ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Occasional Paper

Occasional Paper 2:

Abstract from the ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Annual Conference 2023

Approved by the Board of ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand in February 2024

Introduction

ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand held its Annual Conference for 2023 on 6-8 October in Wellington. The theme was Heritage Changes: Resilience – Responsibility – Rights – Relationships. This was the theme for the ICOMOS General Assembly held in Sydney, Australia on 1 – 8 September 2023, and was deliberately chosen for the New Zealand conference to continue thinking at a local level in this important space.

The following are the abstracts of the papers presented at the ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Annual Conference.

Matangireia – One Hundred Years of the Māori Affairs Committee Room at Parliament

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The August 1922 opening of the Native Affairs Committee Room was the result of years of dedication on the part of important Māori political figures such as Sir Āpirana Ngata, Sir Māui Pōmare, and Te Rangihiroa Sir Peter Buck. The room showcased traditional arts of the marae within the halls of Parliament, and was created in collaboration with important practitioners from Te Arawa, including Kiwi Henare Mete Te Amohau of Ngāti Whakaue, and Te Ngaru Te Ranapia of Ngāti Pikiao.

The recently completed conservation project for the room was developed by the Māori Built Heritage Conservation Programme of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, in collaboration with Parliamentary Services and the Curator of the Parliamentary Art collection. This talk will discuss heritage conservation in a kaupapa Māori context, and the process of designing a conservation project that enables the reconnection of Māori to taonga associated with their tūpuna. There will be a site visit available for AGM conference attendees.

Assessing a Futuro House for the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero

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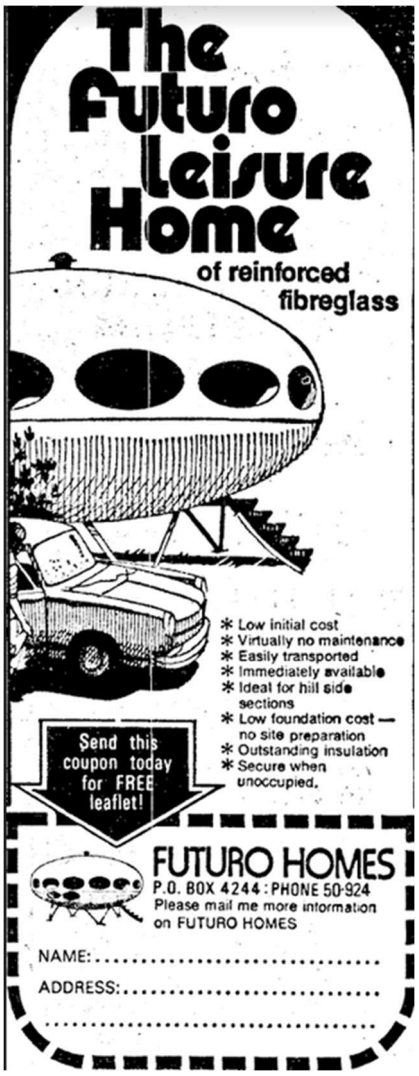
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga is working on a Listing proposal for a Futuro House, a spaceship looking building built in 1974 and now affixed to land in North Canterbury. The Futuro House was the invention of Finnish architect, Matti Suuronen, who had a particular interest in prefabrication and the use of plastics. When a friend asked him in 1965 to design an after-ski hut, Suuronen's solution was the Futuro House, an ellipsoid capsule made of segment-like pieces of fibreglass-reinforced polyester plastic that could be assembled and taken apart, like an orange, for relatively easy relocation. A product of their time, Futuro Houses did not take off beyond their early years of excitement. Only 100 were made – 12 of them in New Zealand – and fewer than 68 survive internationally. They're now highly sought after. It's time to consider their heritage values.



(advertisement for the Christchurch-made Futuros)

"Before Official Statistics": The wallpaper trade in New Zealand up to 1870

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New Zealand's official trade statistics do not individually itemise the import of wallpapers until 1867, when 923 packages, likely containing between 100 and 500 rolls each of wallpaper are recorded in the *Statistics of New Zealand for 1867*.[1] Architectural historian Christine McCarthy, who made the first forays into filling the knowledge gap on the availability and use of wallpaper in 19th century New Zealand, in her article entitled *Before Official Statistics: The early commerce of wallpaper in New Zealand*,[2] interpreted that this could mean that prior to 1867 wallpaper was not a significant feature of New Zealand's building material imports.

This short paper will provide an excerpt of Eva's larger project as part of her PhD research on the trade and trends of wallpaper in 19th Century New Zealand. Through filling the gap in New Zealand's import statistics of wallpaper prior to 1867, using export statistics of wallpaper from the United Kingdom and the Australian colonies of Victoria and New South Wales to New Zealand, and investigating the wallpaper trade in Otago during the goldrush years (1861 to 1869), the picture which emerges is of a thriving trade in the wallpaper business.

[1] Registrar General, *Statistics of New Zealand for 1867* (Auckland, New Zealand: New Zealand Government, 1868).

[2] Christine McCarthy, "Before Official Statistics: The Early Commerce of Wallpaper in New Zealand," *Fabrications* 20, no. 1 (2011): 96–119, https://doi.org/10.1080/10331867.2011.10539673.

Memorial Hall Ivey West, Lincoln University: Memory and Legacy - Past and Future

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At the heart of the campus of Lincoln University sits Ivey Hall, now the University Library.

Adjacent to this iconic building lies Ivey West, a remnant of the original Ivey Hall, and Memorial Hall built to remember the sacrifices made in the First World War.

These two connected structures were damaged in the Canterbury earthquakes.

The University took the brave decision to retain and strengthen these two buildings, making them more resilient to future seismic events.

The leadership felt a responsibility to give the buildings a sustainable future by breathing new life and function into them.

Lincoln University is also committed to a more diverse and inclusive future so the colonial past that these buildings represent has a cultural narrative woven into it.

This has strengthened the University's relationship with Iwi.

The Influence of the Reuse of Heritage Buildings on the Resilience of New Zealand Small Town Centres

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Small to medium-sized towns in New Zealand Aotearoa have a substantial number of heritage buildings built before the 1931 Hawkes Bay earthquake. Under the current NZ Building Code many are assessed as being earthquake-prone, leading to most being partially (or fully) unoccupied. This negatively affects their conservation, the town's earthquake resilience and creates a negative spiral of town vitality. Adaptive reuse is an important tool to lower the carbon footprint of the construction sector by using the buildings' embedded carbon while lowering future energy consumption. Due to the high earthquake risk, adaptive- reuse projects have to include seismic retrofit. This research explores the best way to effectively reuse heritage buildings as housing with a goal of contributing to earthquake resilience as well as improving the environmental and social sustainability of these towns. The approaches to adaptive reuse and its costs and benefits were investigated during the literature review. The identified challenges and opportunities of adaptive reuse were used to create a method to construct case studies for future research. The increased industrialisation of agriculture coupled with a population shift to larger urban centres has left many heritage buildings in small towns around the world unoccupied. These hold resources of embedded carbon and materials. By reusing, rather than demolishing this resource, they can contribute to the solution of the housing problem while lowering New Zealand Aotearoa's carbon footprint in line of becoming net zero by 2050.

Christchurch Cathedral Reinstatement Project - From Documentation in the dark to site progress.

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Works to Christchurch Cathedral began on site in 2020, following an unusual period for the design team, where the documentation had been carried out without entering the building. This presented many challenges. Stabilisation is complete following a two-year period where all works were carried out without entering the building and work on strengthening is now underway. This presentation will look briefly at each of those challenges and look in depth at an aspect of the strengthening that is well progressed.

Arrival of Building Paper in New Zealand

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It took some thirty years from the invention of building paper until its arrival in New Zealand. This paper will briefly background the early decades of building paper in America, its arrival in New Zealand, early uses and inclusion in building codes. Until 1941, when the Duroid Company commenced manufacture of Malthoid brand products in Onehunga, all building paper was imported. A review of trademarks used in the NZ market over time will assist in the dating of buildings in which building paper is found. Although originally developed as a wind barrier, building paper has evolved into a moisture management tool as house construction has changed. The relevance of this change with respect to historic and heritage buildings will be discussed.

World Heritage Values Framework

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Heritage is a social act, a context-dependent value story made by someone to someone about something. This social act plays a crucial part in how cultures and cultural groups relate to each other and shapes what is taken into the future. It also determines the values, another term for story, attached to cultural places and items. This puts the identification and assessment of heritage value at the heart of heritage practice. The value identification process influences or determines the outcome of heritage value assessments, depending on the diversity of voices allowed as part of the process.

With the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention, heritage value in many countries started to be consciously based on the concept of 'sites of outstanding universal value' (SOUV). But in the 48 years since, the profession's understanding of the underlying purpose and scientific basis of the SOUV concept is neither well understood across, nor readily available by, the heritage profession. This paper refreshes our understanding of SOUV by placing it in a concrete, contemporary context. A tool for assessing heritage value across multiple attributes, values, and actors, it adds a transparent and outcome-focused scientific comparative tool. This paper presents several New Zealand case studies, known for its diverse heritage landscape to illustrate its practical uses in complex environments.

The assessment framework offers key benefits to heritage practitioners and programmes. It enables varied participants to work respectfully together when co-designing significance statements. This collaboration enables shared decision-making, leading to shared responsibility and sustainable outcomes. The framework provides quality assurance based

on a transparent underlying scientific logic and summarises any heritage significance argument (i.e. story) in a clear and concise language.

Packaged as the 'World Heritage Value Framework' (WHVF), the framework can be applied to heritage at all levels, from global to local.

The World Heritage Values Framework is an analytical method of developing heritage significance statements that:

- identifies the strongest possible underlying logic to the value
- expresses this value in plain language that is understandable by all
- enables groups of people to work in a positive environment

Runanga Miners Hall: World Heritage Potential

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In June 2023 a workshop was convened at Runanga to assess the World Heritage potential of the Runanga Miners Hall. It was assessed against UNESCO criteria using the World Heritage Values Framework methodology. The core findings were presented using the Story Pyramid tool. The aim was to identify the strongest possible underlying logic to the value, and to express this value in plain language that is understandable by all. This paper will present that case.

Changing heritage dialogues, changing relationships, sharing values

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As preparation for the ICOMOS General Assembly 2023 several co-chairs of the International Symposium worked together on resolutions concerning Indigenous Inclusion, Climate Change and Indigenous Heritage, and Indigenous values and world heritage. ICOMOS New Zealand sponsored the proposed resolutions, all three of them. ICOMOS New Zealand were not part of a discussion which was running hotly at the time on the term Indigenous. This was raised by Latin American members who disliked the term Indigenous as they understood it derived from Columbus' misunderstanding of his place of 'discovery.' The Latin American members were seeking names which better respected tribal peoples. The debate was also tangled in translation of terms. While the instigators of the resolutions had a focus on the approval of their resolutions, they recognised that the etymology of the

word Indigenous needed to be considered (it derives from the Latin word for native, not India) and that the matter of the name needed consideration.

It seemed that it was not, 'that which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet,' because clarifying the etymology of Indigenous did not seem to satisfy the concern. Something else was at issue.

Instead from 'an understanding of the pervasive and unspoken tensions that underpin contemporary social relationships in settler societies,' 2 we sought to address this issue through heritage discussions. It was not about racial stereotyping or reconciliation and healing, but about memories and contested histories. As memory is a key aspect of heritage, it seemed squarely on the table, but we, in our focus on Indigenous inclusion, have initially looked past the issue.

The Doctrine of Discovery and violent suppressed colonial histories seemed to lie behind the dialogue. The way forward is to build relationships so that we recognise trauma and unspoken histories of Indigenous peoples and seek further ways to support Indigenous heritage and values.

There's gold in them thar hills: the archaeology of Wellington's goldrush

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An unexpected and little-known aspect of Wellington's rich heritage and history is its goldrush, from the 1860s to the 1920s. The Terawhiti region, west of Wellington City, contains much physical evidence of the goldrush – adits and drives, tracks, tramways and battery machinery.

The physical fabric of the Terawhiti goldfield underpins a fascinating and dramatic story of success and failure.

Mary O'Keeffe, consultant archaeologist, is working with a community group to conserve and reinstate the Albion battery, the best preserved and most dramatic physical fabric of the Terawhiti goldfield.

The project demonstrates the challenges of maintaining heritage in remote locations, and expresses community aspirations and resilience. Ultimately the project reflects the desire to tell community-based heritage stories.

Recording Aotearoa: ArchSite and the archaeological site recording scheme

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The New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) has administered the archaeological Site Recording Scheme since the 1950s. The originally paper-based system has now transitioned to an on-line database, called ArchSite. Containing over 77,000 records, this is the biggest voluntary dataset in Aotearoa. It contains rich and invaluable data on archaeological sites of Māori origin, as well as colonial sites associated with early European settlers, whalers, Chinese goldminers, and other settler communities.

Improving Heritage Buildings Sustainability

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As nations develop CO2 reduction targets, the energy retrofit of historic and heritage buildings has been seen as an opportunity to reduce energy use and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions while preserving these buildings' historic values and character. Deep energy retrofit can improve historic buildings' indoor environmental quality and protect them from decay and obsolescence. Although this practice has been growing internationally, in Aotearoa New Zealand there are currently no policies, guidance or initiatives to encourage energy retrofit in historic buildings and no substantial examples of projects. Most retrofits currently focus on much-needed earthquake strengthening, due to high seismic risks and national policies which mandate all existing earthquake-prone buildings to be either structurally retrofitted or demolished over the next decades.

This short presentation summarises findings from two New Zealand doctoral research projects. Firstly, the potential of applying energy retrofit concurrently with seismic strengthening is discussed, with a focus on unreinforced masonry (URM). Secondly, we discuss whether other countries outside Europe, such as New Zealand, would benefit from adopting guidelines similar to the European Standard EN 16883:2017. Both researchers investigated three hypothetical energy retrofits of heritage buildings in the country based on the European Standard.

The first study provides a methodology for balancing several considerations in integrated retrofit to make historic buildings more resilient not only to seismic threats, but also to a changing climate, while keeping a respectful approach to heritage. The second presents the country-specific requirements for adopting energy retrofit guidelines for historic buildings,

and the recommended adaptations to enable a better usability of energy retrofit guidelines both locally and internationally aiming to reduce historic buildings' environmental impact.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Guidance for preparing heritage risk management plans

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This presentation outlines Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga's development of a guideline for preparing disaster risk management plans for heritage places. The presentation covers what a disaster risk management plan includes and provides a brief overview of an eight-step process for creating a plan.

Structural Strengthening of Built Heritage – an architectural approach to developing new modes of tolerance for change in our seismic zone.

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Aotearoa is a land of earthquakes. Paradoxically, much of our built heritage stems from a part of the world relatively free from earthquakes – Great Britain. Therefore, a great many of our heritage buildings were simply not designed for their specific site conditions and we are now faced with the challenge of strengthening them retrospectively, ideally in a way that is discreet and undetectable. In many cases, particularly for public projects with large budgets this has been possible. Though it is often a highly intrusive process that essentially involves the deconstruction and reassembly, often with new materials, of the original structure and such an approach can conflict with other conservation objectives. In the case study project that will be the focus of my PhD research and the presentation, an external support structure is used, making the project more viable and cost effective, and most importantly easily reversible, resulting in only very minor intrusions into the existing heritage fabric.

My proposed research considers seismic strengthening from an architectural perspective, rather than an engineering one. It aims to broaden current approaches to conserving built heritage, in Aotearoa.

Current approaches can be prohibitive for many owners, resulting in the neglect of buildings.

Complex ownership structures, historic construction methods and tight budgets, all place constraints on a project, limiting the options for strengthening solutions. By broadening our approach, more heritage buildings can be saved.

The number of buildings requiring seismic strengthening, particularly in Wellington, make this research urgent and highly relevant. Many owners are reluctant or delay seismic strengthening because of the cost constraints and complexities of undertaking such a project, as well as the uncertainties associated with the Resource Consenting process. It is important to note that many building owners are not government organisations or developers, with access to large budgets, which they are leveraging to realise a profit -- most are small, private owners or body corporates, made up of lay people. My proposed research aims to streamline the seismic strengthening process, benefitting many individuals and organisations alike.

Recipients of ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Travel Scholarships:

Alex Vakhrousheva & Laura McKeown

Longford Academy Summer School, Tasmania

Alex and Laura were awarded ICOMOS Travel Scholars which supported their attendance at the 2023 Longford Academy Summer School in Tasmania. Both working for WSP, the two are heritage consultants and architectural graduates who are both pursuing architectural registration, specialising in the area of conservation architecture.

Over the course of a week in February, Alex and Laura attended daily seminars and hands-on practical sessions, with classes starting at 8:30am and often not finishing until 10pm in the evening. The Academy was hosted by the Brickendon and Woolmers Historic Estates, both UNESCO World Heritage Areas with a strong connection to Australia's convict era.

The course was roughly broken up into the following areas:

- The Burra Charter and the ten commandments of conservation
- Stone and brick
- Salt attack and rising damp
- Mortars and binders
- Plasters and renders
- Wood
- Roofing and metals
- Paint systems

The course was run by David Young, a Heritage Consultant with a background in geology, who specialises in historic brick and stone masonry buildings. David was aided by several other specialists, including Elisha Long (Architect), Anthony Mitchell (Heritage Manager), Richard Senior (Stonemason), Gary Waller (Carpenter), and Ray Wiltshire (Plasterer) who all provided specialist advice on their area of expertise. The Longford Academy operates annually with a summer school which focuses on theoretical elements and is aimed at heritage practitioners, and an autumn school which focuses on practical application that is aimed at tradespeople and laypeople.

Alex and Laura would like to provide some brief insight into their experience to thank ICOMOS for their generous support in helping them attend the Academy.