

THE World Heritage

Japanese Cabinet Secretariat

Outline of the World Heritage

World Heritage Convention

- The Convention was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972, with an aim to protect, conserve, present and transmit to future generations of priceless assets, not only of each nation, but of humanity as a whole.
- Japan ratified the Convention in 1992.
- 189 countries have ratified the convention by March, 2012.

World Heritage

- The framework of the World Heritage is aimed to protect and conserve the heritage with outstanding universal value as an asset, not only of each nation, but of humanity as a whole.
- If cultural heritage or natural heritage nominated by state parties are considered to satisfy pre-determined selection criteria, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee make a decision to inscribe them in the World Heritage List.
- State parties have duties to protect, conserve, present and transmit to future generations of the properties inscribed on the World Heritage list.
- State parties should submit a tentative list of the properties which they consider suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List to the World Heritage center of the UNESCO, and state parties should not nominate properties not in the tentative list to the World Heritage List.
- In total, 936 properties have been inscribed in the World Heritage List by June, 2012. 725 Cultural properties, 183 natural properties and 28 mixed properties.
- 16 properties in Japan have been inscribed by June, 2012.

World Heritage in Japan

Cultural Heritage

- ① Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area (Nara, 1993)
- ② Himeji-jo (Hyogo, 1993)
- ③ Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto (Kyoto, Uji and Otsu Cities) (Kyoto, Shiga, 1994)
- ④ Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama (Gifu, Toyama, 1995)
- ⑤ Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome) (Hiroshima, 1996)
- ⑥ Itsukushima Shinto Shrine (Hiroshima, 1996)
- ⑦ Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara (Nara, 1998)
- ⑧ Shrines and Temples of Nikko (Tochigi, 1999)
- ⑨ Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu (Okinawa, 2000)
- ⑩ Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range
(Mie, Nara, Wakayama, 2004)
- ⑪ Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape (Shimane, 2007)
- ⑫ Hiraizumi – Temples, Gardens and Archaeological Sites Representing the Buddhist Pure Land
(Iwate, 2011)

Natural Heritage

- ① Yakushima (Kagoshima, 1993)
- ② Shirakami-Sanchi (Aomori, 1993)
- ③ Shiretoko (Hokkaido, 2005)
- ④ Ogasawara Islands (Tokyo, 2011)

Properties on the tentative list in Japan

Cultural Heritage

<Nominated (2012)>

- ① Temples, Shrines and other structures of Ancient Kamakura (Kanagawa, 1992)
- ② Fujisan (Shizuoka, Yamanashi, 2007)

<Others>

- ① Hikone-Jo (castle) (Shiga, 1992)
- ② The Tomioka Silk Mill and Related Industrial Heritage (Gunma, 2007)
- ③ Asuka-Fujiwara: Archaeological sites of Japan's Ancient Capitals and Related Properties (Nara, 2007)
- ④ Churches and Christian Sites in Nagasaki (Nagasaki, 2007)
- ⑤ Main Building of the National Museum of Western Art (Tokyo, 2007)
- ⑥ Jōmon Archaeological Sites in Hokkaidō, Northern Tōhoku, and other regions (Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate, Akita, 2009)
- ⑦ The Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in Kyūshū and Yamaguchi (Fukuoka, Saga, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Yamaguchi, Iwate, Shizuoka, 2009)
- ⑧ Okinoshima Island and Related Sites in Munakata Region (Fukuoka, 2009)
- ⑨ The Sado complex of heritage mines, primarily gold mines (Niigata, 2010)
- ⑩ Mozu-Furuichi Kofungun, Ancient Tumulus Clusters (Osaka, 2010)

Processes for the Inscription on the World Heritage List (Industrial Heritage)

State parties submit tentative list of properties which they consider suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List to the World Heritage center of the UNESCO



State parties submit draft nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage Center by the end of September

Year X
September



State parties submit complete nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage Center by the 1st of February

Year X+1
February

※State parties can nominate up to 2 properties a year, and at least one of them has to be natural heritage property.



ICOMOS evaluates the nominations, based on the request from the UNESCO World Heritage Committee to make evaluation and recommendation.

Year X+1
Summer-
Autumn

※In the case of the industrial heritage, ICOMOS request TICCIH to evaluate properties.



ICOMOS delivers their evaluations and recommendations to the UNESCO World Heritage center.

Year X+2
Spring



UNESCO World Heritage Committee makes a decision to choose one of the following options, in consideration of delivered evaluation and recommendation

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|---------------------------------|--|
| Inscription | : to inscribe in the World Heritage List |
| Referral of Nomination | : to refer back to the State Party for additional information, maybe resubmitted to the following Committee session for examination. |
| Deferral of Nominations | : to defer a nomination for more in depth assessment or study, or a substantial revision by the State Party. If resubmitted, it needs to be evaluated by the ICOMOS again. |
| Decision not to inscribe | : not suitable for the inscription. In principle, state parties can not resubmit. |

Year X+2
Summer

Main selection criteria for the World Heritage (cultural heritage)

○ Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)

○ Authenticity

○ Integrity

✕ Other requirements for the inscription includes effective statutory measures for the conservation of the properties, etc.

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Selection criteria regarding the OUV

Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

<Article 49>

Outstanding Universal Value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole.

<Article 77>

The Committee considers a property as having Outstanding Universal Value if the property meets one or more of the following criteria. Nominated properties shall therefore :

- (i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* 21irreversible change;
- (vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.(The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria) ;

Industrial Heritage

- to illustrate the evolution of science and technologies of human-beings and the achievement of the development of industrial activities.
- include places regarding all processes from the production to consumption as well as the ones related to the industrial social activities.
- recognised as one of heritage areas that should be placed more emphasis at the World Heritage Committee in 1994
- In Japan, Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape, that has been inscribed in 2007, is the only inscribed industrial heritage.
- In other countries, not only non-operative industrial properties, such as Iwami-Ginzan, but also, many operative industrial properties have been inscribed in the World Heritage List.

Operative Industrial Heritage in the World



Switzerland and Italy
“Rhaetian Railway in the Albula/Bernina Landscapes”
Railways in the landscape of the Alps.
Legal tools: Nature and National heritage conservation law, Railway law, etc.



UK
“Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal”
The canal contributed to the Industrial Revolution.
Legal tools: Canal law etc.



For over three centuries, most things in and about Karlskrona have centred round the naval dockyard, the harbour and the defence works. This unique industrial setting has witnessed a continuous evolution of naval architecture and shipbuilding, from the “High Seas Fleet” of Karl XI which ruled the waves of the 17th century Baltic, right down to our own time and the sophisticated stealth vessels emerging from the shipbuilding company Karlskronavarvet.

“Naval Port of Karlskrona”
Military port city in the late 17th century.
Legal tools: National Property management law, Heritage conservation law, Railway law, etc.



“Mountain Railways of India ”
Mountain Railway in the 19th centuries.
Legal tools: Railway law, Public land law, etc.