

Australia ICOMOS Secretariat Ph: +61 3 9251 7131 austicomos@deakin.edu.au www.icomos.org/australia

## **CONFERENCE PAPER ABSTRACT**

NAME OF PRESENTER:	Geoff Ashley
TITLE OF PAPER:	Contested Landscapes: Private Shacks — Public Lands
THEME:	Theme 2: Cultural Landscape Practice and Management

## PAPER ABSTRACT:

The identification of social heritage values arising from community, family and individual associations with cultural landscape use and practice does not in itself provide the answer in the management of a cultural landscape that is also a shared public landscape. Case study examples are presented of large shack communities located within public lands in New South Wales (NSW) and Western Australia (WA) to illustrate the problem and to identify solutions relevant to conference attendees and its theme: 'conserving it together'.

In the NSW example, heritage values are accepted as part of State Heritage Listing, however, a shared view between the land management agency and the shack communities on governance and tenure arrangements for longer-term management is yet to be realised. In the WA example, the State Government has shown a strong reluctance to progress to listing before putting local management in place.

The examples will show that heritage values and protection are only part of the long-term solution – the key is developing practical governance and shared management – solving the philosophical issues at the interface of public and private (and cultural and natural) values where needed with practical solutions eg better communication and engagement with the public with access to accommodation.

This paper addresses three of the four sub-themes within the Cultural Landscape Theme: the role of communities in the management of landscapes; the management of natural and cultural values and managing intangible associative values of landscape.

## BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

Geoff Ashley, MICOMOS, is a built heritage specialist with over three decades experience during which time he has worked in private and public sectors in all states of Australia. Geoff is the Principal of Ashley Built Heritage, Sydney. Geoff's particular interest and expertise is in relation to huts and shacks and in particular the importance of their social and cultural landscape values and settings.