



# PRESERVATION ENGINEERING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

## Spring 2024 PETC General Meeting

Virtual via Zoom

May 14, 2024, 1pm CT / 2pm ET / 11am PT

## Committee: Preservation Engineering Technology

Co-Chairs: Amy Woods, Rachel Will, Sarah Gray

Attendees: Approximately 20 people joined the meeting. See the participants list at the end of these minutes.

### Meeting Minutes

1. **Introductions** (Amy Woods) – Sarah Gray, Amy Woods, Rachel Will
  - a. All introduced themselves on the call.
2. **70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict** (John Dumsick)
  - a. John presented summary of 1954 Hague Convention and the formation of the committees of the blue shield to support retention of heritage in armed conflict.
  - b. Sarah pointed out the alignment of the blue shield with the APT DRI as a future collaboration.
  - c. Refer to appended slides from John's presentation.
3. **Student Competition** (Sarah Gray)
  - a. The 2024 competition is the timber bridge, and it is the 9<sup>th</sup> year of the student design build competition.
  - b. Five teams from Canada and the US are currently working on Phase 2 of the project including structural analysis and load testing.
  - c. Students are current paired with APT mentors to support their work in the competition.
  - d. Sponsorship packages will be circulated shortly to all PETC members.
  - e. Additional information: [Student Design-Build Competition \(memberclicks.net\)](https://www.memberclicks.net)
  - f. Competition video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wl5ixySuJuw>
4. **2024 Fischetti Award**
  - a. Award for a peer reviewed and published engineering article for practical preservation engineering.
  - b. Deadline is May 24, 2024 for submissions

- c. Additional Information: [David Fischetti Award \(memberclicks.net\)](https://www.memberclicks.net)

**5. Disaster Response Initiative (DRI) (Will Teron)**

- a. DRI sent a team of engineers to review flood damage in Vermont
- b. Ford House in Detroit area is currently in consultation with DRI on an emergency response plan
- c. The group is working on some workshops and presentations in collaboration with NHR and FEMA and Puerto Rico
- d. Additional Information: <https://www.apti.org/disaster-response-initiative-task-group>
- e. Will clarified that the role of DRI is guiding owners through the process rather than providing engineering.

**6. PETC Webinars (Amy Woods)**

- a. PETC has put on several webinars this year, recently a presentation *Load Sharing in Accidental Hybrid Structure: An Early Concrete Warehouse* from Don Friedman and *Timber Considerations for Preservation Engineering* from Ron Anthony
- b. Next webinar is: <https://apt.memberclicks.net/event-011form#!/>
- c. Webinars recordings are available for access for 30 days following the webinars. Longer term archival processes are being reviewed.
- d. New topics were brainstormed including updates from DRI on ongoing work.

**7. Succession Planning (Amy Woods)**

- a. Amy reviewed succession planning efforts and discussions at the PETC Exec level
- b. Notice was provided that two co-chairs will be stepping down in late 2024 and one co-chair is typically Canadian. All interested to reach out to PETC co-chairs for more information.

**8. Open Forum (Amy Woods)**

- a. Discussion about spreading preservation / conservation and engineering concepts to high school and middle school students.
  - Tom shared the model of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professional (CAHP) of the heritage hack-a-ton.
  - Arlin shared some initiatives from Engineers Canada and Engineers of Tomorrow in middle school classrooms.
  - Rachel W expressed the need to “build the bench” for preservation

**Meeting Participants**

The following list reflects the participants that attended part or all of the meeting

**PETC Co-Chairs:** Amy Woods, Rachel Will, Sarah Gray

1. Arlin Otto
2. Stephen Kelley
3. Philip Parker
4. Ellen O'Brien
5. John Dumsick
6. Tim Michiels
7. Tim Crowe
8. Michael Gutland

9. Will Teron
10. Rebecca Napolitano
11. John Nakrosis
12. Lance Shields
13. Erin Hemm
14. Lauren Feinstein
15. Tom Morrison
16. Elaine Shapiro
17. Ellen O'Brien
18. Ron Anthony
19. Natalie Smith
20. Jillian Wilson
21. Welsey Wilson



# The 1954 Hague Convention at 70

## **1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict**

May 14, 1954 - May 14, 2024

J.Dumsick

# What is the 1954 Hague Convention?

- The current international legal regime for the protection of cultural property during armed conflict consists primarily of the **1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict**, its two Protocols, and some additional legal instruments, as well as customary international law.
- These instruments are part of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), also termed the **Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC)**.
- The central obligations imposed by the Convention are:
  - **to safeguard cultural property** by preparing during peace to protect it from “the foreseeable effects of an armed conflict” (Article 3)
  - **the obligation of respect** (Articles 4 and 5), which refers to the actions that a State Party must refrain from taking in order to protect both its own cultural property and the cultural property of another State.
- The Convention also provides for **the marking of cultural property with the distinctive emblem of the “blue shield”** (Article 6).



The Blue Shield on a museum roof must be large enough to be seen from high altitude. This symbol was painted atop the roof of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad prior to the 2003 invasion.

# What is the 1954 Hague Convention?

- 1<sup>st</sup> Protocol (1954)
  - Focuses on **Moveable Heritage**.
  - Adopted in response to systematic pillage of cultural property of occupied territories during WWII
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Protocol (1999) – **Expanded legal protections** due to loopholes experienced in world events in 1980s and 1990s.
  - Enhanced legal protections of sites of great importance to humanity
  - Creation of Committee of Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict
  - Creation of Fund for Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict
  - Sanctions from criminal activities



U.S. Army Monuments Officers reclaiming art stolen by Axis Powers (Archives of American Art)

# What is the 1954 Hague Convention?

- United Nations through **UNESCO** is primarily responsible for dissemination and monitoring compliance
- **Blue Shield International**, NGO for training and coordination of civilian and military structures
- As of now, Convention ratified by more than **(130) states**. First Protocol (110) and Second Protocol (84).
- **Canada** ratified in 1998, **USA** ratified in 2009



The Blue Shield on a museum roof must be large enough to be seen from high altitude. This symbol was painted atop the roof of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad prior to the 2003 invasion.

# What is the 1954 Hague Convention?

CONSIDER HOW THIS CONVENTION APPLIES TO OUR SKILLS, ABILITIES and COLLECTIVE VOICE....

- Rescue Engineering
- Preparation....think about “Between Two Earthquakes” mentality.
- Documentation (before and after)
- Assessments for Occupancy
- Educating others
- Rebuilding Communities



Invasion of Ukraine





# U.S. Committee of Blue Shield

## Help us protect cultural heritage & history

Membership in the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield is open to anyone concerned about protecting cultural property during armed conflict. Through membership dues, USCBS receives critical support for programs offering cultural property training for the U.S. military, cultural emergency response teams, and educating the public about the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the event of Armed Conflict.

BECOME A USCBS MEMBER TODAY! ▶



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