

Glossary of Terms

Term or Phrase	Definition	Source
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Founded in 1945. It contributes to peace and security by promoting international cooperation in education, sciences, culture, communication and information, and “intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind”. Its headquarters, the World Heritage Centre, is based in Paris, France	UNESCO website
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites. Founded in 1965 and is UNESCO’s specialist advisor for cultural world heritage sites. Its headquarters are in Charenton-le-Pont, France	ICOMOS website
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature. Founded in 1948 and is UNESCO’s specialist advisor for natural world heritage. Its headquarters are in Gland, Switzerland	IUCN website
ICCROM	International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property. Created and founded in 1956 and 1959 respectively and is UNESCO’s specialist advisor for the preservation and restoration of cultural world heritage. Its headquarters are in Rome, Italy	ICCROM website
World Heritage Convention	The 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the world Cultural and Natural Heritage provides for the identification, protection, presentation and transmission to future generations of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of Outstanding Universal Value	World Heritage Convention, Article 4 UNESCO World Heritage website
Operational Guidelines	UNESCO’s Operational Guidelines set out how World Heritage Sites are inscribed and managed. They are revised and updated from time to time	UNESCO website
DCMS	Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. This is the UK Government Department responsible for World Heritage and as such acts as the ‘State Party’	
Historic England	Historic England is a public body whose role includes advising the UK Government on historic environment matters pertaining to England. Their International Team is based in London and their regional South-West Team is based in Bristol	
WHUK	World Heritage UK is an independent not for profit organisation exclusively focused on representing and promoting World Heritage	World Heritage UK website

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	in the UK. It has a community-driven approach and is led by the Sites themselves. It was founded in 2015. Its headquarters are in Telford, Shropshire, England	
WHS	World Heritage Sites are recognised as places of Outstanding Universal Value under the terms of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention	
OUV	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 humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole. The Committee defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List. To be deemed of Outstanding Universal Value, a property must also meet the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity and must have an adequate protection and management system to ensure its safeguarding	Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention paras 49 & 78
Cultural Heritage	Monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of history, art or science; Groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of history, art or science; Sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and of man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of Outstanding Universal Value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view	World Heritage Convention Article 1 UNESCO World Heritage website
Authenticity	The ability to understand the value attributed to the heritage depends on the degree to which information sources about this value may be understood as credible or truthful. Knowledge and understanding of these sources of information, in relation to original and subsequent characteristics of the	Operational Guidelines para 79

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	cultural heritage, and their meaning, are the requisite bases for assessing all aspects of authenticity	
Integrity	Integrity is a measure of the wholeness and intactness of the natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes. Examining the conditions of integrity therefore requires assessing the extent to which the property: a) includes all elements necessary to express its outstanding universal value; b) is of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property's significance; c) suffers from adverse effects of development and/or neglect	Operational Guidelines para 87
SOUV	Statement of Outstanding Universal Value are Statements adopted by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for all new WHSs usually at the time of inscription. The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should include a summary of the Committee's determination that the property has outstanding universal value, identifying the criteria under which the property was inscribed, including the assessments of the conditions of integrity or authenticity, and of the requirements for protection and management in force. The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value shall be the basis for the future protection and management of the property	Operational Guidelines para 155
Attribute/ Attributes of OUV	Attributes are a direct tangible expression of the OUV of a World Heritage Site. They convey its meaning, and specifically define the reasons for the OUV	Operational Guidelines para 100