



ICOMOS - CIAV
International Committee
of Vernacular Architecture

International Council on
Monuments and Sites

Comité International d'Architecture Vernaculaire

CIAV NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Journal



Volume 45
Oct 2019

Editorial

Dear colleagues:

Gisle Jakhelln actual CIAV President have made this Report about the responsibilities of Bureau actual members, the Strategic Plan, the actual Statutes denominated New By-Laws; the Taskforce for the Vernacular Architecture Threatened by War; VERNADOC Activities and several representations, meetings and publications. He also mentioned the next annual meetings in 2020 and 2021.

Ivan Enev CIAV Secretary General, presented his Annual Report 2019 and the International Committee on Cultural Routes made the invitation to the Scientific Meeting of Living Cultural Routes in Chihuahua, Mexico, 2020.

Our friend architect Nelson Melero, from La Habana, Cuba, sent us his interesting article named Sagua La Grande, Cuba which is about the wooden heritage in the city of Sagua, it explains the origin and development of the city, its architecture and details of the wooden architecture. At the end he made some final considerations.

We hope that you enjoy all this interesting articles.

CIAV Vice-president
Valeria Prieto

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Nelson Merelo. Architect. La Habana, Cuba



CIAV
Comité Internationale d'Architecture Vernaculaire
International Committee on Vernacular Architecture

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019

Bureau

President: Gisle Jakhelln
Vice Presidents: Valeria Prieto and Maria Inés Subercaseaux
Secretary General: Ivan Enev

The Bureau was elected at the Annual Meeting 9th December 2017.

Responsibilities

We have divided our tasks within the Bureau:

Valeria: Responsible for our Newsletter

Maria Inés: General support

Ivan Enev: Contact with our members, update of the list of members and activity register

Martin Čerňanský: Responsible for our website. Here we find our newsletters and other relevant information. Contact: cernansky@up.npu.cz

Members

We are a total of 120 members (including 8 honorary members, 35 associate member and 2 Emerging Professionals) within CIAV in August 2019, from 42 countries/nationalities. (We were 115 members in September 2017.)

Three documents were resolved to take into use at last year's Annual Meeting: 1) CIAV Membership Application Form, 2) CIAV Members' Annual Activities Report Form and 3) Guidelines to the Minimum Participation Requirements for ICOMOS CIAV Members.

We have registered that we are 82 active members and 38 passive members (August 2019). We hope to bring the passive members into more active participation the coming year!

Ivan is keeping an update of National Committee-designated Voting Members to CIAV. We have 23 Voting Members.

Strategic Plan

Following our Strategic Plan we are, as usual, having our Annual Meeting together with our scientific conference, which this year shall take place on 6th -10th September in Pingyao, China, on the invitation of ICOMOS China, WHITRAP, Shanghai, ACHCCP-UPSC, CURBH-ASC and Tongji University, Shanghai. The theme of the Scientific Conference in 2019 is "Vernacular and Earthen Architecture towards Local

Development.” This is a joint conference with ICOMOS ISCEAH, International Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage.

New By-Laws replacing our Statutes

In light of the recently updated and adopted basic model of the By-Laws for the ICOMOS ISCs (26.06.2019), each ISC is expected to adjust and complete this By-Laws 'model' in line with its specific aims and fields of work and expertise. The edited By-Laws will then have to be adopted by each respective ISC at their annual meetings by 2020 GA.

In this regard, the CIAV Bureau has recently circulated a draft CIAV-edit of the By-Laws among its membership (10.08.2019), inviting critical reading and input with a contribution deadline 30.08.2019. The 'CIAV By-Laws' are listed on the agenda of our forthcoming annual meeting in Pingyao for final amendments and adoption.

Ivan, our Secretary General, has prepared this document.

Taskforce for the Vernacular Architecture Threatened by War

Hossam Mahdy is organising this task force to study the situation in Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Libya and other Arab countries where huge dangers are facing the conservation of cultural heritage, particularly vernacular architecture. The taskforce consists of four CIAV members as a core group to initiate its activities: Samir Abdulac, David Brand, Fidelma Mullane and Hossam Mahdy.

Hossam reports that they recently “decided to join forces with the "ICOMOS Working Group for the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Syria and Iraq", so that we benefit from their experience in dealing with the very difficult logistic issues and also to build on their past achievements in raising funds and organizing events. The idea is to form an initiative within the ICOMOS Group focusing on vernacular architecture.”

VERNADOC - working camps for the documentation of vernacular architecture

This is a very active field. Sudjit Sananwai is working closely with Markku Mattila. Since last year there has been more camps:

- November – December 2018: Malaysia
- 3rd – 17th January 2019: Enrica Pieragostini to the “ITALIAN VERNADOC 2019 Montepandone”,
- 1st – 15th March 2019: Iran
- April 2019: Bali
- 1st – 15th May 2019: Paredes de Coura, Portugal, organized by the Research Centre of Escola Superior Gallaecia and the Municipality of Paredes de Coura.
- July 2019: Thailand RSU
- July 2019: Indonesia
- 23rd August – 5th September 2019: China
- 24th September – 3rd October 2019: Kang, Mashad, Iran, organised by Ali Malekabbasi. Camp for the foreign students who are studying in Iran universities.

Solo VERNADOCs:

- Autumn 2018: Portugal
- April – May 2019: Thailand Phimai
- May 2019: Finland
- June 2019: Thailand Phuket

Representation and meetings

Samir Abdulac is chair of ICOMOS Working Group for the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Syria and Iraq.

Ege Yildirim is ICOMOS Focal Point for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She works on the theme 'heritage as a driver of sustainability'.

Peter Cox, ISCES+CC (International Scientific Committee on Energy, Sustainability, and Climate Change) President, (and CIAV member).

Ivan Enev has been engaged with the ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group (EPWG) as CIAV Representative, taking active part at the teleconferences of the group. For the time being, CIAV has only two Emerging Professionals (EPs) – Erin Guerra (US ICOMOS) and Ivan Enev (ICOMOS Bulgaria).

CIAV supports the H2020 project called “Hidden: Underground historical areas: transdisciplinary risk reduction and reconstruction technologies to improve resilience to floods, earthquakes and climate change”, led by the University of Leeds (UK) and with the participation, among other universities and institutions of the Universitat Politècnica de València (Spain). Our CIAV members Fernando Vegas and Camilla Mileto are actively engaged in the project.

CIAV supports the conference HERITAGE2020 to be held on September 9th – 12th 2020 at the School of Architecture of the Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain, an International Conference on Vernacular Architecture in World Heritage Sites. Risks and New Technologies, HERITAGE2020, is organized in the framework of the projects: 3DPast – Living & virtual visiting European World Heritage funded by the Creative Europe Program of the European Union; and RISK-Terra – Earthen architecture in the Iberian Peninsula: study of natural, social and anthropic risks and strategies to improve resilience.

Publications

Valeria has presented four issues this year of the CIAV [Newsletter](#): November 2018, April, May and June. Our Newsletter is a very important source of inspiration and information to our members. Please continue to send presentations to Valeria.

The website is also an important link and information with our members. Unfortunately the website has had technical problems last year. However, it is working since June this year.

Marwa Dabaieh and Miles Lewis as editors have in May 2019 published a book on all the presentations from the CIAV scientific conference in 2012 in al Ain, UAE. “Vernacular Architecture in the Face of Change”.

Christoph Machat and ICOMOS Germany has in April 2019 published the proceedings of CIAV 2016 in Lübeln, Germany: "The Cultural Landscape of the Wendland Circular Villages".

Ali Malekabbasi has in August 2019 distributed to all the participants and the CIAV members a pdf-presentation of all the abstracts for papers presented at the CIAV conference 2018 in Tabriz: "Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development".

Markku Mattila has published the following books on the VERNADOC camps:

- 2019 "Pre VERNADOC 1998 – vatjalaiset", which is our material about the Votic building tradition in Ingria, measured 1998 and conclusion of our INGRAN-project 1996-1998. This is from Western Ingermanland in Russia, east from Narva-river with Ingrian, Finn and Votic traditions there.
- In September 2019 will be published "Rakennusmittauksia Karjalossa 1894-2001", where is collected the measuring drawings made by Finnish architects in different Karelias under that time period.

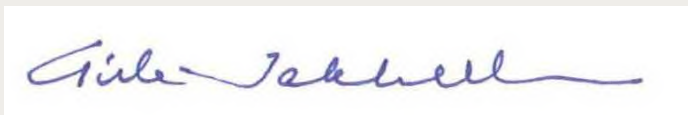
Annual Meeting 2020

ICOMOS General Assembly (GA) shall take place in Sydney, Australia, in October 2020. As normally CIAV shall have our Annual Meeting in conjunction with ICOMOS GA. There shall not be a separate CIAV conference as we shall present our papers within the Scientific Symposium, being part of the GA.

Next Annual Meeting and Conference - 2021

We have received an invitation from Marwa Dabaieh 07.07.2019 to have our Annual Meeting and Conference in Aalborg, Denmark, in 2021, organized with ICOMOS Denmark and the University in Denmark, Aalborg. At this stage the Bureau is open for any other firm proposals from our members.

For me it is still a pleasure working with the CIAV Bureau team - and inspiring to receive feedback from all the active CIAV members.



Gisle
20th August 2019

ICAV
President: Gisle Jakhelln, e-mail: gi-jakhe@online.no
Secretariat: Valeria Prieto, e-mail: valeriaprieto@hotmail.com

ICOMOS CIAV Secretary General Report

August 20th, 2019, Berlin, Germany

RE: ICOMOS CIAV Secretary-General's Annual Report 2019



Dear Colleagues and fellow members of the ISC ICOMOS CIAV,

In the advent of our forthcoming annual meeting in Pingyao, China, I would like to offer to your attention the Secretary-General's annual report for 2019. The information below is a summary of this year's highlights in the activities of the CIAV Bureau.

1. Organisational Work.

1.1. Membership statistics (as of August 2019)

(for the complete list of current CIAV members, please refer to Appendix 1 below):

DESCRIPTION	as of August 2019	% of total	comparison 12.2018
<i>Members:</i>			
Members in total *	120	100%	115
<i>i. by membership category:</i>			
Honorary	8 (6 active + 2 passive)	7%	8
Expert	77 (all active)	64%	106
Associate	35 (1 active + 34 passive)	29%	1
Institutional	0	-	0
<i>ii. by experience:</i>			
Emerging Professionals (EP)	2 (both active)	2%	1
<i>iii. by status (engagement with CIAV):</i>			
active	82	68%	78
passive	38	32%	37
deferred (due to individual membership issues)	0	-	2
<i>Membership applications:</i>			
accepted 2019	5 (4 expert + 1 associate)	4%	4
rejected 2019 (not eligible)	1	-	0
pending 2019 (incomplete)	3	-	0
<i>Voting Members:</i>			
NC-designated Voting Members for ICOMOS CIAV	23	19%	20
<i>Other:</i>			
Resigned/Discontinued membership since October 2018	0	-	14

* 52 nationalities / 49 NCs or Int. Secretariat

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome again our 5 newest members:

- Mr. Luigi Tessiore, *Arch. (ICOMOS Morocco)*, CIAV Expert Member;
- Mr. Hubert Feiglstorfer, *Priv.-Doz. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. techn. Dr. nat.-tech. (ICOMOS Austria)*, CIAV Expert Member;
- Ms. Erin Guerra, *ICOMOS EP, Master Preservation Studies (US ICOMOS)*, CIAV Associate Member;
- Ms. Monica Alcindor, *Architect PhD (ICOMOS Portugal)*, CIAV Expert Member;
- Ms. Wei Zhao, *Architect PhD (US ICOMOS)*, CIAV Expert Member.

We wish our new CIAV members a prolific scientific collaboration with CIAV and inspiring professional development in the field of the built vernacular heritage.

1.2. Communication issues with members.

Following the SG's Report of October 2018, contact with most members has been established –either directly, or through the respective National Committee–, except for the following individuals:

Domen Zupancic (Slovenia), Donatius D. M. Kamamba (Tanzania?), Ligia Fulga (Romania), Marc de Caraffe (Canada), Maria Lourdes J. Martinez (Philippines), Satoshi Ohno (Japan), Wilson Herdozia (Ecuador).

The CIAV Bureau would like to encourage all CIAV members, who are in contact with any of the people on this list, or find their own names listed, to get back to us either at <icomosciav.sg@gmail.com> or at <icomosciavbureau@googlegroups.com> as soon as possible. Due to restrictions that some countries have placed on the internet correspondence through the domains they administrate, any personal efforts and contributions to establishing/restoring the effective networking between all CIAV members is highly valuable.

1.3. A new three-lingual translation of the Guidelines to the Minimum Participation Requirements for CIAV Members (2017 Tabriz).

Following their adoption at the last annual CIAV meeting in Tabriz, Iran, the Bureau has translated the Guidelines into French and Spanish. These will soon be openly available on the CIAV webpage. These Guidelines define the required additional ISC membership criteria in line with Art. 8.1 of the model *By-Laws for ICOMOS ISCs*, and are therefore part of the main doctrinal texts of CIAV.

1.4. An updated CIAV webpage < <https://ciav.icomos.org/> >.

As you will probably know, the CIAV Bureau has recently announced the reconstructed CIAV webpage, brought back online thanks to the dedicated work of both our CIAV fellow member Martin Čerňanský (site manager) and Gordon Dewis (Volunteer System Manager of ICOMOS). The webpage has a basic format, following the standard ICOMOS web pattern, and allows for open access to multiple resources, such as: the main statutory documents of CIAV; a CIAV newsletter database; agendas; announcements; application and annual activity forms; an up-to-date list of CIAV members with limited personal information (restricted to names, field of heritage-related activities, and ICOMOS national committee affiliation).

In order for the latter to be populated with members' details, the Bureau requested an explicit written consent (via email) from every CIAV member in accordance with the [ICOMOS Privacy Policy](#) and the [European Data Protection Regulations](#), regarding the online sharing of their personal data on the list (emails of 21.05., 19.06., 22.06. and 11.08.2019). The following data have been collected and (will be) shared for the purposes of the online list:

- surname, name;
- occupation or main field of heritage-related activities;

- affiliation with (an) ICOMOS NC(s) (or the International Secretariat).

By the time of the initial uploading of the list on the CIAV webpage <<http://ciav.icomos.org/ciav-bureau-and-members/>> on May 21st 2019, only a very limited number of CIAV members had provided their consent and were accordingly listed online. This resulted in a broad discussion within the CIAV membership. Consequently, the Bureau decided **to temporary restrict the access** to the online list until clarity had been restored and everyone has had the chance to send their written consent and personal data for uploading, and to voice their ideas, comments, suggestions and/or feedback regarding the contents of the shared personal data. With the last email on this topic (11.08.2019) the deadline for sending consents to the Bureau was extended until 30.08.2019. The collected data will then be updated accordingly and the list will be made openly accessible after 15.09. 2019. Further entries by members past this deadline **will still be considered** and processed into the online database, in line with the initial ide of the web-list – namely, that an **openly accessible** webpage -ideally, with a full list of all current CIAV members- is to be established.

In line of the above, please keep in mind that **the Bureau cannot list any names and/or personal data without an explicit written consent** (at <icomosciav.sg@gmail.com>) **by the individuals in question** (for the up-to-date list of members' consents, please refer to column 'web consent' in Appendix 1). The individual decision on whether to appear on the CIAV online list of members or not **shall not affected** the CIAV membership rights and/or status in any way.

2. ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group.

2.1. Overview and key facts

The *ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group* (EPWG hereafter) was initially conceived within the framework of the *2015-2017 ICOMOS Triennial Programme* under the title “*Young Professionals Collective*” in recognition of the need to engage younger members within both the ICOMOS National Committees (NCs) and the International Scientific Committees (ISCs). The EPWG started and is still operating under the guidance of Toshiyuki Kono, Sheridan Burke and Gideon Koren.

Since the beginning of 2018, the EPWG has been engaged in the elaboration of a working definition of the term “*emerging professional*”, which had been adopted by the group and approved by ICLAFI in July 2018 in the following wording:

- ‘Emerging Professional’ (EP) means ICOMOS individuals members who:*
- (1) *Have less than 15 years total educational and/or professional experience, in a field related to the aims defined in Article 3 of ICOMOS Statutes, and*
 - (2) *Are seeking to build up interest and expertise in the field.*

Currently, the group comprises some 70 individual ICOMOS members from different NCs, ISCs and ICOMOS International. *Stacy Valis* (ICOMOS New Zealand), <epwg.secretary@icomos.org>, is the current EPWG-Secretary, and *Clara Rellensmann* (ICOMOS Germany) was officially elected an ICOMOS Board Member at the 17th GA in New Delhi.

The EPWG coordinates its activities mainly though monthly teleconferences around the following focus areas:

- international networking between the EPs across the globe;
- facilitating the active engagement of EPs in the work of ICOMOS at national (NCs) and international level (ISCs);

- active presence on different social media channels (facebook, twitter, etc.) about the work of ICOMOS and the Emerging Professionals Initiative;
- exchange of information between EPs about programmes, initiatives, events, publications, etc., linked to the work of ICOMOS and to the field of heritage conservation/safeguarding at large.

The Main EPWG-Goals for the 2018-2020 Triennium could be defined as follows:

- Intergenerational engagement to ensure the organisation's continuity (active participation of all NCs and ISCs within the EPWG-initiative);
- Each National Committee and International Scientific Committee to have at least one EP representative on their Board;
- Dissemination of Ideas within ICOMOS (via both existing and new media channels; 'ICOMOS E-News').

2.2. Progress report since October 2018

2.2.1. EPWG Funding Inventory Team

The possibilities for have been a central discussion topic for the WG from its very founding. In connection with the more recent ICOMOS meetings (Buenos Aires, Marrakesh, Regional Groups meetings – Europe, Asia and the Pacific), the EPWG has formed a special sub-group, the Funding Inventory Team (FIT), to look into available funding opportunities for EPs in the following direction:

- mobility funds, within and outside ICOMOS (travel grants);
- (heritage or culture related) activities funding;
- paid internships for EPs.

The FIT is coordinated by Ms. Ilaria Rossetti (SDG Working Group) < ilaria.rossetti@hotmail.com >. Any feedback and/or assistance is quite welcome!

2.2.2. 'Memory of ICOMOS' Project

Following the request of Mikel Landa (ICOMOS AdCOM President) of March 2019, the EPWG has started exploring the possibilities of consolidating the data, produced by the EPWG, for the purpose of creating a formal repository for information, or for the 'memory' of the group – a place and means of storing and managing the generated data. In light of the organisational complexity of ICOMOS and the multitude of individuals and (personal) computers involved in data generation for/within the organisation, there is growing demand for more secure and efficient ways of storing, transferring and processing of information amongst committees and individuals. That is why the outcomes of the 'Memory of ICOMOS' project, which will be currently tested within the framework of the EPWG, will hopefully flag some functioning solutions for the securing and management of the institutional 'memory' of ICOMOS at large in the near future.

The project is coordinated by the Communications Team of the EPWG and supported by the International Secretariat and Gordon Dewis (Volunteer System Manager of ICOMOS). The team is currently exploring solutions for categorising information and storing it online (Google, ICOMOS Open Archive, ICOMOS Photobank, ICOMOS Website, YouTube, etc.).

2.2.3. 'ICOMOS 101' Online Webinars

Since the beginning of 2019, the EPWG has started organising openly accessible online webinars on different heritage and ICOMOS related topics, targeted at the capacity building of mostly EPs, but also - interested ICOMOS non-members. The webinars are held as part of the regular teleconferences, and have so far covered the following topics:

- Introduction to ICOMOS, by Gideon Korean (ICLAFI), February 2019
- Ongoing ICOMOS Initiatives, by Toshi Kono and Peter Phillips, March 2019
- Reconstruction and Heritage, by Toshi Kono, April 2019
- The Scientific Work of ICOMOS, by Sheridan Burke (Scientific Council), June 2019
- The Advisory Committee, by Mikel Landa (AdCOM President), June 2019

All past webinars have been recorded and are available upon request at the following link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qH3-CawT_MBF7govsmMObNMvdbfaqhWr?usp=sharing

For further details, please refer to Gabriel Caballero (EPWG Communications Officer) at epwg.communications@icomos.org.

2.2.4. 'Journeys to Authenticity' Project (initiated by the ICOMOS Board and ICOMOS EPWG)

The project 'Journeys to Authenticity' is a joint initiative of the ICOMOS Board Officers (introduced by Toshiyuki Kono and Sheridan Burke in July 2019) and the EPWG. Ensuing from the debate around the reconstruction of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, it aims at reinforcing and perhaps expanding the meaning of the term '*authenticity*' through a summary of inputs from the everyday professional experience of ICOMOS members (NCs and ISCs) – practise-based and/or theoretical. The project is in its initial phase, targeting at gathering input from all ICOMOS NCs, (I)SCs and working groups. For the time being, its coordination has been delegated to the EPWG and its EPs by extension. All eventual inputs from NC and/or (I)SC members will lead up to the Morocco AdCOM in October 2019.

The concept of '*authenticity*' has become a cornerstone in the conservation practices worldwide, and its definition and implementation are crucial for the conservation and safeguarding of heritage. Its interpretation, however, is a topic with growing complexity, linked to a multitude of factors, but always culture-based and case-specific. The understanding of authenticity has doubtlessly undergone a vibrant evolution since the forging of the *Venice Charter* and has triggered several instrumental successive doctrinal texts within ICOMOS and UNESCO, setting the bar for professional standards in conservation internationally, such as:

- *The Nara Document of Authenticity* (1994), <https://www.icomos.org/charters/nara-e.pdf>
- *The Nara +20: On Heritage Practices, Cultural Values, and the Concept of Authenticity* (2014), http://www.japan-icomos.org/pdf/nara20_final_eng.pdf

In light of the above, the project 'Journeys to Authenticity' seeks to provoke a wide and open debate within ICOMOS around questions such as:

- What are the existing, national and regional definitions of authenticity and integrity?
- To what extent have local definitions or interpretations of authenticity evolved to-date?
- What are common challenges or complexities faced through the application of authenticity to contemporary conservation schemes?
- Examining the application of established definitions of authenticity, using ongoing or proposed conservation schemes, etc.

(Re)Defining a term as complex as '*authenticity*' in a comprehensive document has captivated the focus of many a scientific work over the years. Nevertheless, it remains a challenging task. However, the built vernacular heritage (and architecture) with its adaptability, genuine sustainable solutions, rooted in traditional (cultural) practices, building systems and knowledge about construction (that is, intangible cultural heritage) holds considerable potential to contributing to such a discussion. Therefore, the CIAV Bureau, jointly with ISCEAH, has decided to take up this

opportunity and open the discussion on this topic with a test brainstorming session at the forthcoming annual meeting in Pingyao. As a starting point for our discussion, we would like to invite initial ideas and input in any form (discussion, suggestions for case-studies, brief presentation, etc.) on the following topic:

'Key Lessons in the Conservation of Authenticity' from the perspective of your individual (professional) engagement with heritage.

Please, keep in mind that contributions are not limited to personal attendance. We would strongly encourage everyone to sharing their input at any time via email at < icomosciav.sg@gmail.com > (CIAV) and/or < pamela.jerome@gmail.com > (ISCEAH).

3. Model By-Laws for the ICOMOS ISCs

In light of the recently updated and adopted basic model of *the By-Laws for the ICOMOS ISCs* (26.06.2019), each ISC is expected to adjust and complete this By-Laws 'model' in line with its specific aims and fields of work and expertise. The edited By-Laws will then have to be adopted by each respective ISC at their annual meetings by 2020 GA (please, refer to the forwarded email below for further information).

In this regard, the CIAV Bureau has recently circulated a draft CIAV-edit of the By-Laws among its membership (10.08.2019), inviting critical reading and input with a contribution deadline 30.08.2019. The 'CIAV By-Laws' are listed on the agenda of our forthcoming annual meeting in Pingyao for final amendments and adoption.

Please keep in mind that the CIAV Bureau might not be able to consider any entries, received past this deadline. For further information on the working documents, please do not hesitate to contact us at <icomosciav.sg@gmail.com>.

4. Budget and financial plan.

To this end, ICOMOS CIAV has no established budget and/or financial plan. Membership and work at/with the Committee have an exclusively voluntary character, are not subject to remuneration. No additional fees are collected for membership at the Committee.

The CIAV Bureau remains open for suggestions about financial plans, aimed at furthering the work of the Committee and supporting EPs in building their expertise in the field of work of CIAV.

On behalf of the CIAV Bureau, I wish to take the opportunity to once again express our sincere gratitude to all CIAV members, who have remained actively engaged with the work of the committee and the built vernacular heritage over the past year. We hope that both the rest of 2019 and 2020 will mark many productive scientific collaborations for CIAV and the vernacular field.

We look forward to seeing you in person at our annual meeting in Pingyao, China.

Sincerely,



Ivan Enev,
ICOMOS CIAV Secretary-General 2018/2020
icomosciv.sg@gmail.com

20.08.2019
Berlin, Germany

APPENDIX 1

to the Secretary-General's Annual Report 2019
 ICOMOS CIAV Annual Meeting 2019, 6th-8th September 2019, Pingyao, China

ISC ICOMOS CIAV Members List

20.08.2019



Given Name(s)	Surname(s)	National Committee(s)	Category and Status			CIAV Bureau		EP	Voting Member	web consent
			status	category	former	current	former			
Jorge Miguel Eduardo	Tomasi	Argentina	A	E					ARG	yes
Graham	Edds	Australia	A	A						yes
Miles	Lewis, AM	Australia	A	H	E				AUS	yes
Hubert	Feiglstorfer	Austria	A	E					?	yes
Ivan	Enev	Bulgaria	A	E		SG		EP	BUL	yes
Haman	Mohaman	INT (Cameroon)	A	E						
Christiane	Lefebvre	Canada	A	E						
Gouhar	Shemdin	Canada	A	E						yes
Kamyr	Kamyab	Canada	A	E						yes
Marc	de Caraffe	Canada	P	H	E					
Maria-Inés	Subercaseaux	Canada	A	E		VP			CAN	yes
Yves	Dumas	Canada	A	E						yes
Mireya Danilo	Brozvic	Chile	P	A						
Guo	Zhan	China	P	A						
Lijun	Wang	China	P	A						
Shao	Yong	China	A	E						yes
Wei	Dong	China	P	A						
Erick	Chavez	Costa Rica	P	A						
Daniel Taboada	Espiniella	Cuba	A	E						
Felicia	Chateloin	Cuba	A	E						
Remigio Nelson	Melero Lazo	Cuba	A	E						
Martin	Cerninsky	Czech Republic	A	E					CZE	yes
Sören	Vadstrup	Denmark	A	E					DNK	yes
Cesar	Payamps	Dominican Republic	P	A						
Estebano	Prieto Vicioso	Dominican Republic	A	E					DOM	yes
Juan	Mubarak	Dominican Republic	P	A						

Virginia	Flores	Dominican Republic	A	E					yes
<i>Andrés Peña Herrera</i>	<i>Mateus</i>	<i>Ecuador</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Herdozia</i>	<i>Ecuador</i>	<i>P</i>	E					
Marwa	Dabaieh	Egypt	A	E					yes
Hossam	Mahdi	Egypt, UK	A	E	VP		VP		yes
Elo	Lutsepp	Estonia	A	E				EST	yes
<i>Joosep</i>	<i>Metslang</i>	<i>Estonia</i>	A	E					
<i>Kirsti</i>	<i>Kovanen</i>	<i>Finland</i>	A	H	E		SG		yes
Marika Prikko	Konola-Tuominen	Finland	A	E				FIN	yes
Markku	Mattila	Finland	A	E					yes
<i>Panu</i>	<i>Kaila</i>	<i>Finland (President)</i>	A	H	E				
Antoine	Bruguerolle	France	A	E					
Luc	Pecquet	France	A	A					yes
Samir	Abdulac	France	A	E				FRA	yes
<i>Christoph</i>	<i>Macaht</i>	<i>Germany</i>	A	H	P				yes
<i>Kirsten</i>	<i>Maelzer</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Eleni</i>	<i>Oeconomopoulo</i>	<i>Greece</i>	A	A					yes
<i>Gouliaris</i>	<i>Panagiotis</i>	<i>Greece</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Maria</i>	<i>Daniil</i>	<i>Greece</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Marikitta</i>	<i>Diamantopoulou</i>	<i>Greece</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
Nikolas	Lianos	Greece + others?	A	E				GRE	yes
<i>Orestis</i>	<i>Vavatsioulas</i>	<i>Greece</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Blanca Estela</i>	<i>Niño Norton</i>	<i>Guatemala (president)</i>	<i>P</i>	H			VP		
Anna Antal	Dobosyné	Hungary, President	A	E					
Neda	Haji Sadeghi	Iran	A	E					yes
Mohammed	Qasim Abdul Ghafoor Al Ani	INT (Iraq)	A	E					yes
Deirdre	McDermott	Ireland	A	E					
Fidelma	Mullane	Ireland	A	E				IRE	yes
Peter	Cox	Ireland	A	E					
<i>David</i>	<i>Guggenheim</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>P</i>	E					
<i>Masaru</i>	<i>Maeno</i>	<i>Japan</i>	A	H			VP		
Natsuko	Akagawa	Japan	A	E					
Satoshi	Ono	Japan	A	E	E			JAP	yes
<i>Yuikimasa</i>	<i>Yamada</i>	<i>Japan</i>	A	E					
Jurate	Markeviciene	Lithuania	A	E					
Petar	Namičev	Macedonia	A	E					
<i>Viktorija</i>	<i>Momeva-Altimparmakovska</i>	<i>Macedonia</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Yeow Wooi</i>	<i>Tan</i>	<i>Malaysia</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Jevon</i>	<i>Vella</i>	<i>Malta</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
<i>Ruben</i>	<i>Abela</i>	<i>Malta</i>	<i>P</i>	A					
Aurelio	Sanchez Suarez	Mexico	A	E					yes

Gerardo Torres	Zarate	Mexico	A	E				MEX	yes
Valeria	Prieto	Mexico	A	E	E	VP			yes
Luigi N.	Tessiere	Morocco	A	E				?	
Amund	Sinding-Larsen	Norway	A	E					yes
<i>Andreas</i>	<i>Haslestad</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
Aase	Tveitnes	Norway	A	E					yes
Axel	Mykleby	Norway	A	E					yes
<i>Dag</i>	<i>Nilsen</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>E</i>					yes
David	Brand	Norway	A	E					
Gisle	Jakhelln	Norway	A	E	E	PR		NOR	yes
<i>Lars</i>	<i>Roede</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>E</i>					
Randi Berit	Sjolie	Norway	A	E					yes
<i>Unni</i>	<i>Gronn</i>	<i>Norway</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>E</i>					
Naima	Benkari	INT (Oman)	<i>A</i>	E				INT	yes
<i>Anila</i>	<i>Naem</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
Antoine	Raffoul	Palestine	A	A					yes
<i>Chritiane Dabdoub</i>	<i>Nasser</i>	<i>Palestine</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
<i>Maria Lourdes J.</i>	<i>Martinez</i>	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>P</i>	E					
<i>Melvin</i>	<i>Patawaran</i>	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
<i>Michel</i>	<i>Manalo</i>	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
<i>René Luis</i>	<i>Mata</i>	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
<i>Elzbieta</i>	<i>Trocka-Leszczynska</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
Monica	Alcindor	Portugal	A	E					
Mariana	Correia	Portugal	A	E				POR	yes
Miguel Brito	Correia	Portugal	A	E					
Laura	Zaharia	Romania	A	E					
<i>Ligia</i>	<i>Fulga</i>	<i>Romania</i>	<i>P</i>	E					
Miloš	Dudaš	Slovakia	A	E					yes
Borut	Juvanec	Slovenia	A	E					yes
<i>Domen</i>	<i>Zupancic</i>	<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
Han	Pilwon	South Korea	A	E				KOR	yes
Camilla	Mileto	Spain	A	E					yes
Fernando Vegas	López-Manzanares	Spain	A	E					yes
Pedro	de Manuel Gonzalez	Spain	A	E					
Lena	Palmqvist	Sweden	A	H	E	VP			yes
Kersti	Berggren	Sweden	A	E					yes
<i>Donatius D.M.</i>	<i>Kamamba</i>	<i>INT (Tanzania) (?)</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>E</i>					
Rawiwan	Oranratmanee	Thailand	A	E				THA	yes
<i>Saowalux P.</i>	<i>Poshyanandana</i>	<i>Thailand</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>A</i>					
Sudjit	Sananwai	Thailand	A	E					yes
Ayse Ege	Yildirim	Turkey	A	E					yes
Demet Ulusoy	Binan	Turkey	A	E				TUR	yes

Marcel	Vellinga	UK	A	E				
<i>Donald</i>	<i>Linebaugh</i>	USA	<i>P</i>	A				
<i>Guido</i>	Licciardi	USA	A	<i>E</i>				
<i>Jonathan</i>	<i>Poston</i>	USA	<i>P</i>	A				
<i>Paul</i>	<i>Cloyd</i>	USA	<i>P</i>	A				
<i>Stephanie</i>	<i>Hoagland</i>	USA	<i>P</i>	A				
Erin	Guerra	USA	A	A			EP	yes
Warren	Adams	USA	A	E				
Wei (Windy)	Zhao	USA	A	E				
Pamela	Jerome	USA, Greece	A	E				yes
William Ryan	Chapman	USA, Thailand	A	E			USA	

KEY

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

A	active member	120	TOTAL number of members
<i>P</i>	passive member		
<i>text</i>	passive member	77	Expert members
<i>text</i>	passive member, conditionally listed as active based on recommendation by a Bureau member	35	Associate members
<i>text</i>	membership under question due to individual membership issues	8	Honorary (expert) members
	dysfunctional email or other communication issues	0	Institutional members
A	Associate member	2	Emerging professionals
E	Expert member	23	Voting members
H	Honorary member	82	Active members
<i>text</i>	Honorary Member	38	Passive members
SG	Secretary General	54	written consents for sharing of personal details on the CIAV webpage
<i>text</i>	current Bureau members		
<i>text</i>	former Bureau members		



Camino Real : Section Camargo à La Cruz, Chihuahua. MEXIQUE

VIVIENDO LOS ITINERARIOS CULTURALES
LIVING THE CULTURAL ROUTES
VIVRE LES ITINÉRAIRES CULTURELS

Encuentro científico • Scientific meeting • Réunion scientifique

10 FEBRERO
| FEBRUARY
17 FÉVRIER

2020



Chihuahua, Chih. MÉXICO

PROMU PAR

PrAedium

Observatoire Citoyen du Patrimoine
Naturel et Culturel
MEXICO



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L'analyse des Itinéraires Culturels apparaît comme une nouvelle catégorie de patrimoine. À partir de la soumission et de la nomination subséquente au patrimoine mondial du Chemin de Saint Jacques en 1993, un groupe de membres de l'ICOMOS de régions très diverses du monde a commencé à travailler sur ce sujet en donnant la tâche de délimiter et de définir cette nouvelle catégorie d'établir une méthodologie adaptée au sens de ce concept, qui a conduit à la formalisation du Comité International des Itinéraires Culturels (CIIC) comme l'un des comités scientifiques internationaux de l'ICOMOS.

Grâce à des efforts intensifs et à un long processus de consultations internationales, le CIIC a élaboré une définition et une méthodologie, reflétées dans sa Charte des Itinéraires Culturels, ratifiée par la 16e Assemblée Générale de l'ICOMOS, à Québec (Canada) le 4 Octobre 2008 et exprime que le concept d'Itinéraire Culturel "...se réfère à un ensemble de valeur supérieur à la somme des éléments qui le constituent et qui lui donne son sens." Pour cette raison, le CIIC a coopéré étroitement avec d'autres comités internationaux de l'ICOMOS pour les aider à identifier et à documenter les sites patrimoniaux qui s'inscrivent dans le contexte multidisciplinaire des Itinéraires Culturels, ayant ainsi un rôle important dans l'élargissement de cette nouvelle expérience à toutes les régions du monde, faisant des Itinéraires Culturels un élément d'intérêt pour le maintien et la promotion de la Paix dans le Monde. Le 1er novembre 2009, le CIIC a promu et adopté la Déclaration d'Ise au patrimoine mondial pour la paix, texte adopté par l'ICOMOS à Paris (France) par la Résolution 17GA 2011/29.

En février 2020, le CIIC tiendra son Assemblée et sa Réunion Scientifique et pour cela, il a choisi la ville de Chihuahua. Le CIIC a entamé une nouvelle phase en mai 2017, déplaçant le siège de sa présidence de Madrid à la ville de Chihuahua au Mexique. Ce comité compte actuellement des membres experts dans vingt-deux pays. L'État mexicain de Chihuahua est le point final de la nomination comme site du Patrimoine Mondial du *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro*.



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REUNION SCIENTIFIQUE

Aujourd'hui, la prise en compte du sens du patrimoine implique l'idée de transversalité et de transmission aux nouvelles générations. Pour cette raison, le CIIC a considéré qu'à cette occasion et après avoir célébré vingt-cinq ans de travail ininterrompu, la Réunion Scientifique correspondant à 2020 s'intitule «*Vivre les Itinéraires Culturels*», ce qui ouvrira les portes du CIIC au professionnels de l'ICOMOS et professionnels émergents du monde entier, afin de montrer le sens et l'importance de cette catégorie de patrimoine et de distinguer les nouveaux talents dont l'affinité les rend proches de ce sujet de recherche. Les lignes suivantes expriment le contenu thématique de la réunion, où les candidats disposeront d'une plate-forme pour présenter leurs recherches aux membres experts de ce comité scientifique international de l'ICOMOS. Les recherches doivent être régies en fonction des documents disciplinaires sur le sujet.

Axes thématiques et sous-thèmes :

1. *Interprétation, conservation et réévaluation des Itinéraires Culturels*

- a. La valeur de la culture
- b. Le tangible et l'intangible
- c. Variables dans l'appropriation de la connaissance des Itinéraires Culturels

2. *Itinéraires Culturels et Territoire*

- a. La vision holistique du patrimoine : échanges multidimensionnels, continus et réciproques de biens, d'idées, de connaissances et de valeurs entre les peuples
- b. Occupation historique du territoire : processus de façonnage des Itinéraires
- c. Gestion environnementale, changement climatique et évaluation d'impact

3. *Le patrimoine commun dans les Itinéraires Culturels*

- a. Dignité commune entre les différentes régions
- b. La transversalité et la gestion des Itinéraires Culturels
- c. Déclaration pour la Paix et la compréhension entre les nations

4. *Routes historiques*

- a. Lien géographique entre les communautés
- b. Valeur spécifique du patrimoine
- c. Typologie routière



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DELAIS

1. Envoi de résumés de présentation

La date limite pour la présentation du résumé de la présentation est le **dimanche 1 Septembre, 2019**.

2. Publication de présentations sélectionnées et modalité de participation

Les auteurs des présentations sélectionnées recevront un avis à partir du **vendredi 6 Septembre 2019** par courrier encuentrociic2020@gmail.com indiquant dans quel mode de présentation ils sont invités à participer : présentation ou affiche. La recherche sélectionnée pour participer à titre de présentation sera publiée.

3. Envoi de présentations et d'affiches complètes

Les auteurs des présentations sélectionnées auront la limite de l'envoi de leurs présentations en longueur et / ou affiches, le **vendredi 4 Octobre 2019**, le matériel et la vérification du paiement de leur accès à l'événement, doit être envoyé à l'e-mail encuentrociic2020@gmail.com

Les présentations de longueur, auront 15 minutes et à la fin de chaque panel aura lieu une séance de rétroaction et de questions d'une durée de 15 minutes.

Les affiches seront imprimées et livrées au siège de la réunion scientifique par les participants au comité organisateur du congrès pendant l'heure d'arrivée de l'événement, les **10 et 11 Février 2020**. L'impression doit respecter le format de l'ensemble de 0.60m. de largeur x 1.60m. de longueur.

Un service d'impression et d'assemblage d'affiches sera disponible aux frais du participant. Pour demander ce service, vous devez en informer les organisateurs de l'événement à l'avance. Si vous le souhaitez, vous pouvez être conseillé d'effectuer sur votre propre, imprimer votre affiche dans la ville de Chihuahua et d'éviter une sorte de problème généré par le transport.

4. Inscription à la Réunion Scientifique, Transport, Logement et Voyage

L'inscription à la Réunion Scientifique, le transport, le logement et à tous les déplacements de chacun des participants : orateurs ou non-parleurs, seront pris en charge par eux-mêmes. Au moment de l'inscription et son paiement, l'ordre du jour de l'événement sera annoncé ainsi que les activités contenues.

Si vous avez besoin d'une invitation officielle, veuillez l'indiquer, ainsi qu'à qui il faut s'adresser.



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Nous vous fournirons une liste des hôtels, restaurants et moyens de transport recommandés, ainsi que des options pour un voyage d'introduction à l'événement - ce qui est souhaitable compte tenu du thème de la réunion, voyage non inclus dans le frais d'inscription. Le coût sera notifié à une date ultérieure. Vous devez vérifier si vous avez besoin d'un visa pour accéder au Mexique.

Le participant accorde son consentement à utiliser les photographies qui lui sont prises afin de promouvoir la réunion et au comité lui-même, leurs données seront traitées en toute confidentialité.

5. Frais d'inscription

- Membres de l'ICOMOS et Professionnels émergents \$328.00USDII
(Vous devez annexer l'image de votre titre de compétence ou (Dollar américain)
lettre d'approbation de l'ICOMOS National auquel vous appartenez)

6. Preuve de participation

Les registres de participation en tant qu'assistant, conférencier ou affiche seront remis aux participants inscrits. Dans le cas où la présentation est présentée par plusieurs personnes, le dossier ne sera délivré qu'à ceux qui sont inscrits, le crédit correspondant à l'équipe impliquée dans son développement sera la responsabilité de la personne qui s'est inscrite.

7. Droits

- a. Les présentations et les affiches envoyées doivent être de leur propre paternité et, lorsqu'elles les envoient au CIIC, les auteurs admettent qu'elles ne contiennent pas d'éléments pouvant endommager la propriété intellectuelle d'un tiers.
- b. En envoyant les présentations et les affiches, le rapporteur en longueur ou en affiche autorise le Comité International des Itinéraires Culturels (CIIC) afin que ces œuvres puissent être exposées, promues, diffusées et/ou publiées dans des supports imprimés ; ou toujours des crédits seront pour les auteurs, aux fins de l'éducation, de la promotion, de la diffusion et de la collecte de fonds pour toutes les activités liées au CIIC.
- c. Le CIIC est un comité scientifique de l'ICOMOS, sans ressources économiques directes et son travail important est rendu possible par ses promoteurs, ses partisans et un certain nombre de sources de financement indépendantes, y compris des événements tels que des congrès, les publications et la collecte de fonds auprès de commanditaires d'entreprises.
- d. Chaque auteur conserve en tout temps son droit de paternité sur l'œuvre qui y est soumise et les informations qui y sont contenues et seront toujours reconnus, annoncés, notifiés chaque fois que son œuvre est affichée ou divulguée.



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PAPIERS

1. Résumés

Ceux qui sont intéressés à soumettre une affiche ou une présentation doivent soumettre un résumé en format Word (.docx) qui ne dépasse pas 500 mots, 12 points Times lettre romaine, simple leader, sensible aux cas. En espagnol et en anglais (ou Français). Toutes les marges à 2,5 cm. Brève reprise de l'auteur (ou auteurs).

Les données suivantes doivent être incluses avant le résumé :

- a. Axe thématique et sous-thème dans lequel il enregistre son résumé
- b. Titre et sous-titre de la présentation
- c. Nom de l'auteur (ou auteurs). Nom en majuscule et en minuscule. Noms de famille en majuscules
- d. Cinq mots-clés
- e. Institution (Université, Entreprise, Secteur public, Organisation civile, entre autres)
- f. Adhésion ou poste d'établissement
- g. Adresse (État, ville, pays)
- h. Téléphones et courriels actuels

Les propositions présentées ou affiches devraient porter sur le thème central du congrès « *Vivre les itinéraires culturels* », avec ses axes thématiques et ses sous-thèmes, ainsi que sur les documents doctrinaux que le CIIC a produits au cours de ses vingt-cinq années de permanence et qui peut être consulté sur le site www.icomos.org Ils doivent inclure la description de la question, les réflexions et l'orientation de leur recherche.

Les propositions doivent être envoyées au mail encuentrociic2020@gmail.com en écrivant dans le cas où le premier mot de l'axe thématique, le premier mot du sous-élément, suivi de leurs noms de famille et à la fin, le mot présentation ou affiche.

Exemple : patrimoine-dignité_ENRIQUEZMARTINEZprésentation

Pour être considérée comme conférencières dans le programme de la Réunion Scientifique du CIIC 2020, les frais d'inscription doivent être couverts avec la limite le **vendredi 4 Octobre 2019**. Les moyens électroniques par lesquels le paiement peut être effectué seront notifiés.



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2. Conférences sélectionnées

Les articles sélectionnés seront publiés dans un chapitre du livre de la Réunion Scientifique et devront répondre aux **critères éditoriaux** suivants :

- a. Résumé en espagnol et en anglais (ou français) ajusté à un maximum de 500 mots. Cinq mots-clés
- b. Le texte de la présentation peut être présenté en Espagnol, en Anglais ou en Français, en format Word (.docx)
- c. Le texte de la présentation contiendra sur la première page : titre et sous-titre de la présentation. Axe thématique et sous-thème Nom de l'auteur (ou auteurs). Nom en majuscule et en minuscule. Noms de famille en lettres majuscules. Institution. Tout centré.
- d. Longueur minimale de 4 000 et jusqu'à 5 000 mots tailles Lettre (8 à 10 pages) ou A4, plus graphiques, images -tous avec sous-titres-, citations de notes de bas de page dans Times Roman numéro 10 -pas de citations entre le texte- et références à la fin du document commandé par ordre alphabétique avec des noms d'auteur complets pour éviter toute confusion. Le tout selon les Normes de l'UNE 50-104 (ISO 690).
- e. L'ensemble du document doit être écrit dans Times Roman 12 marges simples, justifiées et totales à 2,5 cm.
- f. Sous-titres en *Italique*
- g. Les images, qu'il s'agisse de graphiques ou de photographies utilisées dans le texte, doivent être incluses dans le texte, dans une définition maximale de 300dpi en format jpg ou png

3. Affiches sélectionnées

La conception des affiches doit être basée sur les critères suivants :

- a. Livrer en format électronique, avec des mesures de 0,60 m de largeur x 1,60 m de long, distribution verticale avec une définition maximale de 300 dpi en format jpg ou png
- b. Conception libre ajustée au format et à dimensions proposées, y compris les renseignements suivants :
 - Titre
 - Auteur(s) en plaçant d'abord les noms de famille dans les lettres majuscules, suivie d'une virgule, et le nom de l'auteur dans la majuscule et minuscule. Liste de tous les auteurs séparés par un point. Inclure également l'e-mail de contact, ainsi que l'institution d'origine

VERNACULAR HERITAGE OF SAGUA LA GRANDE: A CHALLENGE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF HISTORICAL PATRIMONY

MsC. Arq. Nelson Melero Lazo

Colegio Universitario de La Habana. Cuba

Beginnings and Development of the City

The city of the Immaculate Conception of Sagua La Grande, part of the current province of Villa Clara, in Cuba's central section, was founded on December 8, 1812, by Don Juan Caballero, firstly located close to Sagua River and to the place where the first Spanish colonizers arrived, where they also built a pier to better communicate with the river mouth in the North coast, place where later they built the town port of Isabela de Sagua, a picturesque small village, built on a system of canals, known as The Venice of Cuba, due to its similarity to the Italian city.

Sagua is an indigenous term meaning place of waters, which comes from a variant of the Aruac dialect caguas, language still talked in Venezuela and Puerto Rico today. The aboriginal term is closely related to the definitive settlement of the village in the banks of Sagua River, second in importance in Cuba, and third in length in the country.

The city is also known as The Village of Waves, from the poetical name Villa del Undoso, designation given by the Cuban poet Gabriel de la Concepción Valdés, better known as Plácido, in the XIX century, probably impressed by the waves made by the wind in the abundant river.



Sagua La Grande River



City's Founding Place

Sagua City's first economical activity was linked with the lumber exploitation, which used the river to naturally transport the timbers toward the seaport. At the same time, the inhabitants started to plant tobacco which quickly developed as a main source of income. By the end of the Nineteenth century, the sugar industry was in a boom; the central part of Cuba was producing 90% of Cuba's total production, and this included Sagua City and region. Sugar and tobacco became two important sources of wealth for Sagua, to its economy, in a way that the city soon developed architecturally, during the second half of the XIX century and the first of the XX century. It was such an important economical expansion that, starting 1856, railroad lines were built all around the region to improve the status of the city and its adjacent territory.

Sagua La Grande, a XIX century city, is an outstanding exponent of the Neoclassical style in Architecture in all of Cuba. During the second half of that century, a great number of towns and cities are being born in the country, due to the expansion of sugar industry. Many of the countryside people started to group in the emerging towns, around the sugar mills.



A View of Sagua by the end of s. XIX



Sagua as of today

Architecture of Sagua La Grande.

Sagua La Grande keeps a very important set of Colonial –XIX century- and Republic – first half of XX century- buildings. Colonial architecture is easily recognized because of the predominance of neoclassical decorative motifs, very delicate and finely executed. Its transition to the XX century is expressed through a very particular eclecticism which gives a great ambient and architectural coherence to the whole of Sagua's historic center. There are also included other expressions of arts in Architecture like Neo Gothic, Neo Colonial, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, as well as Wood Architecture, which is the one I specially want to refer to.



Colonial buildings. s. XIX



Republican buildings. s. XX

Wood Architecture.

Sagua La Grande has a wide variety of architectural repertoire in wood made during the XIX and XX centuries. Buildings that were erected with high structures, heavily decorated doorways and windows that mimic those made of stone or concrete are found all over the city. Generally they have fall down or two water roofs covered with curved tiles, also named Spanish tiles or commonly Creole tiles.

In some areas of the urban screen this wood constructions are built as continuous units divided by party walls, sometimes extending to the whole block and even around the square block. It is very interesting to see the way the splashboards are treated on the roofs of these buildings due to the different solutions used in them. Sometimes a simple piece of board, curved cornices supporting the roof, some other times we see wooden struts and brackets with different figures that sometimes include zoomorphic stylized ones. Traditional Sagüeran ironwork is also always present with a wide array of designs to close the windows and some other parts open in the wooden facades.



Vernacular wood as continuous constructions



Splashboard detail on the roof.

Inside the constructions we always find a dividing element, almost every time with arches that separate living room from family room. Here like in almost every other town in Cuba and the Caribbean region these dividers are also called medio-punto arches. Along with them, we also find iron grids and stained glass rectangles to top the doorways and windows. This glass door and window tops can be colorless or colorful, but always transparent or translucent, sometimes with geometrical motifs, many other times with radial ornaments.

Some of these old wood buildings are associated to some of Cuba's relevant figures, celebrities, who are part of Sagua's intangible patrimony: some of them are Independence War Generals; musicians like Rodrigo Prats and Antonio Machin. Joaquin Albarran, a celebrity in medicine; and Wilfredo Lam one of the icons of modern painting in the world.



Interior View



Birthplace of painter Wilfredo Lam

Despite of disasters caused by several town fires in 1822 and 1856; despite of the frequent and destructive floods that like the one in 1894, when water level rose to 1.64m; or in 1906 when the water rose to 1.50m, or even more closer in time when hurricanes Kate and Lily destroyed many important buildings, it is still possible to make mention of many houses still standing, whole blocks of wood buildings, standing in better or worse conditions, but showing all its magnificence, unique in our country, buildings now at the verge of being lost if not taken care of, and restored.

As a way to conclusion.

The historical town center of Sagua La Grande is not an exception in Cuba. Same as some others in the country, it is facing hard times to go ahead with its conservation, with the maintenance of its patrimonial architectural heritage. It has a high level of deterioration due to:

- Lack of maintenance in all wood buildings; fact that now lasts more than six decades. Some of these constructions were built in the second half of XIX century and the first quarter of the XX, with materials of no lasting resistance and high fragility if not taken care of. No matter how old they are, all of them have a high degree of importance and value that calls for urgent measures to restore them.

- Not having the financial means and required materials to take care of this vernacular wood architecture. Cuba had long ago big amounts of trees which meant wood in vast quantities. Now we have none; we have to import to a high price and cost. Most of the times the families who inhabit these houses have no means to acquire the needed materials to repair or rebuild or simply they are not available in the local markets.

Vernacular wood architecture is still standing; it is a very important component in the heritage of Sagua La Grande. It is true that at present it is in a much deteriorated condition, but again it is still standing, fighting against weather conditions, hurricanes, resisting sloth. It is necessary to find or create mechanisms, mostly through city government economical management, mechanisms that allow projects to save this invaluable heritage which pertains not only to Sagua but to our whole nation, to the Cuban vernacular heritage.