ICOFORT

ICOMOS

International Scientific Committee

on Fortifications and Military Heritage





ICOFORT goals:

- Promote awareness of the structures, landscapes and monuments and to promote the conservation and maintenance of these structures.
- Be available to help achieve ICOMOS his role as advisor to the UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Conduct specialized studies and encourage the application of professional experience
- Active pursuit of international cooperation for the identification, protection and preservation







REGIONAL COORDINATORS:

- AFRICA:
 - Philippe La Hausse (Mauritius)
- ARAB STATES
 - Sanaa Niar (Algeria)
- ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
 - Doo Won Cho (Korea)
- EUROPE
 - Gerrit Meijer (Netherlands)
- LATIN AMERICA
 - Dolores Pineda Campos (México)
- NORTH AMERICA
 - Milagros Flores Román (Puerto Rico/EUA)



ICOMOS Guidelines on Fortifications and Military Heritage (adopted per Resolution AGA 2021/10)

PREAMBLE

Humans have constructed fortifications and military heritage using a variety of complex designs for thousands of years.

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Surviving fortifications and military heritage from distant past to recent times have served as a major link to the history of human settlements, nations, and regions. At the same time, the use of these monuments and sites as elements of power projection remain a painful physical reminder for many communities. Understanding and respecting these memories and consequences from the perspective of these communities can generate new identity references that positively re-signify the relationship between population, fortifications and military heritage.

ICOFORT guidelines:

Principles

- Historical Constructive Evolution, Stratigraphic and Spatial Complexity of the Structure
- External functional scope beyond its physical boundaries
- The lack of knowledge of the formal and functional characteristics of the fortification can be much greater than for other types of heritage structures
- Fortifications and Communities
- Fortifications use and re-use
- Fortification and urban landscape and territorial dimensions
- Fortifications are not typical buildings



ICOFORT guidelines:

Values:

- Architectural and Technical value.
- Territorial and geographical value
- Cultural Landscape Value
- Strategic Value
- Human and Anthropological Value
- Memory, Identity, Educational Value
- Historic value
- Social/Economic Value



ICOFORT guidelines:

Intervention parameters:

- All interventions should be based on a Master Conservation Plan
- All interventions should be based on the holistic integration of the values of the site in relation to the defensive systems and surroundings
- All interventions must be compatible with the elements and characteristics of the fortifications and military heritage in accordance with the Zimbabwe Charter and in relation to the Vitruvian Triad: "Firmitas, Utilitas et Venustas"



ICOFORT & EFFORTS





... being a source of knowledge on fortifications



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- ... seminars, lectures and congresses



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- ... academic research, historic, technical, economical



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- ... assistance in World Heritage matters



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- ... academic research, historic, technical, economical
- ... assistance in World Heritage matters
- ... peer review on policy and governance documents



thank you for your attention.

Gerrit (Gerco) Meijer

