Saint Lucia and Togo made their first appearance on the List, which now includes 611 cultural sites, 154 natural sites and 23 mixed sites in 134 countries around the world. The Committee also approved extensions to the following sites: Area de Conservación Guanacaste (Costa Rica); Gough and Inaccessible Islands (United Kingdom); St Kilda (United Kingdom); Great Living Chola Temples (India); Imperial Palaces of the Ming and Qing Dynasties in Beijing and Shenyang (China); and the Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties (China).

DENMARK
Balls Head Icefield
Located on the west coast of Greenland, 250 km north of the Arctic Circle, Bals Head Icefield (40,240 ha) is the sea mouth of the Greenland ice cap which reaches the sea. Studied for over 250 years, it has helped to develop our understanding of climate change and icecap glaciology. The combination of a huge ice-sheet and the dramatic sounds of a fast-moving glacial ice-stream carving into a fjord covered by icebergs makes for a dramatic and awe-inspiring experience.

INDONESIA
Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra
This 2.5 million ha Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra site comprises three national parks: Gunung Leuser, Kerinci Seblat and Bukit Barisan Selatan. The site holds the greatest potential for long-term conservation of the distinctive and diverse biota of Sumatra, including many endangered species. The protected area is home to an estimated 10,000 species, including 17 endemic genera; more than 200 mammal species, including the endemic Sumatran orang-utan; and some 580 bird species.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Natural System of ‘Wrangel Island’ Reserve
Located well above the Arctic Circle, the site includes the mountainous Wrangel Island (7,608 km2), Herald Island (11 km2) and surrounding waters. Wrangel was not glaciated side by side from the sea, linked by the Piton spires rising (7,608 km2), Herald Island (11 km2) and surrounding waters. Wrangel was not glaciated. It includes the Pitons, two volcanic spires rising 17 endemic genera; more than 200 mammal species, including the endemic Sumatran orang-utan; and some 580 bird species.

AUSTRALIA
Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra
This site comprises a concentration of large-scale, unencumbered archaological, historic and living cultural heritage evidences cradled in an impressive landscape which includes prehistoric (chalcolithic) sites, a hill fortress of an early Hindu capital, and remains of the 16th-century capital of the state of Gujarat. The site also includes, among other vestiges, fortifications, palaces, religious buildings, residential precincts and water installations, from the 8th to 14th centuries. The site is the only complete and unchanging Islamic pre-Mughal city.

ICELAND
Pingvellir National Park
Pingvellir (Thingvellir) is the National Park where the Althing, an open-air national assembly, was established in 930 and continued to meet until 1788. Over two years a week, the assembly set laws – seen as a covenant between free men – and settled disputes. The Althing has deep historical and symbolic associations for the people of Iceland. Located on an active volcanic site, the property includes the Thingvellir National Park and the remains of the Althing itself: fragments of around 500 booths built from turf and stone.

INDIA
Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus
The Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, formerly known as Victoria Terminus Station, in Mumbai, is an outstanding example of Victorian Gothic Revival architecture in India, blended with themes deriving from Indian traditional architecture. The building, designed by the British architect F. W. Stevens and built over ten years starting in 1878, became the symbol of Bombay as the ‘Gothic City’ and the major international mercantile port of India. Its remarkable stone dome, turrets, pointed arches and eccentrical ground plan are close to traditional Indian palace architecture.
The site also has 16 churches, some with well-preserved mosaic floors. Two square towers are probably only the remains of the practice of the stylites (ascetic monks who spent time in isolation atop tall towers). Umm er-Rasas is surrounded by, and dotted with, remains of ancient agricultural cultivation in an arid area.

KAZAKHSTAN

Petroglyphs within the Archaeological Landscape of Tamgaly

Set around the lush Tamgaly Gorge, amongst the vast, and rich Chuy Mountains, is a remarkable concentration of some 5,000 petroglyphs (rock carvings) dating from the second half of the second millennium BC to the beginning of the 20th century. A huge number of ancient tombs are also to be found, including stone enclosures and cists (middle and late Bronze Age), and mounds (burial mounds) of stone and earth lined with reindeer antlers. The central-canyon contains the densest concentration of engravings and what are believed to be altars, suggesting that these places were used for sacrificial offerings.

LITHUANIA

C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

Situated in the valley of the River Neris, the site is a complex ensemble of archaeological properties, encompassing the town of Kernave, forts, some unfortified settlements, burial sites and other archaeological monuments from the late Paleolithic Period to the Middle Ages. The site has preserved the traces of ancient land-use, as well as remains of five impressive Neolithic forts, part of an exceptionally large defence system. Kernave was an important feudal town in the Middle Ages. The town was destroyed by the Teutonic Order in the late 14th century. However the site remained in use until modern times.

MALI

Tomb of Askia

C (ii) (iii)

A 17-m pyramid structure of the Tomb of Askia was built by Muhammad I Askia, the Emperor of Songhai, in 1495. The capital Gao. It bears testimony to the power and riches of the empire that flourished in the 15th and 16th centuries through its control of the trans-Saharan trade, notably in salt and gold. It is also a fine example of the monumental mud architecture of West Africa, and its complex, including the pyramid tomb, two flat-roofed mosque buildings, the roof of the central cemetery and the open assembly ground, was built when Gao became the capital of the Songhai Empire.

MEXICO

Luis Barragán House and Studio

C (ii) (iii)

Built in 1948, the House and Studio of architect Luis Barragán in the suburbs of Mexico City represents an outstanding example of the architect’s creative work in the context of the Second World War period. The concrete building, consists of a ground floor and two upper storeys, as well as a small garden. Barragán’s work integrated modern and traditional artistic and vernacular elements and ideas into a new synthesis, which has been greatly influential, especially in contemporary design of gardens, plazas and landscapes.

MONGOLIA

Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape

C (iii) (iv)

The 121,967-ha Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape encompasses an extensive area located both on the banks of the Orkhon River and includes numerous archaeological remains dating back to the 6th century. The site also includes Kharkhorum, the 13th- and 14th-century capital of Chinggis (Genghis) Khan’s vast empire. Collectively the remains in the site reflect the symbolic links between nomadic, pastoral societies and their administrative and religious centres, and the importance of the Orkhon valley in the history of central Asia. The landscape is still grazed by Mongolian nomad pastoralists.

MOROCCO

Portuguese City of Mazagan (El Jadida)

C (iv)

The Portuguese fortification of Mazagan, now part of the city of El Jadida, 90 km south-west of Casablanca, was built as a fortified colony on the Atlantic coast in the early 16th century. It was taken over by the Moroccans in 1769. The fortification with its bastions and ramparts is an early example of Renaissance military design. The Portuguese City of Mazagan – one of the early settlements of the Portuguese explorers in West Africa on the route to India – is an outstanding example of the interchange of influences between European and Moroccan cultures, well reflected in architecture, technology and town planning.

NORWAY

Vestvågøya – the Vega Archipelago

C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

A cluster of dozens of islands centred on Vega, just south of the Arctic Circle, forms a cultural landscape of 103,710 ha, of which 6,930 has land. The islands bear testimony to a distinctive frugal way of life based on fishing and the harvesting of the down of eider ducks, in an inhospitable environment. There are fishing villages, quays, warehouses, eider houses (built for eider ducks to nest in), farming landscapes, lighthouses and beacons. There is evidence of human settlement from the Stone Age onwards. By the 19th century, the islands had become an important centre for the supply of down, which appears to have accounted for a third of islanders’ income.

PORTUGAL

Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture

C (ii) (vi)

The 987-ha site on the volcanic island of Pico, the second largest in the Azores archipelago, consists of a remarkable pattern of vineyards, long linear walls running inland from, and parallel to, the rocky shore, built to protect the thousands of small, contiguous rectangular plots (divodas) from wind and seawater. Evidence of this viculture, whose origins date back to the 15th century, is manifested in the extraordinary abundance of the fields, in houses and early 19th-century manor houses, in wine-cellars, churches and ports.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ensemble of the Novodevichy Convent

C (ii) (iv) (vi)

The Novodevichy Convent, in south-western Moscow, built in the 15th centuries in the so-called Moscow Baroque style, was part of a chain of monastic ensembles that were integrated into the defence system of the city. The convent was directly associated with the political, cultural and religious history of Russia and closely linked to the Moscow Kremlin. It was used by women of the Tsar’s family and the aristocracy. The convent provides an example of the highest accomplishments of Russian architecture with rich interiors and an important collection of paintings and artefacts.

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Decani Monastery

C (i) (iv)

The Decan Monastery – the mother monastery of the monastery of the Holy Mother of God at Vranje, within the province of Kosovo – was built in the mid-14th century for the Serbian King Stefan Decanski. It is also his mausoleum. It represents the last important phase of Byzantine-Romanesque architecture in the region and is the largest of all medieval Balkan monasteries. It contains exceptional well-preserved Byzantine paintings, which cover practically the entire interior of the church with over 1,000 biblical depictions of saints. It also has numerous Romanesque sculptures. The Decan Monastery is the richest in Serbia, with notably about 60 exceptional icons from the 14th to 17th centuries.

SWEDEN

Varberg Radio Station

C (i) (v)

The Varberg Radio Station at Grimeton in southern Sweden (1924) is an exceptionally well-preserved monument to early wireless transatlantic communication. It consists of the transmitter equipment, including the aerial system of six 127-m high steel towers. Although no longer in regular use, the station has been maintained in operating condition. The architect Carl Åkerblad designed the main buildings in the neoclassical style and the structural engineer Henrik Krieger was responsible for the antenna towers, the tallest built structures in Sweden at that time.

TOGO

Koutamkouku, the Land of the Batammariba

C (iv)

The Koutamkouku landscape in north-eastern Togo, which extends into neighbouring Benin, is home to the Batammariba whose remarkable mud tower-houses (talenta) have come to be seen as a symbol of Togo. Many of the buildings are two storey high and those with granaries feature an almost spherical form above a cylindrical base. Some of the buildings have flat roofs, others have conical thatched roofs. They are grouped in villages, which also include crematoriums and those with granaries.

UNITED KINGDOM

Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City

C (i) (ii) (iii)

The Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City, 18th and 19th centuries. Liverpool played an important role in the growth of the British Empire and became the major port for the mass movement of slaves and emigrants from northern Africa. Liverpool was a pioneer in the development of modern dock technology, transport systems and port management.