



ICOMOS CIAV

International Committee
on Vernacular Architecture

International Council on
Monuments and Sites

CIAV NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

Hossam Mahdy

President of CIAV

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Dear colleagues and friends,

Warm greetings from CIAV Bureau and from myself. At the end of the current three-year cycle for CIAV Bureau, I am grateful to you for giving me the honour and privilege to serve as CIAV President and for your collaboration with CIAV Bureau on different activities during this cycle. I do hope to gain your confidence again for the next cycle together with my dear friends and colleagues, the current CIAV Bureau colleagues Shaoyong, Marwa and Ivan.

The current CIAV Bureau cycle was an unusual one in so many ways. During these three years, the Corona Virus hit the world and changed our way of life, work, and communications for ever. On the positive side CIAV Bureau has been meeting almost every month as opposed to once a year before the pandemic. Another change is the growing influence of the Emerging Professionals (EPs). An EP colleague has been co-opted to join the Bureau throughout this cycle. Three main initiatives have started during the current Bureau and will hopefully be continued by the next Bureau. The first is the establishment of the collaboration with the ICOMOS ISC on intangible heritage (ICICH) to develop a toolkit for the documentation of both tangible

and intangible attributes of the built vernacular heritage. A working group has been formed under the leadership of Gisle Jakheln. The other initiative is "Africa24" conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2024. Seven other ICOMOS ISCs and WGs have joined CIAV in the planning and organization of this event. An Advisory Committee is formed, and different working groups have been working for more than a year. The Call for Abstracts is issued, and a big number of very promising abstracts have been submitted. The third initiative is CIAV web-café series planned and organized by Marwa. The first web cafe was on "Climate and Contemporary Transformations of Vernacular Architecture" by CIAV Expert Member Dr Hubert Feiglstorfer.

Also, not to forget what seems to be business as usual with impressive work behind the scenes: the planning and issuing CIAV Newsletter led by Shaoyong. In addition, the membership management issues have been diligently done by Ivan, including admitting new members, voting procedures and other membership issues. I cannot thank enough my wonderful Bureau colleagues Ivan, Shaoyong and Marwa for their dedication and hard work. The current Bureau has the ambition to do

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more for CIAV, given the amazing pool of expertise and diverse knowledge and cultural backgrounds among CIAV members. Therefore, we have proposed amendments to CIAV By-Laws with the aim of enlarging the number of the Bureau members and involving more EPs in the Bureau. The process for the amendments has started and it will be for the next Bureau to complete it and put it to action.

With a heavy heart I must say a few words on the several major tragic events that occurred over the last few months. While many terrible armed conflicts continue, major natural disasters shocked us all. First, the earthquake in Morocco, then, the floods in Libya. The Moroccan response was timely with heart-warming global support. On the other hand, the situation in Libya has not been as clear. The country is torn by a long civil war and is divided between two rival claims to power. Thus, no reliable information was circulated on the response to the disaster or how the international community, including ICOMOS, could help. The deprivation of Palestinians in Gaza of basic needs, including drinking water, food medicines, electricity, and fuel, then the Israeli genocide of lives and heritage of Palestinian civilians in Gaza

by indiscriminate carpet bombing are in my opinion the worst failure of humanity in my lifetime. The destruction of many heritage buildings and sites is well documented. However, in the context of the humanitarian crisis it is hardly possible to address the destruction of buildings at the time when the people are being intentionally killed. I hope that the next CIAV Newsletter will come out to a much safer, and more just and peaceful world.

Yours,

Hossam Mahdy
CIAV President

EDITORIAL

Hossam Mahdy

Presidente del CIAV

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Estimados colegas y amigos,

Reciban un cordial saludo de la Mesa del CIAV y mío propio. Al final del actual ciclo de tres años de la Mesa del CIAV, les agradezco el honor y el privilegio que me han concedido de ocupar la Presidencia del CIAV, así como su colaboración con la Mesa del CIAV en las distintas actividades realizadas durante este ciclo. Espero volver a ganarme su confianza para el próximo ciclo junto con mis queridos amigos y colegas, los actuales miembros de la Mesa del CIAV Shaoyong, Marwa e Ivan.

El actual ciclo de la Mesa del CIAV ha sido inusual en muchos sentidos. Durante estos tres años, el Corona Virus golpeó el mundo y cambió nuestra forma de vida, trabajo y comunicaciones para siempre. En el lado positivo, el Buró del CIAV se ha reunido casi todos los meses, a diferencia de una vez al año antes de la pandemia. Otro cambio es la creciente influencia de los Profesionales Emergentes (PE). Un colega del PE ha sido cooptado para formar parte de la Mesa a lo largo de este ciclo. Durante la actual Mesa se han puesto en marcha tres iniciativas principales, que esperamos continúen en la próxima. La primera es el establecimiento de la colaboración con el ISC de ICOMOS sobre patrimonio inmaterial (ICICH) para desarrollar un conjunto de herramientas para la

documentación de los atributos tangibles e intangibles del patrimonio vernáculo construido. Se ha creado un grupo de trabajo bajo la dirección de Gisle Jakheln. La otra iniciativa es la conferencia "Africa24" que se celebrará en Nairobi, Kenia, en noviembre de 2024. Otros siete ISCs y WGs de ICOMOS se han unido al CIAV en la planificación y organización de este evento. Se forma un Comité Asesor, y diferentes grupos de trabajo han estado trabajando durante más de un año. Se publica la convocatoria de resúmenes, y se ha presentado un gran número de resúmenes muy prometedores. La tercera iniciativa es la serie de web-cafés del CIAV, planificada y organizada por Marwa. El primer web-café versó sobre "El clima y las transformaciones contemporáneas de la arquitectura vernácula", a cargo del Dr. Hubert Feiglstorfer, miembro experto del CIAV.

Tampoco hay que olvidar lo que parece ser lo de siempre, con un impresionante trabajo entre bastidores: la planificación y publicación del Boletín del CIAV, dirigido por Shaoyong. Además, Ivan se ha ocupado diligentemente de la gestión de los miembros, incluida la admisión de nuevos miembros, los procedimientos de votación y otras cuestiones relacionadas con los miembros. No tengo palabras para agradecer a mis maravillosos colegas de la Mesa, Ivan, Shaoyong y Marwa, su dedicación y su duro trabajo. El actual

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Buró tiene la ambición de hacer más por el CIAV, dada la increíble reserva de experiencia y los diversos conocimientos y bagajes culturales entre los miembros del CIAV. Por lo tanto, hemos propuesto enmiendas a los Estatutos del CIAV con el objetivo de ampliar el número de miembros de la Mesa e implicar a más PE en la misma. El proceso de enmiendas ya ha comenzado y corresponderá a la próxima Mesa completarlo y ponerlo en práctica.

Con el corazón encogido, debo decir unas palabras sobre los trágicos acontecimientos ocurridos en los últimos meses. Mientras continúan los terribles conflictos armados, las grandes catástrofes naturales nos han conmovido a todos. Primero, el terremoto de Marruecos; después, las inundaciones de Libia. La respuesta marroquí fue oportuna, con un apoyo mundial conmovedor. En cambio, la situación en Libia no ha sido tan clara. El país está desgarrado por una larga guerra civil y dividido entre dos pretensiones rivales al poder. Por ello, no ha circulado ninguna información fiable sobre la respuesta a la catástrofe ni sobre cómo podría ayudar la comunidad internacional, incluido ICOMOS. La privación a los palestinos de Gaza de sus necesidades básicas, como agua potable, alimentos, medicinas, electricidad y combustible, y después el genocidio israelí de vidas y

patrimonio de civiles palestinos en Gaza mediante bombardeos indiscriminados son, en mi opinión, el peor fracaso de la humanidad en toda mi vida. La destrucción de muchos edificios y sitios patrimoniales está bien documentada. Sin embargo, en el contexto de la crisis humanitaria apenas es posible abordar la destrucción de edificios en el momento en que se está matando intencionadamente a la población. Espero que el próximo Boletín del CIAV salga con un mundo mucho más seguro, justo y pacífico.

Saludos cordiales

Hossam Mahdy
Presidente CIAV



ICOMOS 21st General Assembly and Scientific Symposium
International Convention Centre Sydney, Australia
31 August – 09 September 2023
#ICOMOSGA2023

*Heritage Changes:
Resilience – Responsibility – Rights – Relationships*

Outcomes of the 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS

Time: 31 August-9 September 2023 Place: Sydney

ICOMOS
international council on monuments and sites



Australia ICOMOS has left a lasting impression through its hosting of the 21st ICOMOS General Assembly, held in Sydney from 31 August to 9 September 2023. Following the cancellation of the event scheduled for 2020, our Australian colleagues delivered an exceptional and finely tuned event following an almost 7-year marathon of preparations.

With the theme "Heritage Changes", the 21st General Assembly was a resounding success, **bringing together 1,300 participants from around the world** to celebrate Australia's – and the world's – cultural heritage and promote responsible conservation. The diversity of participants (members, delegates, guests, exhibitors, partners and patrons) reflects the global reach of ICOMOS and its commitment to international collaboration: **representatives of more than a hundred National Committees and 31 International Scientific Committees** were present.

The **Scientific Symposium** brought together

hundreds of speakers in 89 sessions on the sub-themes of "resilience, responsibility, rights and relationships", with programs covering Indigenous heritage, the culture-nature journey, heritage and climate change, heritage as sustainability and digital heritage, creating a platform for collaboration and the sharing of ideas between heritage researchers and professionals.

This broad participation was facilitated by support from the Australian and New South Wales Governments, the collaboration of numerous strategic partners, including the City of Sydney, the Getty Foundation and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, and the generosity of corporate patrons, particularly Art of Multimedia, EarthCheck, Extent Heritage, GML Heritage and Lovell Chen.

The 21st General Assembly adopted **21 resolutions**, including seven on statutory matters, three on organizational issues and four on other heritage-related issues. The list of

resolutions adopted is available [here](#).

The General Assembly approved the proposed general programme and budgetary guidelines for 2024-2026. Among the resolutions on statutory matters, the General Assembly approved the proposed amendments to the **ICOMOS Rules of Procedure** following review by the Board and consultation with ICOMOS members. The updated version of this document is available [here](#).

The General Assembly also overwhelmingly approved resolutions addressing **climate change, the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and gender diversity throughout ICOMOS**, signaling a strong commitment to these crucial global issues.

The Piero Gazzola Prize was awarded to Dr. Tamas Fejérdy for his outstanding contribution in the fields of architecture, cultural heritage protection and international development cooperation. In particular, he contributed to the drafting of the Washington Charter in 1987, was named Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture in 1994, and served as Chairman of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee (2002-2003). Member of ICOMOS since 1983, Dr Tamas Fejérdy received the award in recognition of his influence and lasting impact on the protection of monuments.

Eleven ICOMOS members were also appointed **honorary members** in recognition of their outstanding contributions.

ICOMOS expresses its sincere gratitude to the organizing National Committee, **Australia ICOMOS**, for its outstanding work and commitment which contributed to the success of this General Assembly.

ICOMOS is actively engaged in global reflections to develop strategies on how heritage places can respond to global challenges and to raise awareness among various stakeholders of the positive role heritage plays towards ensuring a more resilient and sustainable human development.

The newly elected ICOMOS Board (2023-2026)

- President: Teresa Patricio (Belgium)
- Secretary General: Jurn Buisman (Netherlands)
- Treasurer: Cyrill Von Planta (Austria)

• Vice Presidents:

Riin Alatalu (Estonia), Leonardo Castriota (Brazil), Chilangwa Chaiwa (Zambia), HRH Dana Firas (Jordan), Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Australia)

• Members of the Board:

Olufemi Adetunji (Nigeria), Adriana Careaga (Uruguay), Doo-Won Cho (Republic of Korea), Andreas Georgopoulos (Greece), Zeynep Gül Ünal (Türkiye), Marianne Knutsen (Norway), Celia Martínez Yáñez (Spain), Takeyuki Okubo (Japan), Mariana Pereira (Portugal), Nupur Prothi (India), Monica Rhodes (United States), Gráinne Shaffrey (Ireland)

A few words about...

The Piero Gazzola Prize

The Piero Gazzola Prize was established in 1979 in memory of one of the greatest defenders of the conservation and restoration of historic monuments and sites, and a founder of ICOMOS and its first President.

The prize is awarded every three years at the General Assembly of ICOMOS to an individual or a group of people who have worked together and contributed with distinction to the aims and



Dr Tamas Fejérdy © ICOMOS



Honorary Membership of ICOMOS © ICOMOS

objectives of ICOMOS. The beneficiary must be a member of ICOMOS and is chosen by a Selection Committee.

In 2023, as in years past, the Jury found its work challenging due to the exceptional quality and merit of those proposed. We are pleased to announce that after careful evaluation, the 2023 Gazzola Laureate selected by the Jury is Dr Tamas Fejérdy of Hungary.

Dr Tamás Fejérdy has a specialist educational background in architecture and monument protection and a truly international practice. Throughout his service at ICOMOS since 1983, Dr Fejérdy has contributed with distinction to the aims and objectives of ICOMOS particularly as President of the International Committee on Historic Towns and Villages (CIHV), Honorary President of ICOMOS Hungary. Dr Fejérdy was appointed ICOMOS Honorary member in 2008.

He has played a decisive role in countless local, national, regional, international and global monument protection and heritage management projects, notably in Hungary.

The jury was impressed by the extensive impact Tamas's work has had over time, both nationally and internationally, on behalf of ICOMOS and at the service of heritage.

The Prize is a commemorative medal, and has been previously awarded to:

- Mr Jean Trouvelot (1981)
- Mr Stanislas Lorentz (1984)

- Mr Masaru Sekino (1987)
- Ms Gertrude Tripp (1990)
- Sir Bernard Feilden (1993)
- Mr Ernest Allen Connally (1996)
- Mr Roland Silva (1999)
- Mr Cevat Erder (2003)
- Ms Ann Webster Smith (2005)
- Ms Carmen Añón Feliú (2008)
- Mr Nobuo Ito (2011)
- Mr Henry Cleere (2014)
- Mr Saleh Lamei Mostafa (2017)
- Mr Amund Sinding-Larsen (2020)

... Honorary members

On the occasion of the 21st General Assembly, eleven members were made honorary members of ICOMOS for their distinguished service in favor of the preservation of monuments and sites:

- Dora Monteiro e Silva de Alcântara (Brazil)
- Salvador Diaz Berrio posthumously (Mexico)
- Zhang Jie (China)
- Gideon Koren (Israel)
- William Logan (Australia)
- Richard Mackay (Australia)

- Bente Mathisen (Norway)
- Yukio Nishimura (Japan)
- Leonid Prybeha (Ukraine)
- Grellan Rourke (Ireland)
- Yolanda Santaella Lopez (Mexico)

Honorary Membership of ICOMOS is conferred by the General Assembly, at the proposal of a National Committee, upon individuals who have rendered distinguished service in the fields of conservation, restoration and presentation/interpretation of cultural heritage.

Often these proposals are accompanied by further letters of support from ICOMOS members, Scientific Committees or other National Committees in regions where members have made significant contributions.

The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) is a non-governmental, not for profit international organisation, committed to furthering the conservation, protection, use and enhancement of the world's cultural heritage.

With over 11,000 members, 100+ National Committees, 30 International Scientific Committees and several Working Groups, ICOMOS has built a solid philosophical, doctrinal and managerial framework for the sustainable conservation of heritage around the world.

As an official Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee for the implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, ICOMOS evaluates nominations and advises on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List.

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News from: <https://icomosga2023.org/>

World Heritage: Sydney Opera House © GENG Qianzheng





2023 CIAV Annual Meeting in Sydney

On the evening of September 2nd, the ICOMOS CIAV 2023 Annual Meeting was held at the Sydney Town Hall, Australia. CIAV President Hossam Mahdy, Vice President Shao Yong, honorary members Miles Levis, Kirsti Kovanen, Lena Palmqvist, and members Graham Edds, Hamdy El Setouhy, Fidelma Mullane, Elo Lutsepp, Ulrike Herbig, and several guests of CIAV, a total of 14 people attended the meeting. This is the first offline meeting of CIAV members since the Covid-19 epidemic. The meeting was chaired by Hossam Mahdy.

The conference agenda was divided into three main segments. The first segment involved introductions by each of the members. The second segment featured a presentation and discussion of the CIAV Newsletter report by Vice President Shao Yong. In the third segment, under the guidance of Hossam, members engaged in

discussions concerning the vision for CIAV in the face of challenges posed today, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



photos of CIAV NEWSLETTER
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Part 1 Welcome and Introduction (According to the speech order)

Hossam Mahdy



Hossam Mahdy © CIAV

Thank you very much for your presence! I'm Hossam Mahdy, president of CIAV. Firstly, I'd like to extend a special welcome to Miles and Mary, who are with us today. I'm also thrilled to have the opportunity to meet each and every one of you in person.

This year, the central theme of ICOMOS GA 2023 is "Heritage Changes: Resilience – Responsibility – Rights – Relationships." As a scientific committee within ICOMOS, it's essential for us to reflect on how CIAV aligns itself with this theme. Today, let's delve into a discussion about the future of CIAV.

So basically, according to my suggested agenda, we would have three parts. Firstly, let's make an introduction. Second part is an introduction of CIAV newsletter by Shao Yong, who is the chief editor of the newsletter. To see how to improve it? How to move forward? Then we have another theme. Based on the vision of CIAV, to see how to deal with it. Maybe we have lots of new challenges that we can discuss tonight.

Graham Edds



Graham Edds © CIAV

I'm Graham Albert Edds from Australia. I'm a Registered Architect in the NSW Architects Registration Board.

Welcome to Sydney to attend the ICOMOS GA2023. Hope you enjoy the days in Australia!

Hamdy El Setouhy



Hamdy El Setouhy © CIAV

Hello! I'm Hamdy El Setouhy from Egypt. I work as a consultant architect with a specialization in public buildings, particularly museums, and I focus on the preservation and development of heritage areas. Over the years, I have been dedicated to revitalizing the cultural heritage of the Nazlah region, which is a significant heritage area in Egypt. In this endeavor, we have employed traditional construction techniques, such as the use of pottery, as it was done in the past, but with the integration of modern advancements in science and technology.

I believe that we carry the responsibility of transmitting the essence of our civilization through our native culture. Additionally, I emphasize this to my students at Cairo University, encouraging them to follow in these footsteps. Our work aims to not only preserve our heritage but also create a movement that transforms the way we approach heritage preservation and development.

Kirsti Kovanen

Kirsti Kovanen © CIAV

Hello! I'm Kirsti Kovanen from Finland, and I couldn't agree more with the perspective that we have unfortunately lost many of the valuable skills associated with vernacular architecture. I have made contributions through articles to a publication by a regional rural association, shedding light on the endangered vernacular heritage and its traditions along the lakeshores of South Savo.

Nowadays, I am retired. I used to work as a conservation consultant for property owners and heritage administration from the 1980s onwards. My role was to help identify which buildings could be classified as vernacular architecture. Gradually, I meet more and more vernacular architecture researchers, like Hossam, and I joined the ICOMOS CIAV.

When drafting the ICOMOS charter on the conservation of the built vernacular heritage, we found it crucial to establish a fundamental understanding of the vernacular as global and at the same time local heritage. This approach allowed us to transcend regional differences and focus on the core concept of vernacular building. We identified nine dimensions to distinguish what is local from what is global. I believe this framework can continue to be relevant in the modern world. In light of the Sustainable Development Goals, the wisdom of vernacular architecture has the potential to offer solutions that we may have never imagined before.

Elo Lutsepp

Elo Lutsepp © CIAV

I'm Elo Lutsepp from Estonia. I served as the head and creator of the Centre of Rural Architecture at the Estonian Open Air Museum from 2007 to 2020. My responsibilities included consulting and organizing seminars or finding consultancy services for owners of historical buildings in rural areas. I've been a member of ICOMOS CIAV and ICOMOS Estonia since 2010.

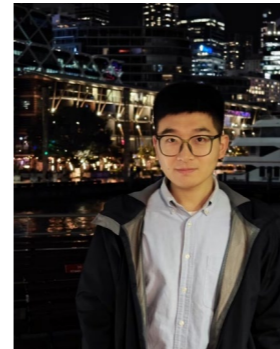
As you may be aware, we are currently undertaking a significantly large topic in Europe. The European Union directive sets the requirement for countries to reduce carbon emissions and final energy consumption, hence a renovation wave must be carried out to improve the energy efficiency of building stock. We are diligently working to develop solutions for renovating and preserving old vernacular buildings in line with these goals. It's a formidable challenge, and perhaps we can delve deeper into this topic at our upcoming conference.

Miles Levis

Miles Levis © CIAV

I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to work on my third historical relics project. Until a few years ago, I served as the Australian voting member. There was a clear decision made at that time. Unfortunately, I can't stay here for an extended period because my expertise lies not only in vernacular architecture but also in the history of technology. However, I would like to share my perspective on the current situation as you have invited us to do so.

First and foremost, I want to emphasize the significance of our mission. The work that has been done is crucial, and I don't believe we should revisit it extensively. The support from our secondary users has been

GENG Qianzheng

GENG Qianzheng © CIAV

fantastic, and it's continually improving. I will provide more details on this shortly. I believe one of the most important aspects is how our main journals have evolved to encompass a broad cross-section of contributions from around the world. Additionally, I'd like to highlight the importance of conferences, such as the Pingyao conference, which has been nothing short of fantastic. Bringing us together and fostering informal communication between various national and international entities is of utmost importance. That's the key point I wanted to convey. Thank you!

Hello, I am Geng Qianzheng, and I am very honored to meet you all in person! I am currently a Ph.D. candidate at Tongji University in Shanghai, China, majoring in urban planning. My main research direction is regional historical and cultural heritage protection. My supervisor is Professor Shao Yong. I have been in contact with most of you by email because I currently serve as the assistant editor of CIAV Newsletter, where I am mainly responsible for file collection and formatting. I am honored to learn a lot through contact with you, and I am very grateful for your support of the CIAV Newsletter! I hope that our CIAV Newsletter will get better and better with your efforts!

Lena Palmqvist

Lena Palmqvist © CIAV

I'm Lena Palmqvist from Stockholm, Sweden. I've been a CIAV member for many years since 2003 and I was the vice president in 2007-2010. I have a background in the museum profession since the 1970th. I have now retired from Nordiska Museet in Stockholm, as Head of the Research Department. I'm a Board member of Stiftelsen Lillehammer Museum & Board member of ICOMOS Sweden. I'm so happy to meet you all. You are doing such a great job with the Newsletter and we all have to face the challenge for the vernacular buildings as an important part of our cultural heritage.

Lenore Weibull

Lenore Weibull © CIAV

I'm Lenore Weibull from Sweden, and I work as a heritage conservation consultant. My role involves assisting the municipality in Stockholm in making crucial decisions about heritage preservation and transformation. I also have experience working with social media, where I frequently share posts related to cultural heritage. I've been actively engaged in activities on platforms like Instagram. My goal is to enhance the visibility and transparency of our work, making it accessible to a wider audience. I want to engage individuals without a background in heritage preservation and pique their interest in the cultural treasures we work to protect and promote.

Ulrike Herbig



Ulrike Herbig © CIAV

Ulrike Herbig studied geodesy and is now working as Senior Scientist at the Vienna University of Technology. At the Faculty of Architecture and Spatial Planning she is responsible for research funding and international affairs. Her research interests focus on interdisciplinary research approaches of built cultural heritage. Ulrike Herbig is a member of the scientific committee CIPA Heritage Documentation and vice president of ICOMOS Austria. She has been leading the monitoring group for the UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Landscape "Ferto/Lake Neusiedl" since 2012 and has also been the spokesperson for the ICOMOS Austria monitoring group since 2018. Since 2003 she has managed the Institute for Comparative Architecture Research (IVA-ICRA).

Arnisa Kryeziu



Arnisa Kryeziu © CIAV

I am Arnisa Kryeziu, a Kosovar architect specialized in Architectural Restoration, currently working in a Berlin-based architectural studio, focused on adaptive reuse and refurbishment of public buildings. Previously, I was engaged as an assistant professor in Maintenance and Architectural Restoration and Studio Design, in the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, at UBT in Prishtina, (Kosovo). Research projects, the most recent ones being Prishtina in 53 Buildings, Preserving Prishtina and Within Prishtina Warchitectures are an inseparable part of my practice in preserving, documenting, and promoting built heritage. I have been a founding member of the NGO KOMOS (Kosovo Group on the Monuments and Sites), an active group of professionals, engaged on protecting and promoting the built heritage of Kosovo. I have always been an encouraging source of using tradition in terms of construction, sustainability, material, and theory reinterpreted into contemporary architecture.

Shao Yong



Professor Shao Yong © CIAV

Thank you all! I'm Shao Yong, currently serving as the Vice President of CIAV and also holding the position of Chief Editor for the CIAV Newsletter. I am an urban planner and a professor at Tongji University in Shanghai, a renowned institution specializing in architecture, urban planning, landscape design, historic preservation, engineering, and more.

My professional journey began as an architect and urban planner, but I soon found my calling in historic preservation, particularly in the realm of living heritage. I've focused on preserving the cultural fabric of historic cities, towns, and villages, emphasizing the integration of natural and cultural elements, tangible and intangible aspects of heritage.

To me, vernacular architecture stands as a testament to past civilizations, encapsulating the profound traditional wisdom that guided communities in their harmonious coexistence with nature. It is essential for us to rekindle the significance of these traditional insights, not just for the past but for a sustainable future. I stress the vital connection between nature and the development of new towns, cities,

villages, and buildings, recognizing the growing tendency to overlook these traditional values and abilities.

I have dedicated considerable effort to researching and implementing these principles in local communities, cities, towns, and villages. Additionally, I have been actively involved in educational programs, organizing work camps and collaborative workshops that bring students on-site, fostering their understanding of vernacular architecture and traditional wisdom. It is my belief that imparting this knowledge to the younger generation is pivotal in preserving our heritage and ensuring its continuity.

Part 2 Brainstorming on a CIAV Newsletter

In the second part, **Shao Yong**, Chief Editor of the CIAV Newsletter, made a report of the developments and aspirations of the newsletter over the past year. Shao expressed the desire to receive input and suggestions from readers on ways to enhance the newsletter's quality.

In 2021, the CIAV bureau initiated a comprehensive overhaul of the newsletter, which included the establishment of an editorial committee. Shao Yong conveyed the task of serving as the Chief Editor in this endeavor.

The primary objective behind these changes is to transform the CIAV Newsletter into a platform for knowledge sharing and fostering connections among its members. Shao emphasized the importance of members getting to know each other and actively contributing by sharing their research and practical experiences. Over the past year, the newsletter has maintained a consistent publication schedule, with Issues 52-54 being released approximately every four months. These editions have featured 4 editorials, 25 news pieces, 6 research papers, and introductions of 5 noteworthy individuals to the public.

Shao Yong extended an open invitation to all members to share their views, projects, articles (whether newly written or previously published, provided they have the approval of the original journal's editorial board and necessary citation), news about completed or upcoming events, and recommendations for new publications. While the current focus lies on introducing honorary and new members, Shao expressed the hope that all members would contribute relevant information to broaden awareness of their professional research within the community.

Additionally, those with ideas for newsletter themes or those interested in serving as guest editors were encouraged to reach out to the editorial team.

Finally, Shao Yong reiterated that the CIAV Newsletter serves as a crucial tool for the committee to maintain communication and connection among its members. It should be noted that the newsletter is not considered an academic journal but rather functions as a communication platform.

The members made a brainstorm after Shao's report. **Kirsti Kovanen** made an observation regarding the effectiveness of the CIAV Newsletter as a communication tool. She suggested that maintaining a more casual and less formal tone in the newsletter might be beneficial, given the contemporary preference for shorter, more digestible articles. Kirsti, drawing from her experience as an editor for several journals in her home country, shared that some publications have adopted the strategy of incorporating smaller, blog-style entries to enhance overall readability.

Miles Levis addressed a remarkable project that he believed the newsletter could take on, given its inherent capabilities. He highlighted the issue of misunderstandings arising from the terminology used to describe vernacular architecture in various languages. Miles stressed the need for an international framework to standardize these terms.

Some examples are in the field of earth construction. The word 'adobe' strictly means an unbaked mud brick, but in some countries it is

used to refer to any form of earth building. 'Pisé de terre' or 'rammed earth' is earth packed into wooden formwork, but some people use it for any form of solid earth (such as cob, torchis, earth layering, pug). This can be very misleading when it used for construction in countries like Syria and Iraq, where true pisé de terre is unknown. The German word 'lehmwickel' refers to a form of construction found in places as far apart as Brazil, Latvia and Australia. It is known in Hungary as 'vikli' and in France as 'quenouilles', but there is no international word for it. Similar problems occur in relation to timber, thatch, bamboo, sods, rubble, &c.

The proposal is that the newsletter publish in each issue a definition and illustrations of one form of construction, such as adobe, and our members are invited to tell us whether it is used in their own countries, and what words are used to describe it. In this way we will build up an International Lexicon Of Vernacular Construction.

Part 3 Brainstorming on a Vision for CIAV

In the third part, at Hossam's suggestion, members discussed their ideas regarding the

newsletter and the future development of CIAV.

Hossam Mahdy addressed the pressing challenges concerning heritage preservation. He emphasized the relevance of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) topics, including climate change, natural disasters, the Covid-19 pandemic, conflicts and displacements, fires, and human rights issues in the context of heritage conservation. Hossam posed essential questions for consideration: How should CIAV respond to these multifaceted challenges? What is the envisioned future of CIAV? How can the organization foster greater collaboration with other vernacular heritage groups? He underscored the immense potential for learning from vernacular wisdom in addressing these challenges within the framework of sustainable development goals.

Kirsti Kovanen suggested the possibility of introducing specific discussion topics relating to the themes of the scientific program, for ex. "Vernacular & Climate Change" or "Vernacular & Human Rights" to encourage more engaging and guided discussions among CIAV members and members of other ISCs.



photo of the meeting © CIAV

Elo Lutsepp proposed the idea of organizing additional meetings, symposia, or summer schools focused on vernacular architecture topics. She suggested that such initiatives could foster greater collaboration with local communities, allowing students and researchers to gain a deeper understanding of real-world vernacular architecture practices.

Arnisa Kryeziu shared her valuable experience of organizing a workshop in Kosovo a few years ago. She recounted that prior to the workshop, the participating students had limited knowledge about vernacular architecture. However, their perspective underwent a significant transformation after their involvement in the workshop, which had a lasting impact on their understanding of vernacular architecture throughout their college years. Arnisa underscored the importance of workshops as an effective educational tool in this context.

Shao Yong echoed the sentiment expressed by fellow attendees regarding the significance of workshops. She highlighted her past experiences in organizing various related activities during her previous role, including the Vernadoc training camp. These activities involved students in tasks such as constructing city walls in the ancient city of Pingyao, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and design workshops, among others. She suggested the possibility of jointly organizing a CIAV

workcamp in the coming year. She emphasized that such initiatives could facilitate meaningful connections between student architects and local residents, enabling students to gain a deeper understanding of traditional vernacular architectural knowledge.

Hamdy El Setouhy suggested the possibility of organizing additional workshops and related activities. He proposed incorporating sustainable development themes into these initiatives, with a specific focus on topics such as vernacular architecture, associated risks, opportunities, and challenges. Hamdy encouraged further consideration of how these themes could be effectively integrated into the daily training of students, emphasizing the importance of combining and showcasing them within the educational curriculum.

In conclusion, the meeting delved into strategies for enhancing the engagement of CIAV members. It expressed hope that, through the collaborative efforts of all members, the upcoming phase of CIAV's endeavors will reach a higher level of achievement.

News from: GENG Qianzheng



Professor Shao Yong's report. © CIAV

AFRICA24 Conference – Call for Abstracts

Deadline for submission of abstracts : 30 nov 2023



The **AFRICA24 Conference** is organized by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees CIAV (ISC on vernacular architecture), ISCEAH (ISC on Earthen architectural heritage), ICTC (ISC on Cultural Tourism), ISCL (ISC on Cultural Landscapes), ICICH (ISC on Intangible cultural heritage), ISCES (ISC on Energy and Sustainability), and ICOMOS International Working Groups OCD-RBA (Our Common Dignity Rights-Based Approaches) and EPWG (Emerging professionals).

The **AFRICA24 Conference** is an international event focusing on the conservation of the built heritage in Africa, with the aim to:

- Support African local communities and colleagues working in the fields of vernacular, earthen architecture, cultural landscapes, intangible heritage, cultural tourism, sustainability and rights-based approach to heritage;
- Promote the conservation of the traditional built heritage in Africa;
- Promote education, fight gender inequality, endorse sustainable development;
- Place the cultural heritage of Africa to the center of ICOMOS interests and activities.

The AFRICA24 Conference will be held in

November 2024 in Nairobi (Kenya), the venue still to be confirmed.

CONFERENCE THEMES

• **Main theme:** The Heritage We Want: Shaping the African Renaissance in a Global Context

• Sub-themes:

1. Climate change, risk management and disaster preparedness responses for conservation and sustainability;
2. Learning from Kenya: Approaches to preserving and promoting diverse heritage;
3. Post-Colonial and Decolonial approaches to preserving heritage;
4. The role of heritage in preserving African identities for an inclusive future;
5. Applying traditional knowledge and practices to heritage conservation and new construction;
6. The role of youth and new technologies in heritage conservation: opportunities and potential actions.

SELECTION PROCESS

Abstracts can be submitted for a paper or poster. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed by the Scientific Committee resulting in a selection of about



The AFRICA24 Conference ©Africa 24

40 papers to be completed before their oral presentation during the conference. All papers and posters will be in English or French.

Oral presentations will be possible only after registration and if speakers are present.

The selected papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

Conference proceedings will be published open-access online and will be available at the conference.

ABSTRACT FORMAT AND CONTENTS

- Last and first name of the authors
- Academic title and scientific degree of the author(s)
- Affiliation of the authors) (acronyms are to be avoided)
- Contact details: e-mail, telephone number, postal address
- Short Bio of authors) (max. 50 words)
- Title of the paper/poster
- Keywords (maximum 5)
- Abstract of the paper/poster (300 to 500 words)
- Chosen sub-theme(s) of the conference
- The abstract will be written in English or French

• **The abstract must be sent to the email address africa24.conference@gmail.com or by filling in the form via the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/mPCR5hz9>.**

EVALUATION CRITERIA OF ABSTRACTS

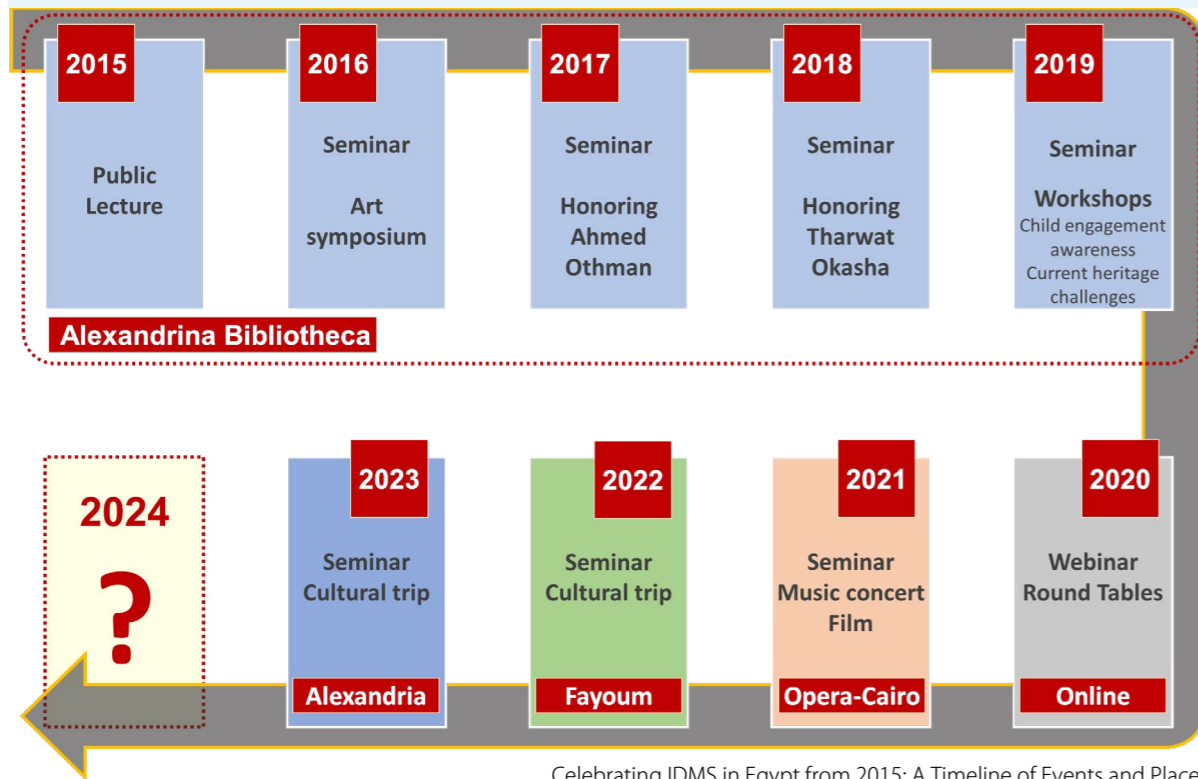
- Concordance of the subject with the theme/subtheme
- Scientific relevance
- Originality of the subject or the approach (methodology, innovation, impact, etc.)
- Clarity of drafting

IMPORTANT DATES

- **2 Oct 2023** : Call for abstracts
- **30 Nov 2023** : Deadline for submission of abstracts
- **1 Jan 2024** : Abstract acceptance/reject
- **15 Apr 2024** : Deadline full papers 1st submission
- **15 Apr – 1 Jun 2024** : Paper peer review
- **30 Aug 2024** : Final paper submission
- **1-20 Sept 2024** : Paper final review

Period between 11-17 Nov 2024 (dates to be confirmed)

Procedures and Challenges of IDMS Ritual Celebrations in Egypt since 2015



Celebrating IDMS in Egypt from 2015: A Timeline of Events and Places

Procedures and Challenges of IDMS Ritual Celebrations in Egypt since 2015

Heritage in Egypt is embedded in the genes of the people and is inherited generation after generation. That's why celebrating the International Day for Monuments and Sites (World Heritage Day) during the past period of time turned into a ritual of engagement between the calls for public awareness events and different bodies and entities who value heritage in Egypt.

Based on this we, myself Hamdy El-Setouhy along with a group of colleagues interested in heritage organized and celebrated IDMS since 2015. I am keen to take you through this journey which marks special events and traditions of engagement with various aspects of heritage embedded in our collective consciousness.

The debates varied in processes of implementation, until we agreed (Abu Simbel 50 campaign & Architectural Heritage - Cultural

Identity | Egypt UIA Work Program), that we have to take serious steps to prepare a sustainable celebration. Meaning that this process and mechanism continues every year in cooperation with new partners and events which fit the theme of each year. And we aim to run this celebration every year.

We faced many challenges and great cooperation in a way which makes us proud of what has been accomplished. This success and achievements provide motivation for what is to come.

First, let's talk about the main organizers. A.B.50 "Abu Simbel 50 Campaign" is a campaign concerned with celebrating the golden jubilee of saving the two temples of Abu Simbel by holding many activities; including seminars, symposia, workshops and exhibitions on local and international scales. We inaugurated this campaign in 2013, and the celebration did not end in 2018, but rather continued out of belief in the role and responsibility.

As for AH-CI "Architectural Heritage - Cultural Identity | Egypt" work program, it consists of a group of people interested and specialized in heritage, working scientifically in the file of preserving heritage and investing in it in a positive way. By adopting files related to heritage, and establishing many cultural activities in this field.

In the first five years of the celebration, an agreement was made with Bibliotheca Alexandrina as the main partner to host the celebration, and each year's activity was linked to the theme determined by ICOMOS for the year. In addition to cooperating with other partners every year, according to the following:

2015 | What is the genius behind saving Abu Simbel Temple? | Alexandria

The celebration consisted of a public lecture from the founder of (A.S.50) on how the two temples of Abu Simbel were saved with a genius unparalleled in history. It included rare information and pictures about the rescue process. Commenting on the talk was the famous architect Tariq Naja. The event included the valuable participation of members of the Nubian Club, representatives of the Alexandria Engineers Syndicate and many specialists.



Eng. Ahmed EL-Nefaily (A.S.50 manager) moderate the event ©IDMS Egypt



Audience ©IDMS Egypt



Dr. Waleed Kanoush (Cultural Development Fund) ©IDMS Egypt



Art Exhibition ©IDMS Egypt

2016 | Abu Simbel - A Civilization that United the World | Alexandria

In this year, the name of **Dr. Tharwat Okasha**, the first Minister of Culture in Egypt, and who played a prominent role in saving the Abu Simbel temples, was honored. The head of the Cultural Development Fund participated in the celebration, who presented Okasha's daughter (Mrs. Noura) with a shield in the name of the Ministry of Culture.

The celebration consisted of a seminar on how the process of saving the two temples of Abu Simbel united the world, it is an inspiring situation, and we can learn many lessons from it. Many specialists and representatives of partner agencies participated in the seminar, and it included rich discussions. The celebration included also a painting exhibition of the outputs of Symposium (Abu Simbel in the Eyes of Artists), which was held two months earlier in the city of Abu Simbel.

2017 | Abu Simbel - A Sustainable Journey | Alexandria

In this year, a new tradition was adopted, which



A group of young people participated in the interactive lecture ©IDMS Egypt



Audience ©IDMS Egypt

is inviting youth which studied architecture, heritage and tourism, in to actively participate in the celebration. A competition was held to select three of them, then we make several workshops were conducted on the content of the presentation, where they participated in the presentation with the architect Hamdy EL-Setouhy on the topic of "integration of tourism and heritage" based on that saving Abu Simbel is a sustainable journey.

The youth who participated in the celebration are: Eslam EL-Hoseiny, Mohamed Rashad and Sayed Hendy.

2018 | The Golden Jubilee of the Genius of Saving the Eighth Wonder | Alexandria

This year's celebration coincided with the 50th anniversary of the completion of the operation to save the Abu Simbel temples, so the celebration was held under the title "The Golden Jubilee of the Genius of Saving the Eighth Wonder."

The name of the Egyptian sculptor Dr. Ahmed Othman was honored. He was the founder of the Faculty of Fine Arts in Alexandria and the one who came up with the idea of saving the two temples of Abu Simbel by dismembering and then reassembling in a safe place away from Lake Nasser.

The celebration program includes a talk by architect Hamdy EL-Setouhy "founder A.S.50", about the genius of saving the two temples of Abu Simbel. In cooperation with the Cultural Development Fund and the National Cinema Center, the film The Eighth Wonder by international director John Finney was screened. The film highlighted the idea and theme of Dr. Tharwat Okasha, which was missing for more than 40 years and was recovered. It documents artist Hussein Bikar's paintings of Abu Simbel before and after the rescue. The film showcases 80 paintings and several sketches. Followed by a comment from art critic Dr. Yasser Monji.

2019 | Future Heritage "Children - Education - Practice - Culture" | Alexandria

This year, the celebration was held with the collaboration of NOUH "National Organization for Urban Harmony" of the Ministry of Culture, the Architecture Committee of the Supreme Council of Culture, and the two working groups "Architecture and Children | Egypt" and "Architectural Heritage and Cultural Identity | Egypt," and within the activity of the Alexandria International Book Fair. The event was divided into two main parts, the first of which was two workshops in which a group of experts participated, entitled "The Reality of Heritage between the Possible and the Desirable", and "Heritage for Children... Children for the Future". The second part was a seminar in which the results of the workshop were presented and speeches from the main speakers.

Dr. Muhammad Mahina "Deputy Director of the AlexMed Center", a welcome speech highlighting the center's role in the field of heritage, educating and enlightening children.

Architect Hamdy El-Setouhy "Founder of A.S.50", moderated the symposium, and gave opening



Where is the eighth wonder? ©IDMS Egypt



The main seminar © BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA



Heritage for Children... Children for the Future © BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA

speech about the idea of the symposium under the title "Heritage of the Future | Visions and Challenges"

Dr. Heba Safey El-Deen "Director of the Architecture and Children Program at the UIA", speech titled "Heritage for children... Children for the future"

Dr. Doaa Abu Al-Majd "Assistant Professor of Architectural History, Faculty of Fine Arts, Helwan University", speech titled "The role of architectural education in raising awareness about heritage places for children"

Dr. Hassan Bahjat "Vice President of the Cultural Coordination Agency at the Ministry of Culture", speech titled "The device's role in preserving the architectural fabric of valuable areas"

Dr. Dalila ElKerdany "Professor of Architecture at Cairo University, and rapporteur of the Architecture Committee of the Supreme Council of Culture", speech titled "Heritage Preservation Mechanisms - Activation and Motivation"

Dr. Mohamed Awad, Professor of Architecture at Alexandria University and former director of AlexMed, commented on the symposium.

2020 | Shared Heritage – Shared Culture – Shared responsibility | Online

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, we faced a great challenge in organizing the celebration. However, the positive gain of the pandemic was that it alerted us of the possibility to communicate in a different way and never give up. The celebration was organized online, with the participation of many international and local institutions.

Over a period of approximately six hours, AH-Cl | Egypt and Abu Simbel 50 campaign organized a webinar to celebrate the IDMS. The event consisted of the main seminar and three round tables.

In this celebration we had new partners: Habitat World - UMAR - Luxor University - Chamber of Architecture, Engineers Syndicate - NOUH "National Organization of Urban Harmony", Ministry of Culture - Chaderji Foundation (Lebanon). And the event was among the activities of the Habitat World Biennale (2020-2022).

Six keynote speakers participated in the event from 3 countries and 15 specialists from 4 countries participated in the round tables. The seminar was attended by many interested candidates from 7 countries. In the first session we had more than 95 attendees, and in the second more than 75 attendees.

The event consisted of:

- Main seminar which was divided to Session (1), under title "**Tracing responsibilities**" Opening session included talks from the keynotes, and session (2), under title "**Starting point**" closing session Included results of the three round tables & Conclusion.

- Three round tables under the title: Shared Heritage - Shared Culture - Shared Responsibility

Opening session: Tracing responsibilities

At the beginning of the session, we presented **ICOMOS** videos explaining the idea of the year's theme, then architect H. EL-Setouhy moderated the session and presented his vision about the theme of the year with a talk under the title "Shared Future."

His speech included how we can deal with the crisis like Covid-19 and how to share responsibilities in time of the pandemic, and he dedicated this day's celebration to every person working for humanity, and symbolically gave it to the architect Rifat Chadirji, who passed away a week before. In the end he presented details of the day.

After that, the President of **Habitat World** architect Annika Patregnani reflected on the Biennale's (2020-2022) concept and vision, and about the mission which is "The Mediterranean: the voyages of civilizations - the heritage of humanity - the future horizons". She explained that the Biennale had three pillars: Heritage – Environment – Human values.

The talk of architect Wassim Naghi president of **UMAR** "Union of Mediterranean Architects", included a brief about UMAR (Vision, Mission, Goals, Members, Partners ...), He was discussing also the impact of Covid-19 on architects' way of thinking and architecture students. Finally, he asked an important question "As architects... Are we creating solutions or creating problems?"

Dr. Sabreen Gaber, Dean of Faculty of Tourism, **Luxor University**, was exposing the responsible tourism as a basic principle in sustainable development, and the relation between economic development and local community. She explained that the responsible tourism has three pillars: - Related authorities, members and partners (code of ethics) - Local community as a host - The tourist himself.

Dr. Dalila EL-Kerdany "Head of Architecture Committee, Supreme Council for Culture" discussed the lessons learnt from heritage to face the current crisis. She emphasized that we can't go back as we were, we must reconsider other aspects like environment, education and health. More democracy has to be granted, we have to listen to scientists more intensively.

At the end of the session, the architect Habib Sadek, head of the Chadirji Foundation for architecture & society, spoke about Chadirji, the great human architect and how he had an important and prominent role in the field of humanistic architecture.

Round tables:

Three round tables were held in parallel under the titles:

1. Round Table (1) Shared Heritage

Moderators: Dr. Mariam Marie & Dr. Aliaa AISadaty

Participants: Dr. Ahmed Abdelkawy | Egypt - Mr. Eslam EL-Hoseiny | Egypt - Dr. Hala Aslan | Syrian - Dr. Maged Zagow | Egypt - Dr. Shatha EL-Amri | Iraq

2. Round Table (2) Shared Culture

Moderators: Dr. Maha Abou Bakr & Arch. Heba Youssef

Participants: Dr. Ahmed Aboulsaadat | Egypt - Dr. Alaa Habashi | Egypt - Dr. Habib sadek | Lebanon - Arch. Wael EL-Masri | Jordan

3. Round Table (3) Shared Responsibility

Moderator: Dr. Alaa Mandour

Participants: Dr. Ahmed Rashed | Egypt - Dr. Ali Abughanimeh | Jordan - Eng. Choukri Assmar | Egypt - Dr. Hassan Refaat | Egypt - Arch. Mahmoud EL-Arabi | Egypt - Eng. Ola Salah Zaki | Egypt

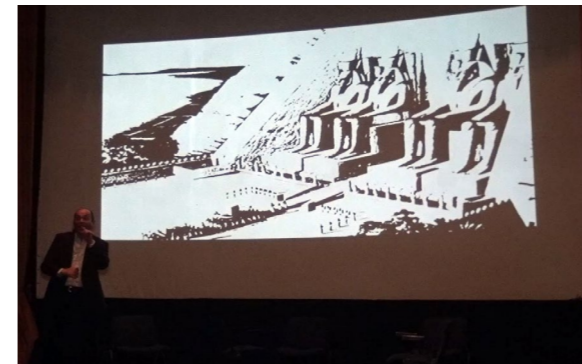
Closing session: Starting point

The title of this session was "Starting point", the moderator arch. Hamdy EL-Setouhy explained at the beginning the idea of naming and that the results of the round tables could be a starting point towards achieving the goals that were included in the main talks in the opening session.

Then the moderators of round tables presented



Screen captures of the meeting ©IDMS Egypt



Why don't we give the impossible a chance to become possible!? © IDMS Egypt

the results of each one. At the end, EL-Setouhy moderated a discussion with the audience, and concluded the celebration with a set of methodological recommendations.

2021 | Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures | Cairo & Alexandria

On that year, Egypt was celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Tharwat Okasha, the first Minister of Culture of Egypt, the one who played an important role in saving the two temples of Abu Simbel, and the author of the famous quote **(Why don't we give the impossible a chance to become possible!?)**. For this reason, the celebration was organized under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture, under the title: **"Okasha - The man who gave the impossible a chance"** and took place over two days, the first in Cairo on April 8 and the second on April 10 in Alexandria.

First event | Artistic Creativity Center | Cairo 8/4/2021

The event included a number of integrated activities:

- A lecture by Arch. Hamdy EL-Setouhy " Expert member of ICOMOS & Founder of (A.S.50) which explained the theme of this year "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures", the lecture dealt with lessons learned from the situation surrounding the salvation of the Abu Simbel temples.

- Abu Simbel Symphony which written by musician Aziz Al-Shawan 50 years ago, played by a clarinet quartet with rhythm after being re-arranged.

The Balance Quartet: Marwa Zayed - Sarah



First prize winners ©IDMS Egypt

Ahmed - Amr Imam - Raymond Fawzy – Toaa Ali.

- Film "The Eighth Wonder", which is one of the most documentary film that documented the Abu Simbel temple and the salvation.

The event was attended by many specialists and those interested in cultural heritage, as well as the head of the Cultural Development Fund at the Ministry of Culture.

Second event | Museum of Fine Arts | Alexandria 10/4/2021

The event included the announcement of the results of the "Reliving a monument" competition and the awarding of prizes to the winners. The competition was open youth from all disciplines, and was aimed to regenerate knowledge about the importance of heritage revival.

2022 | Heritage and Climate - Discussing our responsibility...? | Fayoum

This year, the celebration was divided into a cultural trip and a seminar, and was organized "Abu Simbel 50 Campaign" and the "AH - CI |



AL-Nazlah area visit ©IDMS Egypt



Participants listen to an explanation about the Project © IDMS Egypt

Egypt" with "MUST" Misr University for Science and Technology and in cooperation with the Fayoum Art Center.

Part one: Cultural trip

At the beginning of the day, we visited the pottery area in the village of Nazlah, which is characterized by the presence of pottery industry dating back to the ancient Egyptian civilization, and a group of workshops and traditional kilns.

We were accompanied on the trip by architect Hamdy EL-Setouhy, the designer of the Nazlah Revival project, which consists a visitor center, museum, exhibitions and some services. The project has won a number of international awards for its revival of cultural heritage, and listed as valuable buildings in Egypt. On the other hand, the region is closely linked to the climate, as the pottery industry is environmentally and climatically linked to the region, and at the same time, the region is exposed to risks due to climatic changes.

Second part: Seminar



Fayoum Arts Center visit © IDMS Egypt



Visit the Pillar Column area (one of the most important monuments in Alexandria) © IDMS Egypt

After visiting Nazlah, we headed to Tunis village, where there is the Caricature Museum, where the panel discussion was held under the title "Heritage and Climate | Discussing our responsibility...?"

The discussion was moderated by **Dr. Maha Aboubakr** "Teacher at MUST & ICOMOS Member". And speeches from the provocateurs: **Arch. Hamdy EL-Setouhy** "ICOMOS Expert member - Designer of "AL-Nazlah revival" project",

Dr. Karim EL-Dash "Deen of Faculty of engineering, MUST University", **Mr. Ibrahim Abla** "Director Fayoum Art Center", **Arch Ahmed Saad** "AH-CI | Egypt work program", **Eng. Ahmed EL-Nefily** "Abu Simbel 50 campaign" and **Abdel Rahman Imbaby** "President of ICE".

2023 | Heritage Changes - Discussing our responsibility | Alexandria

Celebration was organized by "Abu Simbel 50" and "AH-CI | Egypt", in cooperation and under the auspices of the Faculty of Engineering at Misr University for Science and Technology "MUST".



Dr. Aly Saeed (Director of Fine Arts Museum) © IDMS Egypt



Arch. Hamdy EL-Setouhy (Founder of A.S.50) © IDMS Egypt



2023-04 Dr. Hebatalla Abouelfadl (Prof. of Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts, Alex. University) © IDMS Egypt



Dr. Maha Aboubakr (Teacher at MUST) © IDMS Egypt



Arch. Emad Farid & Arch. Ramez Azmy (Restoration & Preservation consultants) © IDMS Egypt

And in partnership with the Museum of Fine Arts of the Egyptian Ministry of Culture.

Part one: Cultural trip

At the beginning of the day, we visited a number of heritage sites in Alexandria, which are characterized by a specificity associated with the theme of this year. The trip included students and young architects, and a number of specialists in the field of heritage.

Second part: Seminar

After the trip, we visited the Museum of Fine Arts, where the seminar was held under the title: "Heritage Changes | Discussing our responsibility".

Where the speakers dealt with the theme in several axes, such as the educational axis, knowledge and culture, and practice. Speakers in order of talks: **Dr. Aly Said** "Director of Fine Arts Museum", **Dr. Maha Aboubakr** "Teacher at MUST | ICOMOS Member", **Dr. Hebatalla Abouelfadl** "Prof. of Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts, Alex. University", **Arch. Emad Farid & Arch. Ramez Azmy** "Restoration & Preservation consultants", and **Arch. Hamdy EL-Setouhy** "ICOMOS Expert member | Founder of A.S.50".

So as we stand now, and after organizing the World Heritage Day celebration in Egypt for 9 years, we are looking forward to the upcoming year. It's the time to reflect on how our celebration will take place...? We are ambitious that our celebration would be attended by a number of supporting countries in the region. This celebration creates an effective movement to revive our local heritage. It plays an influential role in achieving actual humanitarian development.

We shall hopefully meet in April next year to add a brick in the wall of civilization.

News from: Hamdy EL-Setouhy

Harat al-Bilad, Manah: A Virtual Exhibition



A unique digital heritage experience developed by the University of Liverpool's ArCHIAM Centre - Harat al-Bilad, Manah, Virtual Exhibition - highlights the importance of this ancient vernacular oasis town in Oman's history, urban, architectural and artistic development, while unveiling the complex network of interdependencies between its built fabric, material culture and tribal social history.

The website draws on Prof Soumyen Bandyopadhyay's world-leading research on the subject, which resulted in his 2011 book, *Manah: An Omani Oasis, an Arabian Legacy Architecture and Social History of an Omani Settlement*, and Clive Gracey's extensive photographic collection.

Developed by Dr Giamila Quattrone, Prof Soumyen Bandyopadhyay, Claudia Briguglio and Martin Winchester, the website comprises a 3D virtual exhibition, a series of research posts, a film and a digital repository of artefacts.

The idea of the virtual experience came during the first wave of COVID-19, when the site of Harat al-Bilad was closed to visitors, with no prospect of an imminent reopening. The team decided to repackage into a virtual museum a physical exhibition that had been developed in 2019 and halted later after due to the pandemic. Meanwhile, the 2021 report *Museums, museum professionals and Covid-19: third survey*, published by the International

Council of Museums (ICOM), highlighted that the impact of COVID-19 on the tourism and culture sector worldwide translated as reduced income and operations capacity, lost jobs and reduced cultural programs, and on the society as compromised wellbeing. With that in mind, the initial plans for the virtual museum soon broadened to develop a comprehensive multimedia resource that people could access remotely via a dedicated website to virtually experience and learn about the site while this remained closed, and, later, to augment the on-site experience using QR codes.

The website homepage introduces the settlement through a fully captioned bilingual film (Arabic and English) produced by Monika Koeck. A photogrammetric 3D model of the settlement allows the exploration of key sites, which are highlighted and linked to dedicated pages providing historical and architectural information supported by drawings and photographs. A 3D model of a prominent dwelling virtually hosts the exhibition, which is organised into five thematic galleries: Townscape, Architecture, Fortifications, Dwellings and Details. A digital repository showcases around 30 daily life artefacts from Harat al-Bilad and the Ad Dakhiliyah region according to 6 categories: work utensils, religious items, household utensils, furniture and furnishings, clothing and accessories, architectural features. Many of these material culture objects have been photogrammetrically digitised for 360 virtual navigation. All are supported by descriptive



Navigable photogrammetric 3D model of wooden storage box (left) and clay coffee pot (right) ©ArCHIAM

metadata on provenance, culture, material, date, dimensions and use. A glossary and bibliography complement the website.

The website shows the potential of open-access, cost-effective, online experiences to preserve vulnerable heritage assets in the face of management and operational gaps, and help cultural institutions and tourism operators meaningfully present them, circumventing the financial and organisational challenges often associated with traditional exhibition and visitation practices. The combination of media broadens geographical reach, fosters cross-cultural engagement and widens accessibility. The impact of this digital heritage resource is twofold: at the societal level, it is expected to inform and raise awareness about the historical importance and heritage significance of Harat al-Bilad amongst the public, government officials, culture sector staff, tour guides, and enhance on-site visitor experience, while within academia it is expected to augment knowledge of Oman's vernacular heritage through mixed-media research dissemination.



Landing page of the 3D virtual exhibition ©ArCHIAM



Interior of the 3D virtual exhibition ©ArCHIAM

News from: Dr Giamila Quattrone

CIAV 1st Web Cafe Webinar Successfully Held

ICOMOS
CIAV
international council on monuments and sites

CIAV web café series

Climate and Contemporary Transformations
of Vernacular Architecture

Introduction to an ERC project

with Dr Hubert Feiglstorfer

On the 23rd of September, the first CIAV web café webinar was successfully held. The talk was titled 'Climate and Contemporary Transformations of Vernacular Architecture - Introduction to an ERC project'

The talk was about ERC project with project (acronym: CLIMATE-Arch). The talk focused on the processes involved in the transformation of local building techniques caused by climate and climate change. A wide range of local material resources and natural environmental conditions, and the effects of climate change, produce various kinds of technical adaptations. The talk shed light on CLIMATE-Arch project and explored the transformations and their drivers at the level of both building technology and building design, focusing on two regions in Eurasia that use a range of local building technologies. CLIMATE-Arch will examine the factors that

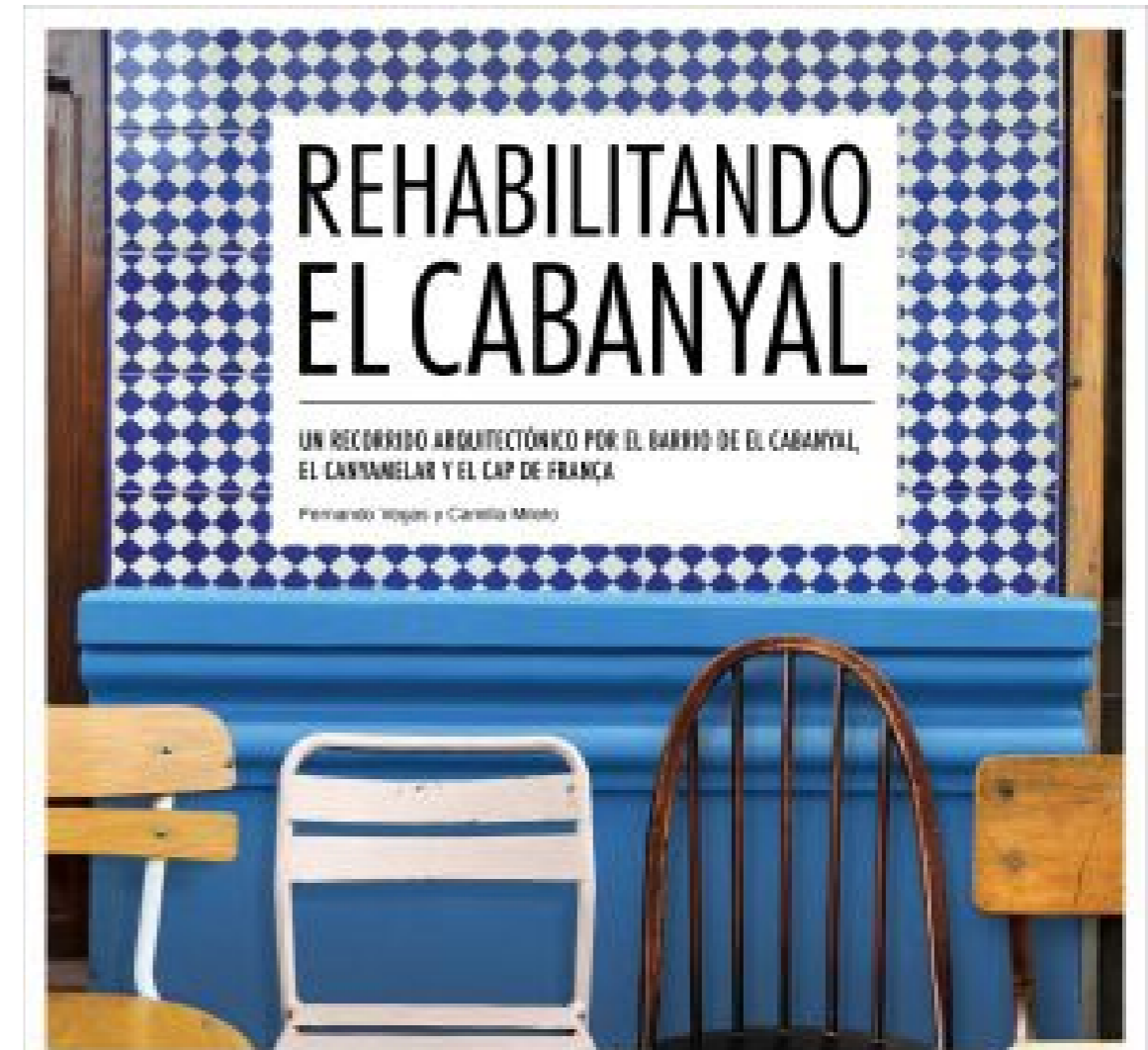
trigger vernacular transformation through a climate lens, combining climate research and the disciplines of architecture, engineering, natural environmental and social sciences.

The talk was held by Dr Hubert Feiglstorfer who is a senior researcher at the Institute for Social Anthropology at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. His main interests are in the fields of architectural anthropology and material culture, with crafts, craft traditions and transformations of vernacular architecture as major research topics. He teaches at the Technical University of Vienna (TU Wien) and at the University for Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) in the fields of vernacular architecture, conservation and earthen architecture. He is member of CIAV/ ICOMOS and ISCEAH/ICOMOS.

News from: Marwa Dabaieh

Recommended Book

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A Vision for CIAV. Addressing the challenges facing the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture

Topic: T.4. Conservation, restoration and enhancement of vernacular architecture

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1 Introduction

CIAV's objective is to promote the identification, evaluation, protection, conservation and revitalization of vernacular architecture, in keeping with ICOMOS' objective to foster international co-operation. CIAV forms an international network that defines, improves and promotes conservation principles, standards, research, responsible practice, innovation and knowledge about the built vernacular heritage. According to its strategy established in the year 2000, CIAV's aims are: to offer a global view on the conservation of the vernacular tangible and intangible heritage, to provide a forum for the examination of the built vernacular heritage and to provide specialists with advice on its conservation. The current CIAV Strategic Plan 2021/23 states the following "Vision":

"As an ICOMOS Scientific Committee, CIAV aims to bridge the gap between academic research and professional practices in the field of built vernacular heritage study, conservation and management. The 'new normal' during and after the corona virus pandemic opened a new window of opportunity for CIAV by the normalization of virtual meetings, webinars, and

conferences, which permitted more members to participate and brought to the fore impressive contributions from emerging professionals, promising a more dynamic future for CIAV."

Today, cultural heritage throughout the world is facing challenges that are not new but have become pressing. ICOMOS endeavours to bring them into the focus and so is CIAV. These are:

- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Climate change
- Natural disasters
- The Covid-19 pandemic
- Wars and displacements
- Fires
- Human rights

In addition, special attention should be paid to working to reach a balanced representation of different regions of the world in CIAV's membership as well as the subject of its work.

In its declaration of Climate and Ecological Emergency, ICOMOS 20th General Assembly opened the declaration by stating that "The planet is at a crossroads where business as usual is no longer an option." This could be said for all the above issues. It is therefore, the author's suggestion that CIAV has to specifically aim to address these issues in the Committee's work and include them in the Charter on the Built Vernacular Heritage (1999), which CIAV sets as the guidelines for international best practices for the study and conservation of built vernacular heritage. The paper addresses each of the identified issues and concludes by the proposal to integrate them in CIAV's vision, work and activities, which may require an update to its Charter.

One common characteristics of the issues identified by this paper is that they are a common challenge to all humanity. They, therefore, should be addressed collectively. This is why this is a paper addressed to the field of vernacular built heritage and not as an internal document for CIAV members. There is a pressing need for collaboration and coordinating efforts by all institutions, groups and individuals who work in the field.

2 Sustainable Development Goals

Culture is the absent presence in sustainable development endeavours. Sustainability is often measured by three indicators: social, economic and environment. Culture is not included. Nonetheless, it is a crucial indicator for sustainability. The United Nations Agenda 2030 focus on the five Ps: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership. Once more, culture is not mentioned even if it is present. None of the seventeen UN Sustainable Development Goals is on culture, even if culture is present directly or indirectly in all of them. In 2020 the British Council issued its important report The Missing Pillar. Culture's Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As for cultural heritage, the only mention of its protection is Target 11.4 "strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage to make our cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", under Goal 11 'sustainable cities and communities'. In 2021 ICOMOS issued the important report Heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals: Policy Guidance for Heritage and Development Actors. The report is based on the conviction that the role of cultural heritage in achieving the SDGs is crucial. The report proposes the slogan 'heritage: driver and enabler of sustainability' with an accompanying promotional graphic similar to the graphics for the seventeen SDGs, featuring elements representing culture, nature and people.

The SDGs should be in the heart of CIAV's work. Not only because the vernacular built heritage contributes directly and indirectly to most of the SDGs. But also because the SDGs offer a great opportunity for championing the conservation and revitalization of vernacular built heritage as living heritage that is closely connected to people and to the nature as well as the carrier of age old wisdom in responsible relationship with the environment.

3 . Climate change

The declaration by the 20th ICOMOS General Assembly of Climate and Ecological Emergency brought climate action to the heart of all the work and actions of ICOMOS. The theme for ICOMOS International Day for Monuments and Sites for both 2022 and 2023 is "heritage and climate". This is very important for CIAV. The vernacular built heritage is a living heritage that

connects people with their environment and manifests their traditional wisdom in adapting to climatic and other environmental conditions. Traditional communities understood and observed sustainability well before the notion was highlighted and the term was coined in recent times.

Professionals of heritage conservation and sustainable development could learn lessons on sustainability and mitigating the impact of climate change from the built vernacular heritage. On the other hand, professionals could assist local communities and traditional master builders in sustaining livelihood for the future and mitigating climate change adverse impact by introducing innovative methods and tools that enhance the efficiency of the vernacular built environment. The role of CIAV is to offer the platform and guidance for climate action for the conservation and management of vernacular built heritage and to facilitate cooperation and exchange of ideas and expertise on regional and international levels.

4 Natural disasters

Earthquakes, floods, droughts, heatwaves, storms and cyclon winds have left their marks on many historic buildings and settlements over time. The different historic layers and patinas of historic buildings may tell stories about natural disasters and in some cases they show evidence of traditional strategies and methods for post-disaster reconstructions. The built vernacular heritage in different parts of the world manifest techniques, materials, architectural typologies and collective communal traditions that prevent or mitigate the impact of predicted natural disasters of the specific regions. We see, for example, tie beams applied to arches, ring beams to domes, buttresses to values and wooden cushions to columns in the vernacular built heritage of earthquake-prone regions. And we see elevated ground floors in regions that witness recurrent floods. These and many other methods and techniques offer useful resources for resilient new architecture.

On the other hand, modern scientific research, analysis and methods could enhance the resilience of vernacular buildings and settlements. For example, earthquake shaking table tests and seismic performance analysis could inform the implementation of protective retrofitting of vernacular buildings in earthquake-

prone regions.

Today emergency preparedness, risk reduction and disaster management are most pertinent to the protection and conservation of the built vernacular heritage as climate change has caused and is expected

to cause a rise in the number and intensity of natural disasters. The work of CIAV should therefore include special attention to natural disasters and their impact on the vernacular built heritage.

5 The pandemic

The Corona Virus (COVID-19) pandemic is another challenge that threatened the whole humanity and hit hard the culture sector, particularly the cultural heritage as most museums, sites and historic buildings had to close their doors for months. In some cases closure lasted more than a year. In other cases closure became permanent, with many jobs lost and development plans cancelled.

In 2020 ICOMOS issued a study on “the impact of COVID-19 on heritage”, which was the result of a survey of ICOMOS national committees reporting on the impact of the pandemic on the cultural heritage in their countries as well as their views on ideas for achieving resilience and recovery. The topic was also covered by many webinars, the “new normal” during the high waves of the pandemic, total lockdowns and the ban on big gatherings and meetings.

Despite its negative impact, the pandemic was a wake up call for all humanity to rethink our mode of work, study, shopping, travel and almost all aspects of modern life in the globalized world of today. The concept of “living locally” became a necessity and not a luxury during the lockdowns. We all had to live the concept of “20-minute neighborhood”, meaning a walkable neighborhood or settlement, where all basic needs of the community should be available. No travelling long distances for work, schools, shopping or any other activity was possible. The positive impact on the environment during the lockdowns was evident as the air, seas and rivers became cleaner and cities became greener and healthier.

Many lessons could be learned from the built

vernacular heritage not only on how to live locally but also on how to build a home, manage a settlement locally and lead a full life locally. This is a role that CIAV should play by introducing to architects, planners and decision makers case studies, the philosophy, materials, techniques and approaches from built vernacular heritage around the world. Also, this is an opportunity for CIAV to raise awareness and pride of the guardians and local communities who live, maintain and keep alive the built vernacular heritage.

6 Wars

ICOMOS, UNESCO and many other international organizations as well as conventions, declarations and initiatives were established as a reaction to the destruction and loss caused by the two world wars of the twentieth century. Unfortunately, today and after a few decades we find ourselves in no better situation. Wars and displacements of millions of innocent civilians and the destruction of whole cities, villages and countless historic buildings and sites have become an everyday reality of our world. For some it is an unpleasant item on the news headlines. For others, it is their very lives being totally shattered.

Wars and displacements create great challenges and also opportunities for the built vernacular heritage. While the restoration or reconstruction of a historic monument may help in curing the damage caused by war, vernacular buildings are only the tip of the iceberg. A vernacular building could be restored or reconstructed, but what about the traditions of living in and maintaining such a building? Would a family who grew up in exile or a refugee camp return to their family earthen house and know how to live in it? How

to maintain it? How to make their own bread using their traditional oven? What about the local culture and social structure and traditions within the village and the city? Would the local oral history, stories, songs, dances and handicrafts survive the war?

These are great challenges that are facing the built vernacular heritage not in one or two countries but unfortunately many more. It is therefore the duty and role of CIAV to address these challenges and also to identify opportunities that may arise from wars and displacements. For example, certain vernacular settlements that were deserted by the youth

who have migrated to big cities in search for opportunities could be adapted for receiving displaced people from

other regions. Such an opportunity would come of course with its own challenges. Which traditions and identity would prevail? That of the place or of its new community?

7 Fires

It was heart-breaking to see live on tv very important historic buildings destroyed by fire. This included the roof of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris in 2019, Shuri Castle in Japan in 2019, the National Museum of Brazil in 2018, the Glasgow School of Art in Glasgow twice in 2014 and 2018, the New Delhi National Museum of Natural History in 2016, the Duchess Anna Amalia Library in Germany in 2004 and Windsor Castle in the UK in 1992. Many other historic buildings were destroyed by fire but did not make it to the international news headlines.

All these buildings were covered by the highest level of protection and enjoyed the best care that was available on national level, and for some on international level by being designated World Heritage Sites. Nevertheless, the protection was not enough to predict, prevent, mitigate or reduce the damage by fire. Actually both Notre-Dame Cathedral and Glasgow School of Art were under restoration at the time of the fire with all conservation personnel, equipment and accessibility scaffolding in place. Yet, the fire was not put down before it caused huge irreversible losses.

For such damage to occur to these high profile historic buildings in our day and age tells us that we are not prepared enough to protect our built heritage from the threat of fire. The threat to built vernacular heritage is even much greater. As most vernacular buildings and settlements are built with flammable materials and in remote locations with poor accessibility to emergency services. CIAV should therefore address this threat by research and guidance for best practices. Traditional methods for mitigating and fighting fires should be studied and modern methods should be adapted and included in the conservation and management plans for built vernacular heritage.

8 Human rights

In 2007 ICOMOS started an initiative with the aim of “building awareness of rights issue in World Heritage and heritage management in general”, which led in 2011 to the establishing of “Our Common Dignity” Rights-Based Approaches Working Group (OCD-RBA). This is an important milestone in the decolonization and the freeing of the international conservation movement from its Eurocentric attitudes. Earlier milestones include Burra Charter that was initially issued by ICOMOS Australia in 1979 acknowledging the value system and worldview of the indigenous peoples in the field of cultural heritage and its conservation. Another milestone is the Nara Document on Authenticity in 1994, acknowledging that the European notion of authenticity is not universally valid and that authenticity is a culture-specific concept. There is still a long way to go as the establishment of the OCD-RBA indicates.

More recently the Black Lives Matter movement and Rhodes Must Fall movement highlighted the centuries-long oppression of people based on the colour of their skin and the insensitivity of the current views on cultural heritage with regards to racism, slavery and their legacy that continue to undermine black people and the people of color implicitly and explicitly. The anger and the violence that these movements showed towards the establishment and towards monuments, some of which, were listed as national heritage indicate that there is a lot of work to be done regarding human rights and human dignity.

The built vernacular heritage is produced, maintained and lived in by local communities many of whose dignity and rights are not always respected. In many cases, the conservation, interpretation and presentation of their own cultural heritage are imposed by outsiders without their full participation and collaboration. Human rights must therefore be explicitly in the heart of CIAV’s work.

9 Integration and synergy

The above mentioned issues, challenges and opportunities should be integrated into CIAV’s work. CIAV members should discuss a possible update that could be made to the “Charter on the Built Vernacular Heritage (1999)”. The Charter is organized under four headings: “Introduction”, “General Issues”, “Principles of Conservation” and “Guidelines of Practice”.

The “Introduction” states that “Due to the homogenization of culture and of global socio-economic transformation, vernacular structures all around the world are extremely vulnerable, facing serious problems of obsolescence, internal equilibrium and integration.” A paragraph could be added on the escalating challenges of wars, fires and natural disasters. And another paragraph on the challenges and opportunities by the SDGs, climate change and the pandemic.

The issue of human rights is well covered under “General Issues”, article 3:

“Governments and responsible authorities must recognize the right of all communities to maintain their living traditions, to protect these through all available legislative, administrative and financial means and to hand them down to future generations.”

Separate articles could be added under both “Principles of Conservation” and “Guidelines in Practice” on SDGs and climate change as well as the mitigation and management of the threats of wars, fires and natural disasters. What is more important than including these issues in the Charter is to effectively include them in CIAV’s work.

Another level of integration and synergy should be aimed at bridging the gaps created by institutional structures and mandates, such as:

- Cultural and natural heritage
- Tangible and intangible heritage
- Movable and immovable heritage

CIAV should endeavor to collaborate with the relevant institutions and other ICOMOS international scientific committees and working groups to bridge these gaps and to ensure a holistic and balanced approach to the built vernacular heritage.

10 Balanced representation

A balanced representation of members and also topics of research and discussions on the cultural heritage from different regions of the world is a difficult objective that ICOMOS aims to reach. The majority of members and thus studies and discussions are from Europe, North America and Australia.

For CIAV, the importance of a balanced representation cannot be overemphasized. Some of the most significant built vernacular heritage sites in the world are located in the least represented regions by CIAV members, such as Africa and also Asia and Latin America. This is the reason that the present CIAV Bureau endeavors to hold 2024 CIAV conference and annual meeting in Africa, hoping to create opportunities of collaboration with African colleagues and relevant institutions.

11 Conclusion

As the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture, CIAV is in a position to address the escalating challenges that face the protection and conservation of the built vernacular heritage and to capture the opportunities to influence the design and building of new more resilient buildings and settlements. However, in order for CIAV to assume such a role, there is a need to develop an articulate vision that identifies the following priorities and integrates them into its work:

- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Climate change
- Natural disasters
- The Covid-19 pandemic
- Wars and displacements
- Fires
- Human rights

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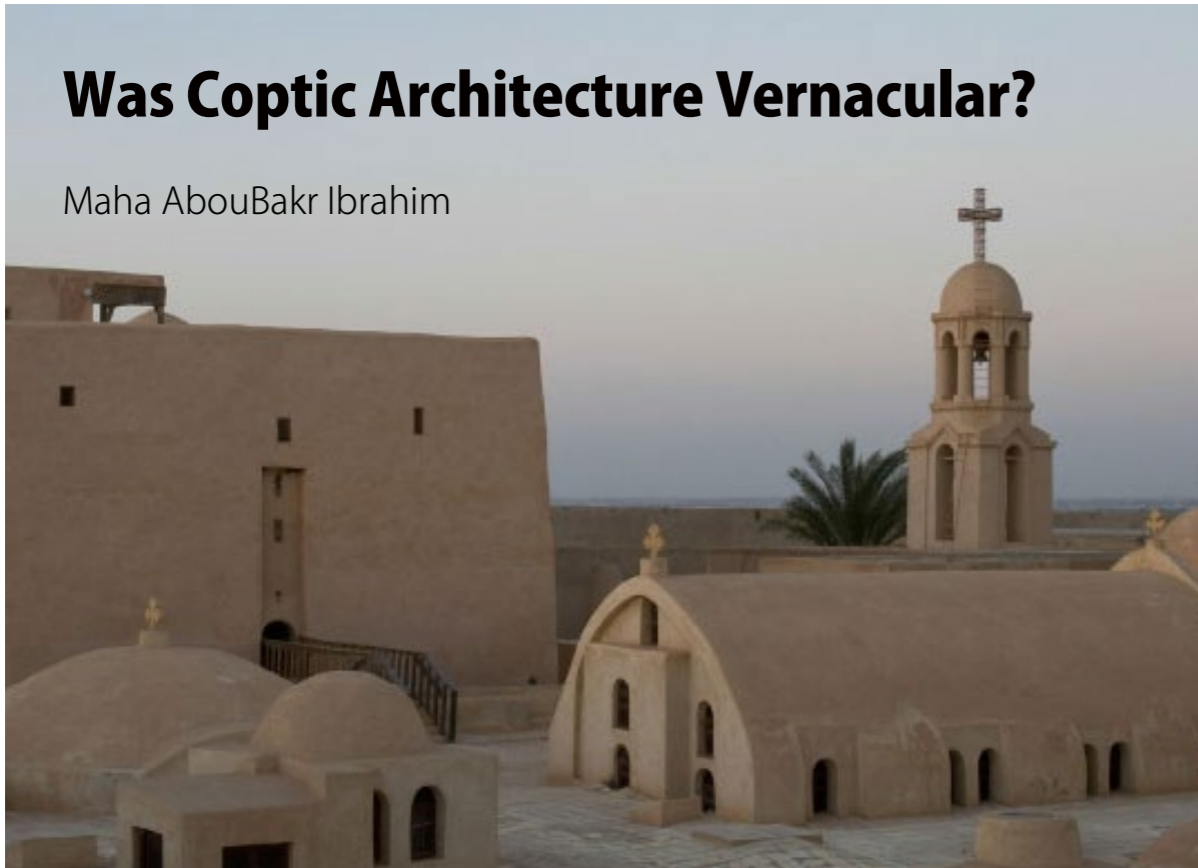
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Was Coptic Architecture Vernacular?

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Studies made about Coptic architecture are still limited and blur compared with the ancient Egyptian and Islamic architecture in Egypt. This part of the Egyptian history that plays a crucial role in the social and political life in Egypt later on. Practicing architecture during the Coptic era passed by layers of development, since the emergence of Christianity in Egypt by the first century until the dominance of Islam along the whole country by the 9th century.

1 From the First to the 3rd c.

By the beginning of Christianity in Egypt, Copts were not allowed to practice their rituals in public or even turn to Christianity from the beginning. Christianity was criminalized during Roman rule. There for, there were no churches in the literal sense. Consequently, they were keen to make their rituals in secret. And that is why, they used their own homes to practice Christianity at the early beginning. Or they choose to pray in ancient abandoned cemeteries. Just like Christians in Europe who were doing their rituals in catacombs, Copts in Egypt did the same. Some Copts made another choice by immigrating to the desert, isolating themselves from the

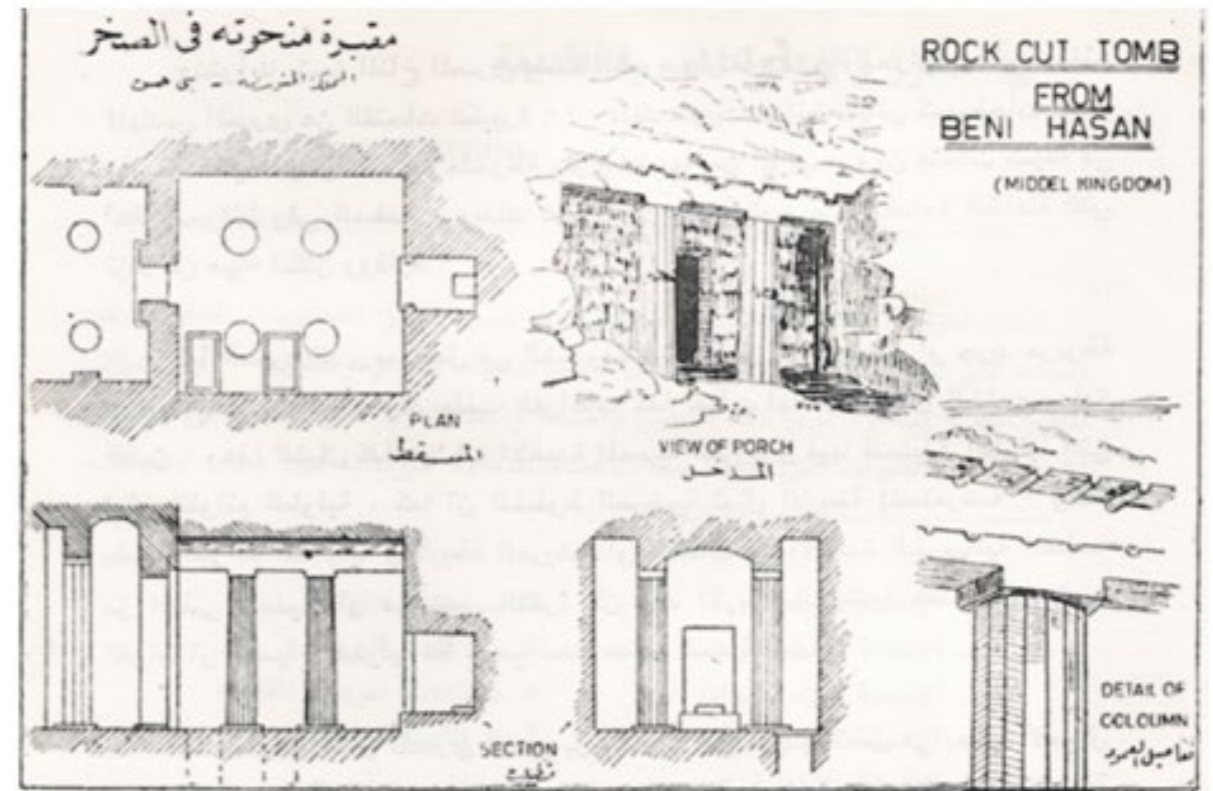


Figure 1 A model for the plans of Bani Hassan tombs, El-Menyia.



Figure 2 Signboard of the tomb of Banahsi no. 6 at Bani Hassan, El-Menyia



Figure 3 Paintings describing everyday life for the ancient Egyptians by the beginning of the middle kingdom, on an internal wall of the tomb of Banahsi no. 6 at Bani Hassan, El-Menyia.

whole world and their past lives, to worship in monasteries.

One of the most significant examples is the tomb of Banahsi no. 6 at Bani Hassan, El-Menyia (Figure 2). It is one of the dozens of rock cut tombs dedicated for nobles lived during the beginning of the middle kingdom. Each tomb consists of two chambers. All of them are located on the eastern bank of the Nile (Figure 1).

In this example, Copts rehabilitated the place to suite the function they need and sufficient for their number, which was very little that time.

In this tomb the outer hall turned into a church in the early Christian era, where the rock was cut in the northern wall and an altar and a baptistery were erected in the middle wall (Figure 4 a, b and c). Between the two halls, scenes represent the daily life of the Amarna era (Figure 3).



Figure 4 (a) the ceiling of the praying hall, has been burnt; (b) Painting of alfa and omega signs that represents GOD; (c) the inserted apse.

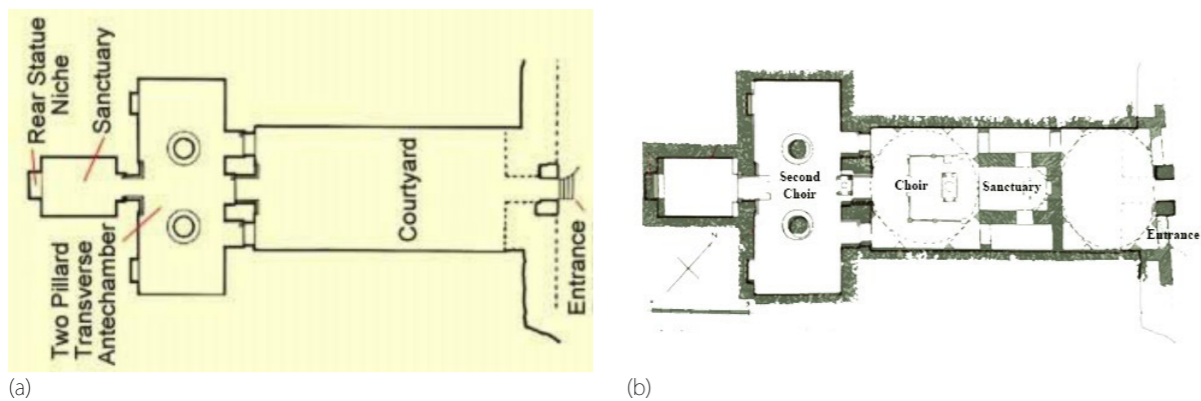


Figure 5 (a) The original design of temple Beit El-Wali, Nubia; (b) the modifications Copts had done to the plan to suit their needs.

From the illustrated images, it is obvious that Copts burnt the ancient Egyptian inscriptions on the walls and the ceiling to blur its features. That is because the believed that they developed themselves religiously by turning to Christianity, and did not want such inscriptions distract their attention. Also, using burning technique for demolishing the paintings, this is due to their belief that it is not permissible to use a carving or drilling tool in the place of prayer. That was also the reason why they paint their symbols on the wall (Figure 4b), and did not relief or carve them. They used Alfa and Omega signs as a

symbol of God. Since Alfa is the first latter in the alphabets and Omega is the last one, also God is the first and the last. The whole church consists of one chamber. It has a small area, knowing that Copts number was still little at that early time of Christianity. The altar and apse were located on the eastern side of the chamber – as well as any church – because east direction symbolizes salvation. The apse was similar in shape to that had been built in the roman basilicas.

Such practices can be noticed around the Egyptian territory at the early period of

Christianity. For instance, the rock cut temple at Bait El-Wali, Nubia (Figure 5 a, b). Also, at Luxor, Madenat Habu includes some inscriptions that proof the Copts presence there.

Accordingly, Copts were conducted to satisfy their needs, so unconsciously to find or build their own local construction, using traditional resources from their surrounding area. So, the product here is building loaded by layers of history. It was designed as a normal architectural building get dyed with vernacular architecture. Therefore, during this phase Copts did not produce their own architecture. They just left behind their traces on the ancient Egyptian. However, and during the same period, a clear kind of vernacular architecture was emerging and taking its processes of development in the desert.

2 Monasteries

Monasticism was originally emerged in Egypt. It was a reflection to be able to practice their religious rituals freely and without stress. Monasteries began in upper Egypt – away from the capital Alexandria – and spread all over the Egyptian territories. Researches do not mention the name of any architect for such ancient monasteries. They were built by self-efforts, and most probably without architect. Most of them consists of architecture elements that reflects their religious, security and everyday living needs.

In short, a monastery is a small-scale town. Any one must include:

- Church: of course, because worshipping is the main purpose for their presence in such remote area. Most of the churches took the basilican type as reference. However, in Egypt, there were some features inherited from the ancient Egyptian traditions, such as; that hidden apse that must not be protruded from the eastern wall, such like these roman basilicas. They used to believe that the most important space in the religious building must be hidden and protected like the Holy of Holies. That is why in Egypt the apse at the sanctuary was always aligned with the eastern elevation from outside. (Figure 6)
- Refectory: it is a dining room for monks. They use dining tie for worshipping and reading the bible together and discuss its interpretations. It is accessed from a small corridor at the western end inside the church. (Figure 7).
- Library: Copts monks produced thousands of religious manuscripts, presented in museums around the whole world. The religious environment that was provided in the monasteries gave them the opportunity to read, study and research in their religion. That also was attached by the reason of living in such a place, to devote themselves completely to worship and cut off all of their previous lives.

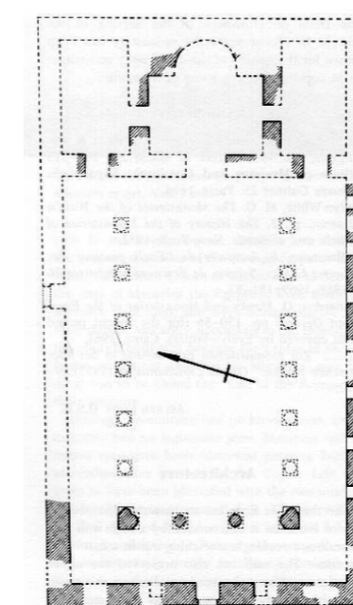


Figure 6 the old church of the holy Virgin, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 6th -7th c.

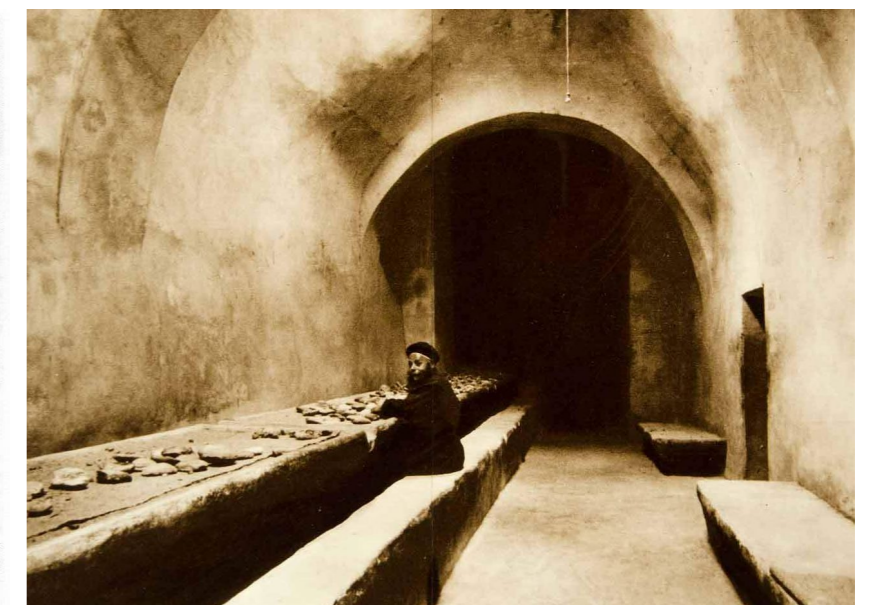


Figure 7 the refectory, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 6th -7th c. very simple interior and furniture. Built-in dining table and bench.



Figure 8 Boundary, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 9th c. In addition of the inner surrounding corridor for the guard monk there is a number of openings to watch while protecting himself.



Figure 9 The keep, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 9th c. From the roof the church. On this image appears the bridge to access into the keep. The existing roof of the church is not the original one, which was probably constructed with timber. Using pointed vaults and domes began in churches with introducing the Islamic culture.



Figure 10 The guard monk cell from inside the monastery, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 9th c. There is an opening to provide passengers with any supplies.

- **Boundary:** Due to several attacks on the monasteries from barbarians, monks in monasteries felt insecurity, so they constructed boundaries around their monasteries to protect; the church -the most important building for them- and save the farms, cemeteries, library, and all life-supporting components within the monastery. The boundary is characterized by being relatively high (about 9 m tall) and thick (from 2 to 3 m thick and some times more). Usually at its top from inside, there was a very narrow corridor for watching and monitoring any movements around the monastery. (Figure 8)

- **Keep:** for more protection to their lives, monks were forced to build the keep, located just beside the church. It was the highest building in the monastery, about 3 or 4 storey building. It is a small-scale monastery for itself. It includes a very small chapel, built on a water well, storage chambers for food, group bedroom...etc. this building functions when attackers succeeded in getting in the monastery, so monks scape to the keep and lock it from inside. The keep is characterized by it has no ground floor entrance.

They get into the keep from the roof the church, passing through a wooden bridge, and after the last one gets in, he raises the bridge and close the keep from inside. Moreover, it is the only building in the monastery constructed from stone to grantee strength. Other buildings were built from clay. (Figure 9)

- **Main entrance:** it is controlled by one of the monks, who was assigned for that particularly. At the main entrance there is a cell of that monk who worked as the monastery guard. Also at that entrance, there was a small opening from about 7 m high to give the monk the opportunity to respond for any comer and support passengers by food, water or medicine. Without taking the risk to let them get into the monastery. (Figure 10)

- **Cells:** very small-scale accommodation rooms for monks. The dimensions of one cell are about 2*4 m, divided into two sections; one for sleeping and the other one for reading and studying. Its walls have number of recesses that were used as shelves for books or clothes. Infront of the cell



Figure 11 The elevation of monks' cells inside the monastery, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 6th-7th c. one storey building, with simple entrance openings.



Figure 13 The mill and gypsum furnence at the main entrance from inside, Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 6th-7th c..

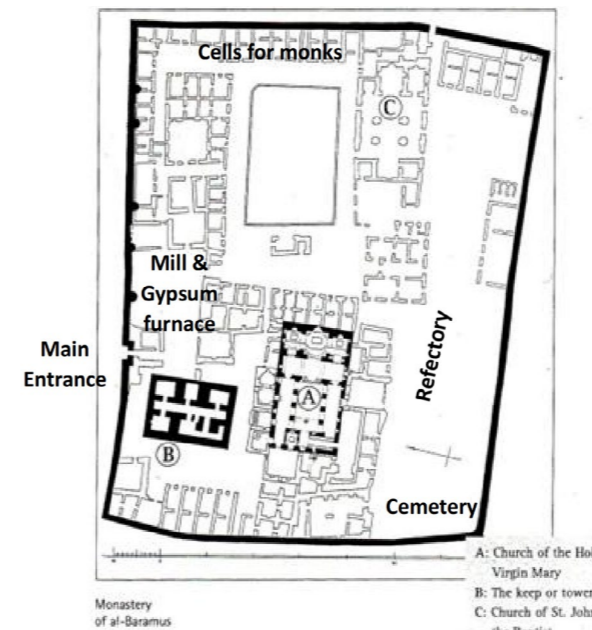


Figure 12 The lay-out of Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun, 6th-7th c. one storey building, with simple entrance openings.

there is a small porch, where the monk can have a sit with one of his colleagues. (Figure 11)

- **stery** must include a cemetery area to bury the bodies of monks who died.
- **Farms and burns:** to provide means of life to the monks and visitors of the monastery.

Such kind of architecture can be distinguished by simplicity and spontaneity. It was simple by its forms, compositions and building materials. The masses and the relationships between them produced in accordance basically of the religious and social needs and the inherited and cross cultures reached Copts that time. The used building materials they brought from the environmental context around mud and clay. That is why, we can claim that this kind

of architecture matches to an extreme extent to the essence of the definition of vernacular architecture. The mentioned before elements for monasteries are common between all of them, however, each of them may include an additional element to fulfil a particular use. For instance, Baramous monastery has a mill and gypsum furnace for the use of mixing building materials from the around environmental context. For the use of building or repairing the existing buildings or to serve the nearby monasteries. (Figure 12, 13)

Therefore, contemporary, there are many architects who were inspired by Coptic architecture. For instance, Hassan Fathy mentioned the architecture of ancient Copts. He used it as a source of inspiration and inherited building knowledge. He integrated it with that of ancient Egyptian and Islamic culture, to reproduce his own new kind of architecture to suit living people and satisfy their needs and reflects this nowadays culture.

Coptic architecture is a kind of vernacular architecture that deserves to be preserved and needs more and more researches and studies to vail the ambiguity of a crucial part in the Egyptian history.

Honorary Member

Panu Kaila



Name Panu Kaila

Nationality Finnish

Occupation Professor emeritus

Major History of Architecture

Affiliation National Board of Historic Monuments, 1971-1990, University career in Finland, 1990-1999, visiting professor in Turin, Italy, 2005 and Tokyo, Japan, 2005-2007

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Langues Finnish, Swedish, Italian, English

Experience

Member of ICOMOS Finland since 1975, and participated the General Assembly of Plovdiv, Bulgaria in 1977. There the need for a specialized committee for vernacular architecture was discussed. CIAV was founded in the next General Assembly in Budapest in 1977, having its base in Plovdiv, where an impressive historic building was restored for its use. The annual meetings were organized in Plovdiv, with few exceptions, like one in Finland in 1983.

Member of ICOMOS Wood Committee IWC since 1978, and served as the chair of ICOMOS Finland from 1991-1992, participating in the work of ICOMOS Advisory Committee.

Be invited by Sir Bernard Feilden, the director of ICCROM to run the wood week of architectural conservation course which is an intergovernmental conservation center in Rome until 1996. Lecturing biennially from 1994 - 2012 in ICWTC, International Course of Wood Conservation Technology, run by Riksantikvaren + ICCROM in Norway. Acted as Finnish delegate in the General Assembly of ICCROM and the vice-chair of the Council of ICCROM from 1990 - 1993.

During the post-war reconstruction modern building technologies like prefabrication and new materials such as mineral wool and synthetic paints forced out more traditional ways of building. The old appearance of houses with hip roofs and small-pane windows was considered as old-fashioned and deserved to be rejected. The big broom was sweeping away cosy villages and wooden towns. Protecting legislation was almost non-existing and the financial help minimal. The National Board understood that the only efficient way was to help the owners to understand the cultural value of their historic buildings and to maintain the traditional skills.

Many instruction courses and meetings were organized, study material produced and local workshops encouraged. In busiest years he attended annually in 50 events. Interested people asked often for written information and the National Board started publishing instruction booklets. During this time publishing became his main activity. The latest book of some 600 pages was published in October 2022. Author columns answer questions on building problems that are currently in print in several newspapers since 2000.

His courses were two-sided - both theory and practice. In lecture room history, work methods and theory was taught, followed by visits to material laboratories and working in his own testing lab. Regarding practical instruction, the most important segments were international work camps, where actual restoration work of a historic building was undertaken in charge of master builders. As an example, a timber church was built, beginning with felling the trees, pit-sawing the planks and carving shingles, and forging all nails or spikes used in the construction. In another instance, the team produced bricks using a horse-powered clay-mill, molded and cured in field kiln, which were then used in a World Heritage site.

Projects

Book: Talotohtorin rakenneopas (2022)

Panu Kaila continues where he left off in Talotohtori, which focuses on building materials. Talotohtori's structural guide presents the wisdom of an old house, gives advice on how to preserve it and tells about its teachings also to new builders. In addition to professionals, Talotohtori's structural guide is suitable for anyone who takes a devout approach to renovating their own house or cottage.

The in-depth non-fiction work begins with the history of construction from the primordial hut to antiquity, the influence of the house on emotions, the meaning of memories, beauty and the preservation of time. In the second and third periods, we proceed to the construction, the many solutions of foundations and basements and the fight against typical problems. The fourth section describes the structures of wooden houses and the fifth focuses on insulation, dew point, heat reserve and indoor climate. Each theme is summed up by the full renovation history of a building and rich illustrations illustrating the expert text. The book ends with the story of a deserted house, its rise from decay to a comfortable apartment.

Book: Talotohtori - Rakentajan pikkugiantiläinen (2023)

The concise, clearly worded "medical book" of buildings deals with a wide range of different building materials and their use. Photo and cartoon illustrations.

A concise and thorough non-fiction book for every DIY builder interested in construction, housing and the living environment. The book answers questions about materials, structures, working methods, damage and repair methods, among other things.

Talotohtori deals with all the most important building materials: natural stone, clay, brick, mortar, concrete, other stone materials, wood and traditional paints - including damage and repair of all of these. Entire structures and working methods are discussed when they are essentially tied to a particular material. Improper design, careless construction and carelessness generate unnecessary costs, sick housing and an ugly environment. Talotohtori's advice helps to avoid these serious mistakes and guides people towards healthy living with respect for ecological values. Taking into account the excellent tricks of the book, the builder saves a lot of costs and achieves a significantly better end result. Historical reviews of forgotten building methods, materials and repair methods are also included.

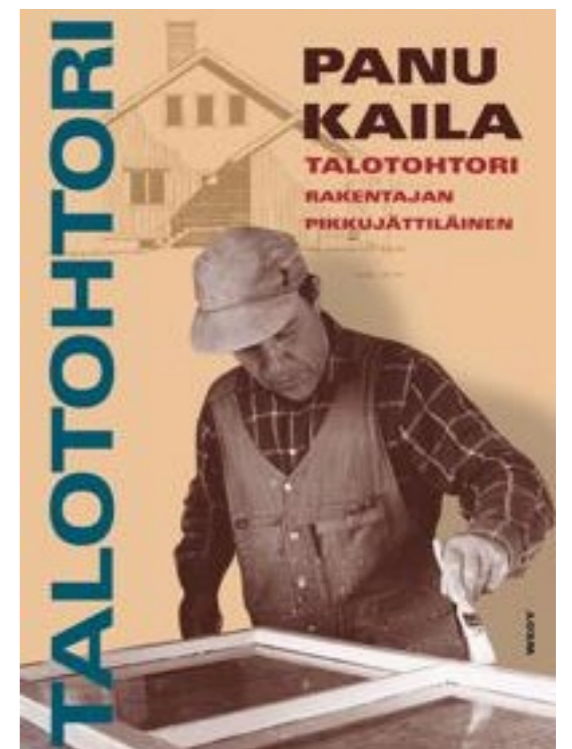
Tieto-Finlandia nominee Lauri Jäntti Foundation Non-fiction Book Award (1998)



Kärsämäki Church OPEAA ©Jussi Tiainen



Cover of Talotohtorin rakenneopas © Panu Kaila



Cover of Talotohtori - Rakentajan pikkugiantiläinen © Panu Kaila

New Member

Maha AbouBakr Ibrahim



Name Maha AbouBakr Ibrahim

Nationality Egyptian

Occupation Lecturse

Major History of Architecture

Affiliation Misr university for science and technology – Faculty of Engineering – Architectural Engineering Department

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Langues Arabic, English

Education Background

2018 Ph.D. degree in Architectural Engineering at Cairo University, Faculty of Engineering, Egypt under title "Architecture in Multicultural Communities: An Analytical Study of the Impact of Cultural Diversity on Churches through Coptic Era"

2010 M.Sc. degree in Architectural Engineering at Cairo University, Faculty of Engineering, Egypt under title "Relationship between theory and practice through geometry in Deconstructivist architecture: comparative analysis between international and local application"

2000 Bachelor of Architectural Engineering, Cairo University, Faculty of Engineering, Egypt)

Experience

Oriental Group Consultants

2018: Senior manager for Nazla Village project, Visitor center for potteries, El-Fayoum.

The project won the 2nd prize for "Fourth International Baku Architecture Award", June 2019.

Experience

2008-2012: International Center For Engineering Consultation (ICEC) under the supervision of Dr. Emad El-Sherbiny

Designing El-Khatatba residence at El-Khoyoul village on Cairo-Alexandria highway.

Designed Sidi Abdel Rahman resort, which consists of several villas and a hotel with a commercial mall.

Designing interiors for apartments and restaurants.

2006-2007: Restoring an open space at El-Darb El-Ahmar, Cairo, Egyptian Earth Construction Association (EECA), as a partner to Save The Children Association

Working as a Project manager.

The project aimed to improve the community environmental and urban cognition, especially the children, through upgrading and restoring a very narrow lane and dead ended with a small court. The project area was about 200 m2. This by sharing the children living there in the whole process (picking up the urban problems, solving ideas to crystalize a concept, choosing materials, and finally constructing). This to upgrade the children architectural taste, and to guarantee their willing to protect the product.

Projects

Visitor center for potteries at Nazla Village (2018)

The challenge for the teamwork was to build up a project that reflects the culture of Nazla community. We found the key solution of this dilemma by the first visit to the village. There, we observed that residences are using pottery in building their pigeon towers. That was amazing and inspiring for the team. That day, we built an experimental arch using potteries, and we succeed. Consequently, in the office the head of the team Arch. Hamdy el-Setouhy put the design program to provide the project with the functional spaces. Here, emerged another challenge, which was the structure of the roof system, where the span was larger than that of the pigeon towers. That was the reason we choose to use vaults and domes or semi-dome to cover the inner spaces.



Visitor center for potteries at Nazla Village © Maha AbouBakr Ibrahim



Baramous monastery, Wadi El-Natrun
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