

ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL WOOD COMMITTEE

NEWS ON WOOD

Conference in Falun

The IWC had a very successful conference in Falun, Sweden between April 13 and 17th. Thanks are due to Tina Wik who organized the conference with Nils Ahlberg, the Swedish National Committee and to the County Governor of Dalarna for a wonderful eventing. Secretary General, Maria Zepeda put together the Program and published the abstracts.

Falun was a beautiful site, being the location of one of the oldest copper mines in Europe with an amazing history both as a mine and as an influence on Swedish and European history.



Close to the mine is the original worker's community and their simple wooden houses which are still occupied.

Our hosts in Falun gave us a presentation on Falun and its History and also on conservation work in the surrounding areas.

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Annual General Meeting

We had a spirited Annual General Meeting during which the composition of the bureau and elections was discussed. 15 members were present. As President Tampone had served for more than the statutory 9 years and the elections at the last Triennial General Assembly had not been held, it was agreed that an interim bureau would be established with those whose terms had not expired.

The Interim Bureau is to update membership lists and ensure the CVs of members are up-to-date. It is also to update the Website and make it more active.

Nominating Committee

A nominating Committee was established to prepare for elections to the IWC at the next Triennial General Assembly in Delhi in 2017. The mandate of this committee includes investigating electronic voting, and updating membership lists. Members are: Ian McGillivray (Canada), Alazne Ochandiano (Spain) and Alejandro Martinez de Arbulo (Japan, Spain).



Updating the Principles for the Preservation of Historic Wooden Structures (1999)

The Principles were last adopted in Morelia in 1999. Past president Gennaro Tampone initiated a review at Guadalajara, Mexico, 2012, continued at the IWC Symposium at Himeji, Japan, 2013. An objective of the Falun Conference was to complete the Principles. A comparative document was prepared by Mikel Landa of Spain including reviews from Italy, England, Spain, Mexico and Japan. Comments had also been sent by, the Philippines, the Czech Republic and ICOMOS/ IFLA.

Most of the document was agreed on and Mikel and Tina Wik undertook to complete the review together with the Bureau members. The revised Principles will be issued for review by members and National Committees then submitted to the ICOMOS Secretariat in Istanbul in October.

Dr. Ito Memorial

ICOMOS Honorary member and 2011 Gazzola Prize winner, **Dr. Nobuo Ito**, passed away 31 October 2015 at the age of 90. We



will remember him for his dedication and gentle yet steadfast position in building international understanding about the Japanese contribution to the concept of repair of heritage buildings and authenticity.

Activities

The IWC will continue earlier initiatives with the objective of posting to the web.

• **Project on Safety and Risk**

Prevention: Safety in the workplace includes respect and preservation of historic values, the health of the workers, and the stability of the construction.

• **Glossary Project:** to gather the technical vocabulary of Historic timber structures, the processes of wood conservation, and the tools. This project is gathering

these technical terms in languages that to date are English, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Polish and Japanese among others.

• **Country Report Project** which consists of filling a format that requires information on the main built monuments in the countries of IWC members. This project began in 2013, at the meeting in Himeji Japan.

• **Interaction with other scientific organizations** ISCARSAH, **CIPA** - COST Program

• **Who is Who:** To complete a IWC directory of members with CVs and post to web.

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David Yeoman's paper discussed the Culture of Conservation and raised important points about the process of completing conservation projects.

Other speakers included Gennaro Tampone (Italy), Mikel Landa and Alazne Ochandiano (Spain), Alejandro Martinez (Japan), Zeynep Uzun and Aynur Ciftci (Turkey) Lena Grönlund Myrberg (Falun, Sweden), Lars Jönses (Dalarnas Museum, Sweden), Yasuhiro Watanabe (Japan), Kersti Berggren (Finland), Ling Cai (China), Luca Uzielli (Italy), Ylva Sandin (Sweden), Ullrik Hjort Lassen (Sweden).

Temporary Wooden Monuments

Maria de Guadalupe Zepeda Martinez introduced a new concept in Wooden Built Heritage with the presentation on *Principles for Conservation of [Traditional, Temporary] Timber historic Structures* by, followed by a poster presentation and an amazing model of a Petatera Bullring by Christian Zamobra Allvarado

Future Events

• **Istanbul:** We anticipate presenting the revised Principles at The 2016 Annual General Assembly of ICOMOS and are also planning an IWC get together.

• **Delhi, India:** the Triennial General Assembly will be held in Delhi, India in 2017 where we will also hold our Annual General Meeting.

• **Dong, China:** is a minority village in China We have been invited by Ling Cai to visit and study this special culture. Proposed for 2018.

• **Greece:** Board member Eleftheria Tsakanika has suggested Greece for the 2018 Annual general Meeting.

The interim Bureau consists of

Ian McGillivray, interim president
Maria Zepeda, General Secretary
Eleftheria Tsanika, vice president
Yasuhiro Watanabe, vice president.

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