

2010 **docomomo** ISC Registers  
Seminar in Gijón  
*The Factory, The Paradigm Of Modernity*  
Date: 14-17 April 2010  
Location: Gijón, Spain

## Objective

The aim of the International Seminar is to reflect on the influence of technology on the emergence of modern-movement architecture and on the new view that would lead to change in the interpretations of all artistic experiences.



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Francis Bacon (1561-1626) initiated a line of thought which was inevitably destined to develop: that of the world of science as the object of philosophical reflection. At the same time, scientific and technical progress would consolidate, in practice, a new change in the interpretative values of Western culture.

In opposition to the world of nature that of the device would become consolidated, governed by the laws of technology, which would develop fully inside new architectural artifacts practically unknown until the nineteenth century. The factory, as a new architectural type, had come into being.

It would be in the factory, as a new expression of construction, that architecture developed one of the most specific manifestations of modernity, quickly travelling the distance that separated the steam engine from full industrialization.

And not only architects, but also painters, sculptors, photographers and composers found in the world of technology and its container, the factory, a motive of inspiration and reflection on the scope of their respective artistic experiences. The film world, too, became trapped by its irrepressible lure, as Charles Chaplin ironically expressed in "Modern Times".

In the construction of the factory new building tech-

niques were developed as the expression of its utilitarian needs as well as of materials that had recently become available. Poets devoted many hours to its interpretation, while painters and sculptors modeled forms and used hitherto unknown expressive resources in an attempt to decipher the symbolism of technology.

The fascination that the factory generated has reached the present day. Its past splendor, now largely reduced to ruins, continues to attract our eye: having become thoroughly obsolete, factories nonetheless tell us not only of our past but also of some of the most meaningful concerns of our present. We project our gaze onto their ruins with deep nostalgia, melancholy and uncertainty, to the point where we are prepared to prolong their existence beyond their original use, now expired, to discover their new possibilities as leisure and cultural premises.

Reflect on your past reality and its potential for the future is thus the goal of the convening of this International Seminar. To order the Seminar, specifying the intent of lectures and conferences and taking into account the place of its conclusion, it is proposed to organize the whole of the work from a sectoral perspective. These take into account not only individual buildings but also its territorial integration, an issue that we consider crucial in order to assess both its architectural merits as intervention operations on them can be made. In this sense, we propose to confine the work, in addition to general reflections on, two specific productive sectors: coal-steel and Energy (thermal and hydro).

## 2010 **docomomo** ISC Technology

Seminar in Tokyo  
*Metal in Modern Movement*  
Date: 14-16 May 2010  
Location: Tokyo, Japan

## Objective

The Technology Seminar held in Tokyo, Japan, focused on the use of Metal in Modern Movement architecture. In particular, the **docomomo** International Specialist Committee on Technology (ISC-T) collaborated with the National Specialist Committee (NSC) in Japan to focus on a seminar that discussed the use of metal and steel structures in Modern Movement Architecture. In particular, presentation of topics which focused on the repair methods, skills and craftsmanship towards the conservation of these structures was encouraged. It is important to note that metal and steel have also been used in Japan as a material which responds well to seismic events while simultaneously forming a unique construction that is part of the



modern experience. On the basis of this background, we were able to have a lively discussion on the use of Metal in Modern Movement Architecture from all over the world!

**docomomo** International is a non-profit organization initiated in 1988 by professor, architect Hubert-Jan Henket, and architect Wessel de Jonge. The primary role of **docomomo** International is to educate and exchange ideas relating to the documentation, history and technology of conservation, for the protection and safeguard of modern movement heritage. As one of the five working specialist committees dedicated to this mission, the **docomomo** International Specialist Committee on Technology was organized in 2000. In a joint effort and close collaboration, the national chapter of **docomomo** Japan NSC Technology hosted an international seminar on the use of Metal in Modern Movement architecture in Tokyo, Japan.

### International Competition for Image – Modelling of XX Century Architecture

The Jury: Louise Cox, UIA President – Ana Tostões, docomomo International Chair – Laurent Praden, Autodesk – Bertrand Lemoine, Direction du Grand Paris (GNP) – Michel Florenzano, MAP Laboratory (CNRS)

#### A New Representation of the Architectural Heritage

The International Union of Architects (UIA) announces the results of the international competition inviting architecture students to create image based models of significant works of the 20<sup>th</sup> century from around the world. Students could choose to represent any architectural realisation built between 1901 and 2000. Their architectural descriptions could be designed as panoramic images or image based models of the building in its current state.

The jury met on 17 June 2010, to examine the 52

projects submitted. Chaired by **docomomo** President Ana Tostões, the jury also included UIA President Louise Cox, Director of the Grand Paris international workshop Bertrand Lemoine, Director of the UMR 694 MAP-Gamsau lab at the CNRS Michel Florenzano, and Director of the Autodesk product Laurent Praden.

A UIA grand prize was awarded to Salvatore Corso, student at the Aldo Rossi faculty of architecture in Bologna, Italy, for the image based model of Casa del Balilla, in Forlì, Italy, built between 1933 and 1935 by architect Cesare Valle. His representation is an accurate reproduction of the original architectural vocabulary of this edifice in danger.

A **docomomo** prize was attributed to Alexandre Van Dongen-Vogels, student at the Superior Institute of Architecture in La Cambre, Belgium, for the image based model of the Brussels-Ukkel Glass House, built in 1935 by Paul-Amaury Michel. The jury applauded the quality and coherence of his model.

An honourable mention was awarded to a group of students led by Daniele Rossi from Italy's Camerino University for their image based model of a set of social facilities built during the fascist period in various Italian cities.

A UIA grand prize together with a **docomomo** prize were awarded to Fabio Freitas, Jonas Abreu da Silva and Olivier Lauppi from the Federal University at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for the description in panoramic images of the Rio Modern Art Museum built in 1954 by Affonso Eduardo Reidy. This project received the jury's unanimous praise for its understanding and reading of spaces and volumes and for the visual restitution of the entire architectural complex.

Three honourable mentions were awarded to panoramic image descriptions:

- Chenyuan Qian, (Tianjin University, China), for the restoration of the Juer hutongs in Beijing.
- Xin Ma and Xiaoyu Lang, (Tianjin University, China) for Tiananmen Square in Beijing.
- Yuriy Kuvshinov and Anastasia Marukhna (Moscow Institute of Architecture, Russia) for their reproduction of the Narkomfin collective housing complex built between 1928 and 1930 in Moscow by Moisei Ginzburg.



# docomomo International Specialist Committees

## International Specialist Committee on Registers (ISC/R) Annual meeting ISC/Registers, Oviedo (Spain), April 18, 2010

After the 4<sup>th</sup> International registers seminar *The Factory, Paradigm of Modernity*, organized by **docomomo** Iberia in the Faculty of Geology, University of Oviedo, April 14–17, 2010.

Three ISC/R members attended the annual meeting: Panayotis Tournikiotis, chair, Marieke Kuipers, vice-chair, Susana Landrove, director of **docomomo** Iberia. Celestino Garcia Braña was excused and left Oviedo the day before. Inge Bertels, secretary could not come and has informed the committee that she is willing to step down in Mexico. We would like to thank her for all her work. All other members could not come for various reasons. The saddest reason was that Dennis Sharp could not join us for serious health problems.

We have first reviewed the fiches of the 2009–2010 thematic selection on Power that will be presented in Mexico. Argentina, Austria, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Slovakia, Slovenia, UK and USA did submit the whole set; Netherlands, Iberia and Greece only one part, the rest is under way. We will encourage all other working parties to submit their selection before the Mexico conference and remind all of them that they should also present their selection on a poster.

The meeting in Oviedo was necessarily short and so we could not undertake a thorough examination of these fiches. This is raising again the hard work that needs to be done to review and edit fiches before putting them on the website. The whole process will no longer be possible in the years to come, with the only help from the volunteering members of the committee, who are scientifically responsible.

The ISC/R definitely needs a part-time permanent secretary and/or web manager in the **docomomo** International headquarters to coordinate the process of publishing the fiches on the web.

During this meeting, we have also reviewed the whole work done in the ISC/R till 2010 and the future plans with regard to the MoMo registers. In its first period (1992–2000) the **docomomo** ISC/R has focused on the necessary International selection of MoMo buildings that culminated in the publication of the 'black book' in 2000. Maristella Casciato was chair, Marieke Kuipers was secretary and the book published in Rotterdam by O10 was edited by Dennis Sharp and Catherine Cooke.

In its second period (2002–2010), the ISC/R has focused on thematically organized documentation and encouraged national and international seminars and publications related to bi-annual and international conference themes. The themes of this period have been thus far: the Modern House, Education, Industry, Sports, Import/Export, Post-war architecture, Other Modernisms and Power.

With the addition of 'health' to this documentation series, we will close a critical circle that will well describe the MoMo architecture in terms of conceptual typology and understanding innovation. Therefore, Health will be the theme to be proposed in Mexico for the 2011–2012 registers' selection. But this will be the last turn in the cycle of the thematic documentation. We foresee that there should follow in 2012–2014 a two years' period of rethinking, updating, disclosing and reorganizing the collective work that has been done since 2000, in the form of publications and comprehensive websites from every working party and **docomomo** International. During the same period the ISC/R has to

redefine its tasks and duties to improve, expand and update the **docomomo** documentation in the years to come.

The ISC/R archives are and should remain in the Nai, Rotterdam (NL).

## The ISC/R reorganization

Panayotis Tournikiotis and Marieke Kuipers are willing to continue as chair and vice-chair in 2010–2012. Susana Landrove is ready to act as secretary during the same period. Other members will continue, with the only exception of Inge Bertels who is stepping down as secretary and leaves the committee. To our deep regret, Dennis Sharp has sadly left the ISC/R. He has passed away on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. He has been a committed member of the committee and we will all miss him as a good friend.

Meanwhile, both chairs come to the conclusion that they are not young anymore and that they are increasingly busy in many others tasks. In their view, the ISC/R needs new and committed members to take over the responsibility of the Registers and to redefine the goals of the DO of **docomomo**: MoMo documentation.

Therefore, the ISC/R invites **docomomo** members to apply for joining the committee in 2010 and to be involved in the reorganization process.

Panayotis Tournikiotis and Marieke Kuipers are ready to act in 2012–2014 as co-chairs to a new chair that will be elected in 2012, to help the reorganization process but they will definitely step down in 2014 leaving the committee to the next generation.

Panayotis Tournikiotis, *Chair*  
Marieke Kuipers, *Vice-Chair*  
Inge Bertels, *Secretary*  
**docomomo** ISC/R

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## International Specialist Committee on Technology (ISC/T) July 2010 Report

Over the past two years, the **docomomo** International Specialist Committee on Technology (ISC/T) has carried out two seminars since the

ISC/R International Seminar, Oviedo,  
14-18 April 2010  
Exhibition "La arquitectura de la industria,  
1925-1965.

Registro **docomomo** Ibérico"  
Geology Faculty at the Oviedo University  
by architect Ignacio Álvarez Castelao  
Sculptures by Rubio Camín and mosaics  
and stained-glass by Antonio Suárez



conference *Challenge of Change* in Rotterdam, the Netherlands in 2008. The seminar entitled, *Concrete – Conservation Challenges*, was held in Wrocław, Poland in October 2009 and a second seminar, *Metal in Modern Movement*, was held in recently in Tokyo, Japan in May 2010. Each seminar was well attended with more than 100 people which included international participants and a good number of local participants from **docomomo** Poland and **docomomo** Japan.

Based on discussions from these two seminars, the ISC/T has been in the process of formulating a proposal for a strategy and perspective for the ISC/Technology in the future. The document entitled, *Matter and Time*, includes some of these discussions to date and has been circulated among **docomomo** ISC/T members. The document will be a source for continued discussion at the next ISC/T meeting to be held at the conference *Living the Modern Urbanity* in Mexico City, August 2010.

### **Matter and Time – Perspective of Technology**

During the ISC/T meeting in the Centennial Hall in Wrocław (2009), a debate was raised about the bearing of recent topics related to Technology and the Modern Movement. Ivo Hammer from Austria raised questions about the meaning of technology within the committee and Mariël Polman from the Netherlands requested that a general discussion on the meaning of technology take place within the committee to address more questions by the committee. As well, questions were raised in Tokyo, Japan (2010) about setting an agenda and strategy for the committee

starting with the **docomomo** International Conference in Mexico City 2010.

As we examine the past, technology was key element of the modern movement. Innovation has posed possibilities to give form to new buildings which utilized building crafts representative of different geographic regions from the modern movement. Various perspectives can be identified in the construction of the past and now and, as practitioners and educators, we must identify how conservation interventions can provide solutions to maintain the technology used to construct buildings of the Modern Movement. If we can identify the skills and innovation which were used to construct buildings during modern movement, how do we also now allow and account for change over time of these buildings and the continued use of their systems?

The committee has focused on building physics and building craft to explore many underlying and pedagogical philosophies which relate to the inception of building design and construction. Often, we also ponder architecture as a social and educational framework and, over the years, the work of ISC/T has maintained exploration of unique historical perspectives which focus on the evolution of technology and the applied innovation within the Modern Movement. However, while there is a historic importance in documenting the evolution of technology, there should be a continued emphasis on additional ma-

terial research and case studies, so that the greater body of work by the committee can be used to focus on current relevant and conservation strategies for practitioners. If we are to prolong and sustain the life of Modern Movement buildings then, we must also learn how past technologies were used in a way that be balanced with the regeneration of this heritage for the future. After all, it is through the past research on how technology evolved and was utilized which should enable us on how to maintain and renew architecture of the Modern Movement using comparable technologies of this era which can improve upon the prior innovation.

The ISC/T proposes to continue to build upon the past solid foundation and work of the committee. The ISC/T will turn to practical and rigorous discussions that relate to the construction of the buildings from the past. Our discussion of technology in the Modern Movement architecture will be more than just a historic account – the committee will actively engage and expand broader interests with the working parties and specialist committees of **docomomo**.

Some of the questions which ISC/T proposes to raise and address:

- What is the significance of Modern Movement, as Time, Matter and Idea.
- What does the practice/hands on work with material/technology mean to the committee?

- How do we discover, document and relate to conservation when it comes to technology of Modern Movement?
- How do we successfully document the evolution of technology?
- How is the experience of matter and idea for the architect/conservator shared as common interest?
- How do we engage these questions and others at meetings among ISC/T members, how can we develop a forum for broader discussion of these issues within the context of upcoming coming seminars, and potentially the Journal.
- How does the ISC/T take a more active part in further analysis and study of materials and technology – how can we also apply our base knowledge to broaden our commitment when it comes to advocacy of the committee.
- How do we cooperate with other NGO organisations?

In 2010, the ISC/T proposes a seminar to take place in The Alvar Aalto library in Vyborg in 2011. This seminar will focus on case studies related to analytical studies on the conservation of the library and other relevant examples. The ISC/T committee meeting also proposes a second meeting in 2011 in Brno, Czech Republic which will continue previous discussions on Materiality and what it means to discuss developing perspectives through relevant conservation projects in progress. Dates and further information will follow in short.

The ISC/T is also considering additional publications, as proposed by committee member Jos Tomlow, to develop a *Handbook on Technology*. The details of the publication will be presented in further detail at the upcoming Mexico City conference and will be based on the nearly two hundred papers presented in previous **docomomo** technology seminars over the past two decades.

Respectfully submitted,

Ola Wedeburnn Chair,  
 Kyle Normandin, Secretary  
**docomomo** ISC/T

### International Specialist Committee on Urbanism + Landscape (ISC/U+L)

The activities of the ISC U+L were reviewed at the 2009 annual meeting, held at Edinburgh College of Art on Wednesday 16 September.

These members attended the annual meeting: Miles Glendinning, chair; Ola Udoku; Diane Watters; Jan Haernaets; Jessica Taylor; Ellen Creighton; apologies, Hannah Lewi.

This report presents an updated digest of that material, revised to take account of subsequent developments.

Pilot Fiches/New Town Inventorisation project

This project was carried out by Jessica Taylor, who reported on it at the meeting. The area/sub-area fiches, totalling some 200, had been completed and were awaiting editing. Jessica felt that the project had showed the limits of a manual system: any further detail (eg integrated mapping) would require a digital format.

Suggestions in the follow-up discussion included: (1) inclusion of information on threat should be a priority in any enhancement; (2) choices might have to be made between record- and conservation-orientated inventorisation; (3) the links with North Lanarkshire Council for ECA's Area Conservation module (studying Cumbernauld) could allow heritage-management and policy implications to be tested out.

Pilot 'Tower Block' project on on-line inventorisation and website on mass housing

The 'Tower Block' project (supported by English Heritage), carried out in May-December 2009 with Ellen Creighton as researcher, was intended as a possible template for a digital-based extension of Jessica's manual survey: Ellen gave the meeting an extensive demonstration of the system in action from her wireless laptop. Linked directly to the national English and Scottish archive systems, it involved building up a complex map-based (GIS) database on post-1945 mass housing in Scotland and Northern England, including scanned images of hundreds of sites, and statistical data.

It also involved coping with sharply differing procedures in the two national institutions. Since September 2009, a website to disseminate the information ([www.towerblock.org](http://www.towerblock.org)) has been set up in skeleton form, and several hundred sites created, amounting to a significant regional database of mass housing in eastern Scotland and northern England. **docomomo** members are invited to take a look at the pilot website.

The Tower Block survey points to several future possibilities for **docomomo** U + L. Firstly, it might itself act as a digital pilot inventorisation project to follow Jessica's manual pilot project. Secondly, it might open up the way to a wider international survey of mass housing (see (c) below).

Potential international survey of mass housing, and associated contacts in Hong Kong and Singapore on formation of **docomomo** working parties

Initial moves are underway to put together an international survey of mass housing under the auspices of the Committee. Research could be carried forward aided by a research grant, or using volunteer researchers within **docomomo** national groups. As part of preliminary research for this project, Miles had gone on trips to a variety of mass housing centres, including Hong Kong, Singapore, Warsaw, Copenhagen, and Riga (on a lightning day trip from London, hosted by Janis Krastins), to begin establishing the viability of collaborative research and field recording for such a project.

Discussions are underway with EAHN (European Architectural History Network) with a view to collaboration on this subject, possibly focusing on an 'East/West' or 'cold war' analysis of mass housing, and with a view to holding a conference in 2011.

As part of his mass housing research contacts, Miles had established contact with potential **docomomo** groups in China (Shanghai), Hong Kong/Macao and Singapore; these were being followed up and (as at July 2010) the China-Shanghai group seemed likely to put in a formal proposal at the Mexico conference.

Conferences: *South City* conference

in Edinburgh, 22/23 January 2009, and *Mirror of Modernity*, 1-2 May 2009

The *South City* ISC/U + L Conference on Southern Hemisphere Modernism, held at the University of Edinburgh on January 22-23 2009, had been very successful and an e-journal of the proceedings had just been put together by the **docomomo** Secretariat. Likewise, e-proceedings were published for the joint ISC/U + L and AHSS conference, *Mirror of Modernity*, on 1-2 May 2009: the conference had, in effect, balanced the **docomomo** U + L agenda of a synthesizing international overview with a national case-study drawn from Scotland.

At the *South City* conference, Ola Uduku inaugurated a new '**docomomo** South' forum to help proselytize **docomomo** activities in developing countries where experts might find the costs of attending regular **docomomo** conferences excessive. Subsequent to September 2009, Ola attended the Archiafrika/African Perspectives conference and 'spread the word' further.

Landscape policy review and international cross-comparisons (including Chandigarh links)

Jan Haenraets's Ph.D on MoMo landscape policy was successfully completed and passed in spring 2010, following which Jan now intends to proceed with a planned review of international MoMo landscape conservation policy for U + L. He reported at the September 2009 meeting that he had travelled to India and linked up with committee member Parmeet Bhatt at Chandigarh. Following a tour of Chandigarh, Jan and Parmeet felt there was definite scope for collaboration, especially linking up with Parmeet's research into how change had affected the Chandigarh master plan. Other committee members agreed with Jan that important links between landscapes and urbanism could be drawn from the experience of Chandigarh and other modernist planned cities. This might be the basis of a funded research project or a PhD research topic; it might also develop into an area of interest for an International specialist community looking at other

modernist cities globally.

At the September meeting, Miles suggested that new planned towns and cities might make a very straightforward and valuable ISC U+L 'homework' task in a future year (Hannah Lewi had asked him to emphasize at this meeting the suggestion that ISC U+L might begin contributing to the setting of **docomomo** International homework tasks in the future).

#### Interim review of Plan of Action 2008-2010

At the September 2009 meeting, it was agreed that the 2008-10 Plan of Action had been effectively implemented. The following emphases were agreed for 2010-12:

Tower Block Project should be developed into a Stage 2 (Digital) Pilot Project on inventorisation for ISC/U + L

Further progress on setting up the international survey of public housing

Further contacts with China, Hong Kong and Singapore aimed at stimulating the setting-up of new **docomomo** working parties.

Proposed landscape policy review (Jan) and joint study on Chandigarh and other new cities (Jan, Parmeet)

Miscellaneous matters reported at the September 2009 meeting:

Miles reported the recent contact from committee member Ahmed el-Hariri regarding the forthcoming Agadir conference in February 2010: the committee agreed that all possible help should be offered, including publicity, and help with any follow-up publication.

Miles also reported on the highly successful concluding conference, *Keeping the Past Public*, that he had attended in Melbourne in February. Partly under a **docomomo** umbrella, it had synthesized the results of a highly diverse nationwide inventory of public buildings.

Miles also passed on a message from Hannah Lewi that there will be a planned special issue of the *Journal of Architecture*, UK coming out of that event on the subject of conserving and documenting public modern places, in 2010. Hannah had also informed Miles of a joint **docomomo**/Icomos Australia conference run in Sydney recently

called *(Un)loved Modern* – with some specifically urban and landscape sessions. Details would be uploaded to the Icomos Australia site shortly: <http://www.aicomos.com/>

Miles Glendinning, *Chair*  
**docomomo** ISC/U+L

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#### International Specialist Committee on Education+Theory (ISC/E+T) 3rd International **docomomo** Workshop: Living the Urban Modernity, Mexico City

The third workshop will take place at the Luis Barragan's Ateliers in Mexico in August 2010, during the 11th **docomomo** conference.

The aim of this workshop is to explore an urban sector of Mexico City that emerged in the city expansion of the 20th Century. The consolidation of this neighborhood began in the 30s and it is a hub of the emerging Modern Movement in Mexico City. Originally facing a semi circular park, several buildings designed by Augusto H. Alvarez, Luis Barragan, Max Cetto and Enrique del Moral, form an architectural ensemble of high quality and great value. Unfortunately, the sector was hit in the 60s by the intrusion of an over-pass; the park was sectioned and the distinctive urban façade suffered this intrusion. The workshop will be focused on searching and creating alternatives for the recovery of the urban quality and accessibility of the site, with the idea of the creation of **docomomo** Mexico headquarters and a Museum of Mexican Modern Architecture.

Ricardo Pita, *Chair*  
Theodore Prudon, *Professor*  
Alejandro Ochoa and Rodolfo Santa María, *Coordinators*  
*Mexico 2010 Conference Workshop*

**docomomo** ISC/E+T