

## **ICOMOS Wood Committee - Symposium i Himeji, Japan 17-20 september 2013**

Symposiets förslag på revidering av de principer som antogs i Mexiko 1999.

Planen är att den reviderade versionen av principerna ska presenteras och antas på nästa generalförsamlingsmöte, som hålls i Florens i november 2014. **Inför det får alla som är intresserade gärna komma med synpunkter och förslag som skickas till Tina Wik ([tina@tinawikarkitekter.se](mailto:tina@tinawikarkitekter.se))** som ansvarar för att sammanställa dem och vidarebefordra till ordföranden Gennaro Tampone.

Skillnaderna mellan förr och nu är inte markerade i förslaget nedan.

Den nu aktuella versionen finns här:

Engelsk version: [http://www.international.icomos.org/charters/wood\\_e.pdf](http://www.international.icomos.org/charters/wood_e.pdf)

Svensk version: <http://www.icomos.org/iwc/principles/principlesswedish.pdf>

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### **Förslag till förändring av:**

#### **PRINCIPLES FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC TIMBER STRUCTURES**

***Adopted by ICOMOS at the 12th General Assembly in Mexico, October 1999.***

The aim of this document is to define basic principles and practices applicable in the widest variety of cases for the protection and preservation of historic timber structures with due respect to their cultural significance.

Historic timber structures refer here to all types of buildings or constructions and load bearing structures wholly or partially in timber that have cultural significance or that are parts of a historic area.

The word **values** in this document refers to aesthetic, artistic, historical, cultural, scientific, and technical values.

For the purpose of the preservation of such structures, the Principles:

- recognize the importance of timber structures from all periods as part of the cultural heritage of the world;
- take into account the great diversity of historic timber structures;
- recognize the necessity to respect local traditions and practices;
- take into account the various species and qualities of wood used to build them;
- recognize that, due to the present-day possibility of accurate dating of every single component, a timber structure is a precious record of chronological data concerning the whole building;
- take into account the excellent properties of timber structures in withstanding seismic actions;
- recognize the vulnerability of structures wholly or partially in timber due to material decay and degradation in varying environmental and climatic conditions, caused by humidity fluctuations, light, fungal and insect attacks, wear and tear, fire, earthquakes and other natural disasters, destructive alterations made by humans;

- recognize the increasing loss of historic timber structures due to vulnerability, misuse and the loss of skills and knowledge of traditional design and construction technology, lack of understanding of spiritual and historic needs of living communities;• take into account the great variety of actions and treatments required for the preservation and conservation of these heritage resources;
- note the Venice Charter, the Amsterdam Declaration, the Burra Charter, the Nara Document on Authenticity and related UNESCO and ICOMOS doctrine, and seek to apply these general principles to the protection and preservation of historic timber structures;

And make the following recommendations:

### **INSPECTION, RECORDING AND DOCUMENTATION**

**1.** The condition of the structure and its components including previous strengthening works, should be carefully recorded before any intervention, as well as all materials used in treatments, in accordance with Article 16 of the Venice Charter and the ICOMOS Principles for the Recording of Monuments, Groups of Buildings and Sites. All pertinent documentation, including characteristic samples of redundant materials or members removed from the structure, and information about relevant traditional skills and technologies, should be collected, catalogued, securely stored and made accessible as appropriate. The documentation should also include the specific reasons given for choice of materials and methods in the preservation work.

**2.** A thorough and accurate diagnosis of the structure, and of its condition and the causes of decay and structural failure of the timber structure, elaborated on the basis of the results of the investigations and assessments, should precede any intervention, as mentioned in the Venice Charter. The diagnosis should be based on documentary evidence, physical inspection and analysis, and, if necessary, measurements of physical conditions and non-destructive testing methods. This should not prevent necessary minor interventions and emergency measures.

### **INTERVENTIONS**

**3.** The primary aim of preservation and conservation is to maintain the authenticity of configuration, materials, assembly and integrity of historic timber structures and cultural heritage, respecting and putting in evidence their values. Each intervention should therefore be based on the proper studies and assessments that have been made.

**4.** Any proposed intervention should for preference:

- a) follow traditional means;
- b) be reversible, if technically possible; or
- c) at least not prejudice or impede future preservation work whenever this may become necessary; and
- d) not hinder the possibility of later access to evidence incorporated in the structure.

5. Repair operations on the historic timber structure, including dismantling and reassembly, should follow the criteria of minimum intervention capable of ensuring the survival of the structure, saving as much as possible the authenticity and integrity, and allowing it to continue to perform its function in a condition of safety.

Replacement of damaged members or parts of them with new timber is a practice to be used only when repair of the original parts is not possible or when this is to be considered unfeasible or futile. In any case replacements should be made with respect to relevant and inherent **values**.

6. In the case of interventions, the historic structure should be considered as a whole; all material, including structural members, in-fill panels, weather-boarding, roofs, floors, doors and windows, etc., should be given equal attention. In principle, as much as possible of the existing material as well as preceding repair works, if not prejudicial for stability, should be retained. The protection should also include surface finishes such as plaster, paint, coating, wall-paper, etc. The original materials, techniques and textures should be respected.

7. The aim of restoration is to conserve the historic structure and its loadbearing function and to reveal its cultural values by improving the legibility of its historical integrity, its earlier state and design within the limits of existing historic material evidence, as indicated in articles 9 - 13 of the Venice Charter. Recording the present condition of the structure and leaving the signs of failure unconcealed allows those responsible to maintain a database of defects and strengthening work. Removed members and other components of the historic structure should be kept if possible and catalogued, and representative samples kept in permanent storage as part of the documentation.

## **REPAIR**

8. In the repair of a historic structure, it is preferable that work is made directly in situ. Where replacement is necessary, replacement timber should be used with respect to relevant **values**. Replacement material should preferably be made of the same species of wood with the same, or, if appropriate, with better, grading as in the members being replaced. Where possible, this should also include similar natural characteristics. The moisture content and other physical characteristics of the replacement timber should be compatible with the existing structure.

Craftsmanship and construction technology, including the use of dressing tools or machinery and other elements, should agree with those used originally.

9. To copy the natural decay or deformation of the replaced members or parts is not desirable.

10. New members or parts of members may be discretely marked, so that they can be identified later.

## **CONTEMPORARY MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES**

11. Contemporary materials, such as epoxy resins, and techniques, such as structural steel reinforcement, should be chosen and used with the greatest caution, and only in cases where the

durability and structural behaviour of the materials and construction techniques have been satisfactorily proven over a sufficiently long period of time.

Utilities, such as heating, and fire detection and prevention systems, should be installed with respect for tangible and intangible significance of the structure or site. The installations should be designed so as not to cause variations to significant environmental factors, such as temperature and moisture nor alterations of colour and other properties of the timber structures.

**12.** The use of chemical preservatives should be carefully controlled and monitored, and should be used only where there is an assured benefit, where public and environmental safety will not be affected and where the likelihood of success over the long term is significant.

### **MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE**

**13.** A coherent strategy of regular monitoring and maintenance is crucial for the protection of historic timber structures and their cultural significance.

### **HISTORIC FOREST RESERVES**

**14.** The establishment and protection of forest or woodland reserves where appropriate timber can be obtained for the preservation and repair of historic timber structures should be encouraged. Institutions responsible for the preservation and conservation of historic structures and sites should establish or encourage the establishment of stores of timber appropriate for such work.

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**15.** Recognition, explanation and dissemination of values related to the cultural significance of historic timber structures through educational programmes is an essential requisite of a sustainable preservation and development policy. Since conservation has wide educational significance, the establishment and further development of training, capacity building and social programmes on the protection, preservation and conservation of historic timber structures are encouraged. Such programmes should be based on a comprehensive strategy integrated within the needs of sustainable production and consumption, and include programmes at the local, national, regional and international levels. The programmes should address all relevant professions and trades involved in such work, and, in particular, architects, conservators, engineers, craftspersons and site managers. Regional research programmes to identify regional characteristics, social and anthropological aspects of conservation of timber structures, buildings and sites in the area should be encouraged.