



Photo credit: Antarctic Heritage Trust, Anna Clare

Photo credit: Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

Antarctic Heritage Trust's Inspiring Explorers Expedition to the Ross Sea

Lucy Hayes-Stevenson



Photo credit: Calum Turner

Earlier this year, I was fortunate to join the Antarctic Heritage Trust's Inspiring Explorers Expedition to the

Ross Sea. Over 28 days, we travelled from Bluff through the Subantarctic Islands to Antarctica, retracing parts of the journeys made by Heroic Era explorers like Borchgrevink, Scott and Shackleton. As a heritage architect, the chance to experience the huts and landscapes I'd only heard about was powerful.

The journey south set the tone. We crossed the same ocean the explorers once did, though our trip took only days. I watched the ocean for hours, scanning for any break in the surface, hoping for a whale. The rhythm of the ship, the quiet, the anticipation. That disconnection heightened everything.

When the first iceberg appeared, it looked like a hologram. Slowly it came into focus, all deep crevasses and sharp faces, sculpted by the environment. After days of open sea, we woke to the sound of sea ice hitting the hull. Looking out the porthole, the floating ice reminded me of clouds, each shape suggesting a different origin. A crabeater seal rested on drift ice, and I thought of Shackleton's final expedition and how their survival had relied on ice that could shift at any moment.

As the Transantarctic Mountains rose on the horizon, they reminded me of home. But the world we soon entered was entirely different: glasslike water, tabular icebergs, playful Adélie penguins launching from ice sheets. It was the hottest day of the trip, yet the one we wore the most layers. We didn't know what to expect. Ridley Beach was clear of snow. It

was our first day in Antarctica, and for me, the most impactful.

Cape Adare was where it began. In 1899, Carsten Borchgrevink and his team overwintered here, the first humans to do so. His name isn't as well-known as Scott or Shackleton, but what they achieved laid the foundation for everything that followed.



Photo credit: Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

We stood beside the oldest buildings on the continent, home to the largest Adélie penguin colony. Borchgrevink's Living Hut, constructed from Baltic pine and shipped from Norway, is just five by six metres. Imagining ten men living through months of darkness in that space was hard to grasp. The bunks still line the walls. It's been cleared of artefacts for conservation, but the atmosphere remains.

The roofless Stores Hut survives beside it, and nearby are the ruins of a third hut built by Scott's Northern Party in 1911. The site tells layers of history and vulnerability.

What I didn't expect was how quickly the environment would remind us of its power. As we stood onshore, the ship's foghorn sounded. The sea

ice was closing in fast. I'd heard the calls to return, but was so absorbed it wasn't until we were rushing back that I saw how much the ice had shifted. Conditions changed in minutes. It was a clear reminder we are guests in nature's world. If that had been our only day ashore, it would have been enough. I signed the visitors' book: "A tiny time capsule."

Later, we explored the stories of Scott's expedition. The sacrifice of Oates, "I am just going outside and may be some time," and Scott's final letters sat heavily with me. Disconnected from the outside world, it felt part of our reality. These weren't just historic figures. They were people like us.

We sailed past Shackleton's Hut at Cape Royds, nestled in volcanic rock. The bay was still packed, so we couldn't land. We continued to Cape Evans, where the vulnerability of Scott's hut struck me. It sits low on the beach, Erebus towering behind. There was little snow, leaving artefacts exposed. The mutton store revealed piles of skeletons. Items of glass, timber and ceramics lay scattered. The anchors from the Aurora are still there, a reminder of the Ross Sea Party, stranded but determined.



Photo credit: Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

Inside, it was dark. The hut smelled of seal blubber, still stacked and dripping oil. It felt fresh, not a century old. The focused glow of light inside created the feeling of a memorial, in contrast to the bright world outside. Each hut had a different smell. I look forward to being transported back by those smells again.



Photo credit: Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

I appreciated seeing the conservation work. Timber repairs matched in grain and size, left to grey naturally. The work of Antarctic Heritage Trust is extensive, yet it appears quiet and honours the past above all else.

Cape Evans felt like a memorial. The stories of loss hung heavy in the air. The table in the centre still holds presence, sledges sit in the trusses above, worn linoleum reveals sooted floorboards, and bunks are adorned as if the explorers just left.

Two days later, we returned to Cape Royds. The wind had shifted, and the sea ice had cleared. We walked across intact ice. The site felt protected, almost comfortable. Erebus loomed behind, with a cloud perfectly positioned like smoke. Inside, I noticed the worn threshold. It had captured a history

of footsteps, and now mine. Shackleton's cubicle was stripped bare, just a bunk and canvas walls. Heroic-era clothing hung from the ceiling, just as we hung our merinos in our cabins. Canvas dividers between bunks spoke of respect.

The hut was bright, the preserved timber warm. The atmosphere felt familiar, like hut architecture back home, but with more layers of life. The conservation work was again invisible. The site, the smell, the light - all of it felt like a symbol of strength and happiness. This hut spoke of leadership. Of turning back when the stakes were too high. Shackleton's words, "Better a live donkey than a dead lion," echoed in my head.



Photo credit: Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

These historic sites hold stories vast in impact but grounded in the small things - a pair of boots, a biscuit tin, handwriting on a wall. My experience of each place was shaped by the stillness, the stories and the environment. At Adare I felt isolation and vulnerability, at Evans I felt loss, and at Royds I felt camaraderie and comfort. They are places of presence, where endurance and memory are held in the walls, reinforcing why conservation matters.

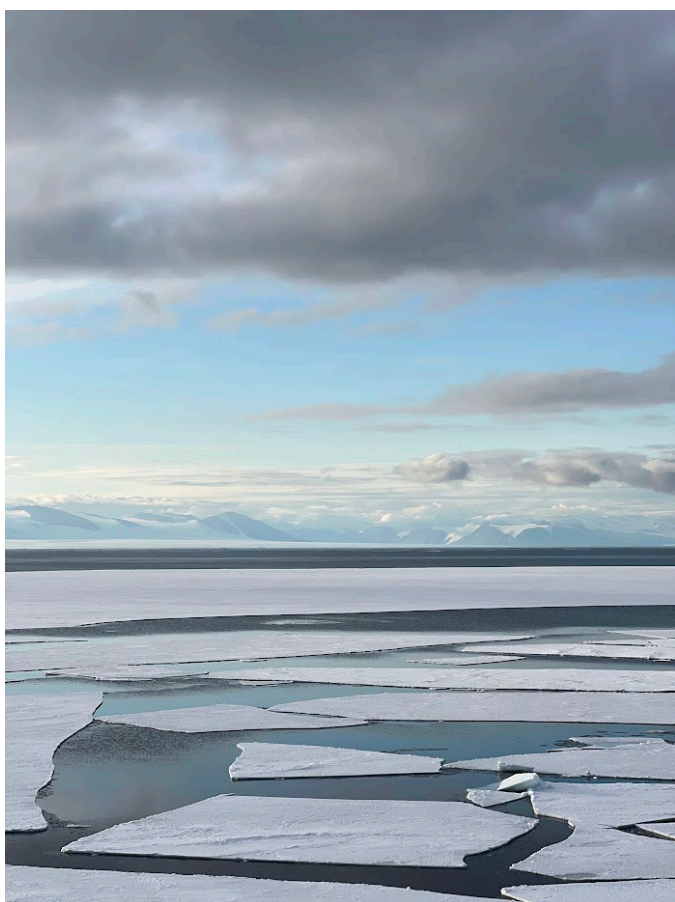


Photo credit: Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

I'm deeply grateful to the Antarctic Heritage Trust, Cheshire Architects, and Heritage Expeditions. It's a privilege to experience and help protect these places, and to share their stories so they continue to inspire generations to come. 🌍

Text © Lucy Hayes-Stevenson

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President's Report



Stacy Vallis, ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand President

Kia ora koutou,

The months of March to June have been another busy period for our local and global ICOMOS community!

The **ICOMOS Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting took place in Seoul between 16th – 18th April 2025**. I had the pleasure of attending at the invitation of ICOMOS Korea, Korea Heritage Service, and UNESCO WHIPIC. The thematic focus of the meetings was **“Challenges and Collaborative Responses for Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region”** and the event also marked the **60th anniversary of ICOMOS since establishment in 1965**. Approximately twenty ICOMOS National Committees participated in a stimulating program with presentations addressing priorities such as “World Heritage Impact Assessment - Systems and Case Studies”; “Heritage Management, Archaeology, Community Consultation, and Sustainable Development”; “World Heritage Interpretation - Principles and Case Studies”; “Cultural Tourism, Fortification and Military Heritage, and Indigenous Heritage”; “Climate Change and Disaster Response”; “Defining the Asia-Pacific Flavour of Heritage, Training & Documentation”.

I shared examples of the activities undertaken by ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand focused on climate action and disaster response. My presentation highlighted the close collaboration across our national heritage organisations Historic Places Aotearoa, the New Zealand Archaeological Association, and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, noting our shared advocacy efforts including policy submissions on legislative changes, along with ICOMOS’ engagement with the International Climate Action Working Group, and support for ongoing professional development for members including emerging professionals and practitioners. I participated in the panel discussion on **“Climate Change and Disaster Response”** with Takeyuki Okubo (ICOMOS Japan), Tina Paterno (ICOMOS Philippines), Cheek Fadriquela (ICOMOS Philippines), Alex Yen (Chinese Taipei), and moderated by Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Australia ICOMOS, ICOMOS Regional Vice President), where a key topic focused on enhancing public awareness and engagement with the role of cultural heritage in addressing environmental challenges.

We are looking forward to several international events taking place in the Asia-Pacific region, including the **ICOMOS Annual General Assembly in Lumbini, Nepal (11th – 19th October 2025)** followed by the **ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly in Sarawak, Malaysia (17th – 24th October 2026)**!

It's also been exciting to learn about the selection of two sites in Aotearoa New Zealand for the international Preserving Legacies climate adaptation training program coordinated by the **Climate Heritage Network, ICOMOS International, and the National Geographic Society!** The chosen sites are **Tāhuna-Glenorchy and Tūranganui-a-Kiwa**, alongside 10 globally significant Foundation Sites.

Check out the Preserving Legacies LinkedIn post for more information:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/preserving-legacies_climateadaptation-culturalheritage-heritageconservation-activity-7316055866573479937-ay8D?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABLvvxsBQXprt4x7LFUDaJRlzfUJ1WvvlU

and 1News feature:

<https://www.1news.co.nz/2025/04/18/national-geographic-names-nz-regions-for-climate-change-initiative/>

We are also planning towards our joint **ICOMOS-Historic Places Aotearoa Conference taking place in Napier between 9th – 12th October 2025**, addressing the theme of “Tell me a story; Interpreting our Heritage”.

As always, we warmly invite all those interested in contributing to any of our ongoing initiatives to refer to our ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Committees and Working Groups page on our website: <https://icomos.org.nz/committees-and-working-groups/> Please get in touch with our Secretariat to learn more!

Kia Kaha Aotearoa. 🌿



Discussion: Climate Change and Disaster Response, ICOMOS Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting, Seoul, April 2025

L-R: Takeyuki Okubo, Tina Paterno, Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy, Cheek Fadriquela, Alex Yen, Stacy Vallis, Panel

Photo Credit: Elizabeth Edwards

From the Board

The Board has made a recent submission to the National Emergency Management Agency | Te Rākau Whakamarumaru on options to strengthen New Zealand's emergency management legislation. Submissions were made via a template that included questions relating to the issues raised in the discussion document *Strengthening New Zealand's emergency management legislation*. You can find the full discussion document on [NEMA's website](#). You can read ICOMOS ANZ's submissions on the ICOMOS ANZ site [here](#).

The Board meeting in May noted that the General Assembly meeting is taking place in Sarawak, Malaysia in October 2026. Members interested in attending the General Assembly can check the website for details as they are published: [International Council on Monuments and Sites \(ICOMOS\) Triennial General Assembly 2026 - Business Events Sarawak](#)

As outlined in the March newsletter we are inviting you to take an active role in shaping the future of ICOMOS ANZ by joining one or more of our committees or working groups for 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity to contribute your expertise, collaborate with colleagues, and support the preservation of our shared cultural heritage. See the [Committees and Working Groups Overview](#) below for further details.

We greatly appreciate your dedication to ICOMOS ANZ and believe your involvement will help us continue to grow and make a meaningful impact in the field of heritage conservation. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to reach out. 🌿

ICOMOS ANZ Committees and Working Groups

Overview:

We have a wide range of committees and working groups, each with specific goals and areas of focus. Below is a list of our current committees and working groups. If any of these resonate with your skills and interests, we encourage you to get involved:

Committees

- **Advocacy & Communications** – Chair: Anna Renton-Green - the key responsibility of the Advocacy and Communications Committee (ADCOM) is to promote the work of ICOMOS ANZ to members, the heritage sector, local and central government, and the public. We advise the Board on the ADCOM policy, and the strategic use of social media. We also manage communication with members through the quarterly newsletter and assist the Board with preparing media releases as required. We are keen to hear from anyone interested in supporting this work - particularly anyone with interest/experience in promoting the International Day of Monuments and Sites. Please contact ADCOM chair Anna Renton-Green if you are interested in joining the committee or contributing to the newsletter.
- **Education & Professional Development** – Chair: Laura Kellaway - the committee looks to advance both education and professional development and provides information about various courses and workshops that may be in-house or available in New Zealand or overseas. It includes administering the two ICOMOS Funds available for Travel and for Education. With committee members in most regions a focus is to promote events and groups at each main centre. Please note we have a small budget that can help with this, and strengthen collegueship and learning. All welcome.
- **Heritage@Risk** – Chair: Laura Kellaway - the group focuses of keeping an eye on places at risk in New Zealand and any themes that can be seen. Many items and areas are now considered greatly 'at risk'. We desperately need eyes and ears on

publicly known risks in each of our regions. All welcome.

- **Legislation & Policy** – Chair: Moira Smith - Advocacy and review of policies and legislation that affect heritage conservation in New Zealand. The committee is actively involved in preparing and submitting responses to national legislative proposals and changes that affect heritage conservation. This includes providing expert opinions, recommending amendments, and advocating for stronger protection of heritage values in new or amended laws.
- **Tautiaki Maori Heritage** – Co-chairs: Xavier Forde & Kararaina Teira
- **Membership & Ethics** – Chair: Ian Bowman - Receive and review membership applications and make recommendations to the Board to accept or decline the applications. We have written, and periodically amend, a Code of Ethics and Ethical Commitment Statement and Complaints Processes and Conflicts of Interest.
- **World Heritage** – Chair: Ian Bowman and Mary O'Keefe - Works with DoC to progress work on world heritage nominations from NZ. Works with DoC to review and develop NZ's tentative list. Keep abreast of thinking and development in the international world heritage space.

Working Groups

- **Emerging Professionals** – Chair: Rachel Paschoalin - advocates for, and on behalf of, Emerging Professional members of ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand and advises the Executive Board of ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand [the Board] on issues concerning Emerging Professionals.
- **Occasional Papers** – Chair: Mary O'Keefe - format and promulgate Occasional Papers. Encourage topics or pieces of work to be published as an ICOMOS Occasional Paper.
- **Mentorship** – Chair: Renata Jadresin-Milic
- **Charter Practice Notes** – Chair: Mary O'Keefe - Producing practice notes to support the ICOMOS ANZ charter, to encourage its use and promulgation.

How to Get Involved: If you'd like to join a group, simply reply to this email with your preferred committee(s) or working group(s). 🌐

ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Board Members, Committees and Working Groups

Below are the Board Members, Committees and Working Groups for 2025.

A reminder that any member of ICOMOS ANZ can apply to join a Committee or Working Group and we welcome all applications.

Board members:	Position
Stacy Vallis	President
Boris Bogdanovic	Vice-President
Rachel Paschoalin	Co-Secretary
Mary O'Keeffe	Co-Secretary
Tim Holmes	Treasurer
Chessa Stevens	
Laura Kellaway	
Susie Farminer	
Xavier Forde	
Ian Bowman	
Renata Jadresin-Milic	
Anna Renton-Green	

Committee:	Chair:
World Heritage	Ian Bowman
Legislation & Policy	Moiria Smith
Heritage@Risk	Laura Kellaway
Tautiaki Māori Heritage	Xavier Forde/ Kararaina Teira
Education & Professional Development	Laura Kellaway
Advocacy and Communications	Anna Renton-Green
Membership & Ethics	Ian Bowman

Working group:	Chair:
Emerging professionals	Rachel Paschoalin
Occasional papers	Mary O'Keeffe
Charter best practice	Mary O'Keeffe
AGM 2025	Mary O'Keeffe
Mentorship	Renata Jadresin-Milic
Technical and Materials	Ian Bowman

Please contact the chair of the committee or working group if you are interested in joining or learning more about their work. 🌐

2025 Membership

Any questions about membership please contact icomosnzsecretary@gmail.com.

Paid-up members for 2025-26 will receive their cards in the post.

Did you know that being an ICOMOS member grants you a free access to numerous historic sites, historic monuments and museums all over the world?

To find out what sites/monuments/museums are accessible in a specific country, or to download your digital card visit www.icomos.org. 🌐



Spotlight on Scholarships

For more than a decade ICOMOS Sponsors have generously gifted funds to provide assistance for those interested in further heritage studies, but in need of help with travel costs, whether a student or member, as it can be difficult to attend suitable heritage programmes and generally means fly outside of New Zealand to Australia or further afield. Recently we sponsored students to attend the international General Assembly of ICOMOS in Sydney.

Aware of these challenges a specific scholarship for Travel to heritage programmes is available. The scholarship is open to students, university students, those interested in starting a career and also to practitioners. You do need to find an appropriate course, apply and talk about your interest and needs.

The second scholarship is for Education for existing ICOMOS members in the various of historic heritage and wanting to continue their professional development in their field or be challenged by new additional knowledge.

The two sponsors for the scholarships have a keen interest in supporting New Zealand students and practitioners to expand their knowledge and then ask that the successful applicant shares their knowledge with others. Hence part of the process is reporting back after your travels and sharing this with the wider community. The sponsors ongoing generous support benefits the wider heritage community and is invaluable to ensure we retain and promote professionalism in the many heritage fields.

ICOMOS New Zealand are very pleased to offer both scholarships. You are welcome to ask questions and we'd be happy to also link you to former recipients. There is no closing date so you can apply at anytime.

Alex Vakhrousheva was a travel scholarship recipient earlier this year and writes of her experience at the Longford Academy Conservation School in Tasmania.

Alex Vakhrousheva

Longford Academy Autumn School (Practical), Tasmania, May 5th - 20th 2025

In early May I was lucky enough to be boarding a flight to Tasmania for the second time in three years to take part in the Longford Academy Conservation School - this time to do the practical course (Part II), having completed the theory course (Part I) two years earlier. The course is held on site at the neighbouring Woolmers and Brickendon Estates - one of 11 locations included in the UNESCO World Heritage listing for convict-built and occupied historic sites in Australia. The course is sponsored by the Australian Chapter of the Association for Preservation technology (APT).



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

I was fortunate to be supported by two scholarships - a travel scholarship from ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand and another from the Greg Bowron Memorial Trust, sponsored by The School of Architecture and Planning History and Research Hub at Auckland University. My utmost thanks and gratitude go out to both of these organisations for their ongoing commitment to providing training and educational experiences for the heritage professionals in New Zealand who would otherwise be lacking in appropriate training opportunities closer to home.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

The Part II course had about 20 participants from all across Australia, including architects, asset managers, heritage consultants, and a significant number of tradespeople who often worked on heritage buildings. There were only two New Zealanders on the course - myself, and a Department of Conservation representative by the name of Matt. We suffered through the usual across-the-ditch banter ("can you say 'fush and chups' one more time please?") and numerous 'foreign wildlife' briefing but otherwise were fully accepted as honorary Australians for the week.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

The course focused on a different topic each day of the week and each day started with a short summary of key considerations before we were let loose on the tools in the afternoon. Monday focused on the removal of acrylic paint systems to historic fabric. We were reminded of the risks of applying a non-permeable coating to a porous substrate and the issues this can cause after application. We were then tasked with applying various chemical strippers to the historic brick wall which helped to break down the acrylic paints without damaging the historic brickwork.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

Tuesday focused on sensitive cleaning systems - we spent the afternoon removing the chemical paint stripper (and broken-down acrylic paint) we'd applied the day before using a contained 'blue-vac' captive head washing system. We also had the opportunity to use a steam cleaning tool - designed to pump superheated steam into the historic fabric and then gently lift dirt and debris out as the steam evaporates.

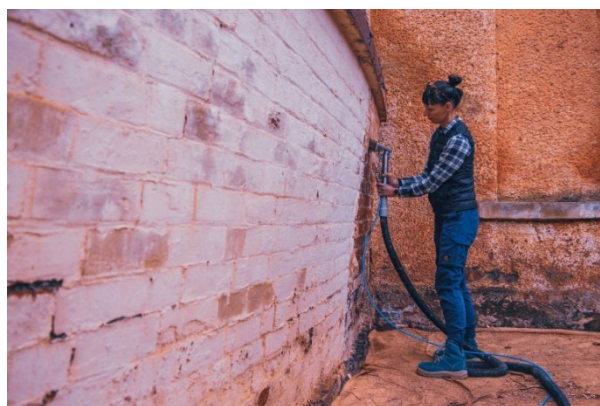


Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

Wednesday was all about lime; we had a quick crash course/refresher on the lime cycle and some examples of where lime can be used in conservation practice before heading into the yard to slake some lime ourselves. This involved taking quicklime (calcium oxide, CaO) and then mixing it with water and sand to create a 'hot-mixed lime mortar'. In reality - this process is a lot like building a sandcastle which then turns into a volcano as the lime reacts and rapidly heats up.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

Thursday saw us learning about plasters and renders and their various properties and applications on historic buildings. We were let loose on the estate in the afternoon practicing a smooth render application, a roughcast (also known as harling) application, applying plaster to timber lathes, and repointing a wall with lime mortar. We also limewashed one of the exterior walls of one of the cottages on site.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

On Friday we dived into all things timber which had limited practical opportunities, but allowed us to take a tour of the amazing woolshed building - the oldest of its kind in Australia. We identified and discussed different timber types, joint types, repairs, nails, protection systems, defects, and other practical considerations. A highlight of this was seeing the historic graffiti in the woolshed - engraved and marked there by the convicts living and working on the estate in the early 19th century.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

The end of the week arrived before we knew it and the final day of the course - Saturday - was a deep-dive into all things metal related, with a focus on roofing. Discussion of galvanic corrosion, appropriate fixings, rain catchment, and flashing typologies were all hotly discussed. The afternoon's practical element involved practicing historic riveting techniques, welding, and lead bossing.

A whirlwind six days of learning and hands-on practical application came to a close on Saturday afternoon with our 'heritage cups' brimming full and feeling inspired. It is always a refreshing experience to spend time engaging with other passionate heritage professionals who are strong advocates for our built historic environment. It was interesting to learn that our Australian colleagues face the same challenges we do, and are just as determined as we are to protect our cultural heritage in the face of rapid change and destabilisation.



Photo credit: Alex Vakhrousheva

It was a privilege to contribute towards the volunteer work that goes into conserving important historic sites such as Brickendon and Woolmers Estates, and an honour to learn from such experienced craftsmen and professionals who shared their knowledge with us freely. I hope that in sharing my experience I can encourage others to apply for travel scholarships to take part in the Longford Academy and once again I would like to express my deepest thanks to both ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand and its generous scholarship sponsors; and Julia Gatley representing the Greg Bowron Memorial Trust and the Architecture School History and Theory Research Hub for their financial support. 🌱

Text © Alex Vakhrousheva

ISO Technical Committee Report

Shaping Global Standards: Aotearoa New Zealand's Role in ISO/TC 349 Cultural Heritage Conservation

Chris Mallows

As the conservation of cultural heritage becomes increasingly complex in the face of climate and digital disruption, and the need for more inclusive and globally coherent practices, international standards are playing an important role in ensuring consistency, quality, and cooperation across borders.

ISO Technical Committee 349 Cultural Heritage Conservation is a relatively new but influential committee under the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) that is tasked with developing global standards in the field of cultural heritage.

Why ISO/TC 349 Matters

Established in 2023 under the Secretariat of the Standardisation Administration of China, ISO/TC 349 seeks to bring greater alignment to how cultural heritage is defined, assessed, and preserved internationally. The committee's scope includes developing standards across key areas such as terminology, deterioration documentation, restoration techniques, environmental monitoring in museums, and seismic protection of heritage collections.

While standards are voluntary in most jurisdictions, they often become de facto requirements through their citation in legislation, policy, or funding criteria. They help clarify expectations, support safety and best practice, reduce duplication, and build

international trust and interoperability—especially crucial in cross-border cultural exchange and collaboration.

Aotearoa New Zealand's Participation

Aotearoa New Zealand is a participating (P) member in ISO/TC 349, with Standards New Zealand as the national member body. A P-membership status grants the country the right - and responsibility - to vote on documents and contribute to working groups, thereby influencing content at the drafting stage.

A national mirror committee was established in August 2024, bringing together professionals across conservation, museums, built heritage, and archaeology. The group meets monthly and represents a diversity of perspectives and practice-based knowledge.

Early Contributions and Influence

One of the committee's key early achievements was the successful advocacy for the inclusion of place-based intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in the Technical Committee's Strategy Business Plan. This marked a significant milestone, ensuring that ISO's work recognises the interconnection between tangible and intangible heritage, particularly in Indigenous and place-based contexts. References to the New Zealand ICOMOS Charter, UNESCO's Yamato Declaration, and similar frameworks were also included, embedding global standards in established best-practice principles.

What's Next: Upcoming Workstreams

Between now and 2027, ISO/TC 349 is expected to develop at least five international standards:

1. Terminology for Cultural Heritage Conservation
2. Deterioration Documentation and Illustration
3. Restoration Techniques for Inorganic Porous Cultural Relics (e.g., stone, wall paintings, earthen sites)
4. Specification for Seismic Protection of Museum Collections
5. Environmental Monitoring for Museum Collections

The national committee has expressed interest in contributing to several of these areas and is awaiting further clarity on workstream timelines from the ISO Committee Manager. There is also an open

invitation for experts with relevant knowledge to join drafting efforts, particularly around terminology and seismic resilience.

Plenary Participation and Hosting Considerations

The next ISO/TC 349 plenary meeting is scheduled for September 2025 in China. Due to limited funding availability, virtual attendance may be the most viable option for members from Aotearoa New Zealand.

ISO has also invited expressions of interest in hosting future plenary meetings (2026–2028). While hosting such a gathering would be an excellent opportunity to showcase local heritage work, it may not be feasible at present due to geographic dispersion and the absence of financial support.

Reflections and Opportunities

Aotearoa New Zealand's involvement in ISO/TC 349 presents a valuable opportunity not only to influence the development of international heritage standards, but also to embed perspectives rooted in Indigenous knowledge systems and bicultural frameworks. It enables cross-sector collaboration across conservation, engineering, policy, and community engagement in addressing shared global challenges.

ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand members with specialist knowledge or interest in any of the upcoming topic areas are encouraged to engage. As standards progress from concept to draft, opportunities to review and provide input will continue to emerge. Please contact the ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand Secretariat for further information.

ISO/TC 349 Cultural Heritage Conservation Aotearoa New Zealand Committee, May 2025. 🌐

Member News

New members

Welcome to new members:

- Maanvi Chawla
- Arnika Blount
- Lloyd Macomber
- Leslie van Gelder

Leslie van Gelder



Image attribution: Jackie Gay

Dr. Leslie Van Gelder holds a Ph.D in Place Studies and has been supervising Ph.D. students at Walden University in Global, Indigenous, and Adult Education since 2004. Her research work focuses in two areas – the application of Place Studies at the community level and the study of Upper Paleolithic Cave Art with a focus on embodiment and the role of women and children in the creation of cave art. She has studied finger flutings in caves in France, Spain, and Australia since 2001 and is currently part of the team studying the Volp Caves of Southwestern France.

Leslie lives in Glenorchy where she is actively involved in community-based heritage and conservation and works as a strategy consultant through her consultancy, Rees Valley Associates. She chairs the Queenstown Lakes District Climate Reference Group, the Glenorchy Heritage and Museum Group, the Tāhuna Glenorchy Dark Sky Sanctuary, and co-chairs the Southern Lakes Sanctuary. She serves on the board of Winterstellar and is actively involved in the movement to create a Dark Skies Aotearoa. She also serves on the Queenstown Lakes District Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy implementation working group and the

Heritage Advisory group, as well as serving as Glenorchy's librarian.

Leslie and Kaumātua Darren Rewi were selected in 2025 as the site custodians of Tāhuna Glenorchy as part of the Preserving Legacies Program. This program works to develop and strengthen the relationship between heritage and climate change and is supported by National Geographic and ICOMOS.🌍

Arnika Blount



Image attribution: Carlos Espejel

Arnika is a New Zealand registered architect with more than nine years' experience in the construction industry, working in the education and healthcare sectors before joining Salmond Reed Architects in 2024.

She has a long-standing passion for heritage; her thesis project, involving the adaptive reuse of the Auckland Domain reservoir, was the winning project at the New Zealand Student Design Awards in 2012. After graduation Arnika focussed on gaining experience across all stages of project design and delivery, building a strong skill base on complex medium to large-scale projects and in managing coordination between local and international consultants.

In 2021 she was awarded a scholarship for the Erasmus Joint Master in Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology, a postgraduate programme designed to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and integration between heritage strategies and contemporary design interventions. This programme was developed and is hosted by a consortium of four

European institutions (University of Rome Sapienza, University of Coimbra, National Technical University of Athens and University of Naples Federico II). Following two years studying in Europe with an international intake of architects, archaeologists, and heritage professionals, Arnika returned to New Zealand and is now a member of the conservation team at Salmond Reed Architects. She looks forward to being a part of ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand.

Upcoming Retirement

We note that Robin Byron, long-standing ICOMOS member and Senior Conservation Architect (Northern) at Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, will retire in July.

Many of our members will have worked with Robin over the years, and we plan to mark her retirement in our September newsletter. 🌿

In Remembrance

We acknowledge the recent passing of David Kernohan.

Nigel Issacs gave the eulogy at David's funeral service and shares it here.

I worked and talked with David for nearly 40 years at the Victoria University School of Architecture and beyond in his more recent roles.

Tom Lehrer in "Bright College Days" summed up academic nostalgia rather nicely:

*"Let's drink a toast as each of us recalls
Ivy-covered professors in ivy-covered halls"*

He was not describing David!

David was more appropriately described by Gerard Crewson in the 10th anniversary publication of the School (edited by David, so he selected the cartoon to be included) as:

*"The ascent of Mt Kernohan (with Mt Gray in the background)
This peak was described by its veteran team of conquerors as the bleakest, most brutal and unyielding face of rock they had ever encountered, full of hidden dangers and unpleasant surprises"*

To me David was an amazing friend and colleague – and as far from these descriptions as you could get. David's father had been the Glasgow City Architect and later Director of Architecture at the Glasgow District Council, so it was no surprise that David undertook his architectural studies at the University of Strathclyde, in the heart of Glasgow. Completing his Masters in 1972, he worked at the Hospital Board.

In 1977 David was employed as a Senior Lecturer at the brand new VUW School of Architecture, and New Zealand gained a great educator, communicator, teacher and researcher. As well as teaching he fulfilled the necessary administrative posts – Chair of Department and Dean of Faculty. David, and his colleagues John Gray and John Daish, established the Architecture Research Group making use of post occupancy evaluation (POE) to improve the performance of buildings – two seminal books followed.

On the architecture side, in 1989 "Wellington's New Buildings" then in 1994 "Wellington's Old Buildings," and in retirement (ha ha) in 2004 "Wairarapa Buildings" provided the first guides to the too often overlooked architectural highlights of these areas. After 24 years of dealing (almost always with a smile) with the oppressive university bureaucracy, David moved on to "Architecture Diagnostics" dealing with a range of architectural and building science issues.

In 2001 he began his involvement with the "Wellington Waterfront Framework," remaining on the board of the Wellington City Council's "Wellington Waterfront Limited" until the end of 2009. He helped create a people-focused yet business-aware harbour front for the city.

Perhaps the most important from a national perspective, in 2002 he was appointed to a three-person, independent panel to investigate the "Leaky Building Syndrome." Their report (known as the 'Hunn Report') set the scene for a revised Building Act 2004 and improvements to the NZ Building Code. Its impact continues to be visible today's new buildings. I'm not sure David thought his next role in advising MBIE on how to best develop the construction profession was that successful.

In 2007 he was appointed a Deputy Environment Commissioner (a non-lawyer member of the Environment Court), ultimately serving 3 five-year terms.

David looked to the future – encouraging people (whether young, middle-aged or old) to think about their environment both natural and human modified.

I should also mention his critical role in saving Futuna Chapel, and his active involvement together with Christine supporting Shakespeare in the Wairarapa, as well as many other charitable activities. David did not sit idly by when there were important things to be done.

My treasured memories of David are many. When I phoned him in 2004 to tell him I was bored with my job as a research scientist and thought I would like to be an unpaid apprentice in his "History of Building Technology" course, his response was quick – "I'll bloody well pay you" – and hence the start of my new-found academic career.

Most recently, memories include the gathering of 3 grumpy old men (no, no, only 2 'old' men) sitting around the table at Great India over a curry and Kingfisher beer setting the world of building controls to right – oh, if only the powers that be would listen! No story was too silly to remain untold, no problem was too large to not be worthy of a thoughtful and careful consideration.

David Kernohan was an architectural treasure personified. His enthusiasm, knowledge, wit, and wisdom brought life and activity to the School of Architecture. He is remembered with great warmth by his colleagues and many students.

David's work will continue to contribute to buildings in New Zealand and around the world. 🌍

Thank you for your continued support of ICOMOS New Zealand

If you wish to publicise your work through the newsletter and/or our social media, please forward the details to news@icomos.org.nz.

The deadline for content for the next issue of the newsletter is **9 September 2025**. 🌍

ICOMOS News

AGA2025 in Lumbini NEPAL | 11- 19 October 2025

ICOMOS Nepal welcomes all ICOMOS members, international and national experts, friends and peace-lovers to Lumbini for the ICOMOS annual General Assembly 2025 and the Scientific Symposium on "Perceptions of Heritage and Resilience – Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness".

We are honoured to take on the important task of contributing to the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan 2024-2027, with the first year focusing on preparing for possible disasters, through the prevention and mitigation of hazards, improving resilience, as well as by preparing for conflicts that threaten our heritage resources. We also have the honour of inviting all participants to the 60th anniversary celebrations of ICOMOS. This would also be an opportunity to visit the archaeological sites in and around Lumbini and the enchanting urban ensemble of Kathmandu Valley that have gone through a decade of recovery after the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake. Furthermore, we welcome the international participants to visit the beautiful sites of Nepal. We look forward to meeting all of you in Lumbini. 🌍



Image and text attribution: ICOMOS Nepal
[Home Page | ICOMOS AGA2025](#)

Upcoming Events

NZAA Annual Conference 2025

Mount Maunganui | 15–18 July 2025

Tai timu, tai pari: the ebb and flow between people and place, engaging and shaping of environments through time.

[NZAA Annual Conference 2025 - NZ Archaeological Association](#)

New Zealand Historical Association Conference 2025

Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of
Auckland | 25–28 November 2025

He Rau Ringa e Oti ai - Many Hands Make History

To tell the many and varied stories of our past we need many and varied storytellers in the present. He Rau Ringa e Oti ai: Many Hands Make History celebrates the many different people, organisations, modes, topics and approaches of history-telling in Aotearoa. The conference aims to foster connections across our history community.

He Rau Ringa e Oti ai is open to presentations from all history and art history practitioners from graduate students to independent and public scholars, from community groups and organisations, the GLAM sector, schools and the academy. We welcome submissions, especially panels, from those researching other areas of the world.

[He Rau Ringa e Oti ai - Many Hands Make History Registration, Tue 25/11/2025 at 8:00 am | Eventbrite](#)

He Rau Ringa e Oti ai – Many Hands Make History

NZ Historical Association Conference 2025

Tuesday 25 Nov to Friday 28 Nov 2025
University of Auckland



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Further afield/online

CIPA 2025 SEOUL | South Korea | 25-29 August 2025

The theme of the 30th CIPA 2025 Symposium is "Heritage Conservation from Bits: From Digital Documentation to Data-driven Heritage Conservation," which focuses on the increasingly important role that data will play in the conservation of cultural heritage in the age of artificial intelligence and explores the trend toward data-driven heritage conservation through the creation and analysis of heritage data, as well as the application of new technologies in the context of artifacts, archaeological sites, historic buildings, landscapes, museums, and more. Visit the [conference website](#) for more details. 🌐

ICOMOS EPWG Summer School 2025 "Olympiapark Munich: Conceptualising a Conservation Management Plan" | 25-29 August 2025

Under the title "Olympic Park Munich: Conceptualising a Conservation Management Plan", the Emerging Professionals Working Group of ICOMOS Germany, in cooperation with the Technical University of Munich, is hosting this year's Summer School. The event will take place from September 4 to 7 in Munich.

The 2025 Summer School is dedicated to Munich's Olympic Park, an iconic 20th-century heritage site currently included on Germany's Tentative List for UNESCO World Heritage nomination. The park is notable for its exceptional architectural and landscape design and its complex cultural significance, both tangible and intangible. As the venue of the 1972 Olympic Games, it not only represents a global event but also continues to shape urban development and social identity today.

The Summer School offers young professionals and students a unique opportunity to engage directly with the ongoing development of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP)—a key requirement for World Heritage nomination. Participants will explore the multifaceted nature of the site: as a place for leisure and culture, an architectural landmark, a social space, and a monument of identity.

The four-day programme includes an introduction and guided tour, expert lectures,

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and intensive group work. The group work will focus on the topics of architecture and landscape, Future Use, Human Scale, and the iconic Tent Roof Structure.

Applications to participate will be considered until 15th July. Please use the following link for more information and application criteria:

<https://www.icomos.de/icomos-epwg-summer-school-2025-quotolympiapark-munich-conceptualising-a-conservation-management-plan-quot-a-443.html> 🌐

SAHC 2025 | Switzerland | 15-17 September 2025

The 14th International Conference on Structural Analysis of Historical Constructions (SAHC 2025) will take place 15-17 September 2025, in Lausanne, Switzerland. For more information regarding the conference topics and special sessions organised by the Scientific Committee, visit the [conference website](#). 🌐

6th Annual Conference on Heritage Management, Education and Practice | Ahmedabad University, Delhi, India | 14-16 November 2025

This year's conference, themed "**Climate Change, Ecology, and Heritage Sustainability**," invites interdisciplinary dialogue on the complex interactions between climate change, environmental transformation, and cultural heritage. Climate change is not only altering physical heritage but also eroding traditional knowledge systems, displacing communities, and disrupting intergenerational transmission of cultural practices. Addressing these challenges requires a holistic approach that integrates scientific innovation with time-tested traditional knowledge., visit the [conference website](#). 🌐



Image and text attribution: Ahmedabad University

Must Reads

INTERTIDAL SHIPWRECKS – Management of a Historic Resource in an Unmanageable Environment

**Edited by Jennifer E. Jones, Calvin H. Mires, and
Daniel Zwick**

This recently published e-book includes a chapter describing intertidal watercraft in a New Zealand context.

The book can be downloaded [here](#)

**TE KĀHUI WHAIHANGA | NEW
ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
New President – James Blackburne
[Te Mātāreke The Bulletin 27 Pīpiri
| 27 June](#)**

ARCHITECTURE NOW – News from Otago

[Otago becomes fifth accredited School of
Architecture in Aotearoa | Architecture Now](#)

CONFERENCE REVIEW – Environmental Defence Society (EDS) 'Dollars and Sense' Conference 2025

[Nature in the Balance |
Architecture Now](#)

HISTORIC PLACES AOTEAROA – Autumn newsletter

[hpanewsletter2025-1comp.pdf](#)

ICOMOS Australia Email News – March 2025

[Australia ICOMOS E Mail News No.
1105 | Australia ICOMOS](#)

Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Webinar Series | ICOMOS Malaysia

This forum discusses regional issues and challenges in the effort to raise the appreciation towards the importance of HIA and how to put into practice one of the most important tools to safeguard heritage sites. The purpose of this initiative is to influence government policy and share best practice to help the implementation of HIA.

The full webinar series is now available to view. Please follow this [link](#) to YouTube



ICOMOS New Zealand

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