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CONFERENCE PAPER ABSTRACT

NAME OF	
PRESENTER:	Oliver Maurice
TITLE OF PAPER:	Heritage Conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals
THEME:	Theme 4: Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development

PAPER ABSTRACT:

The International Trusts Organisation (INTO) (www.intoorg.org) is an umbrella body for National and Heritage Trusts globally. It currently has 76 member organisations of which 11 are based in the Pacific region. As a global non-governmental organisation with close ties to the United Nations (UN), INTO has engaged with the topic of sustainable development since its establishment and has highlighted the vital role of cultural heritage in the sustainable development process.

In keeping with the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the UN in September 2015, INTO has recently carried out a survey amongst its membership to find examples of the value of heritage conservation in contributing to many of the SDGs - quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, clean energy, sustainable cities and communities, and climate action.

INTO members have a wide portfolio of interests from preserving built heritage for present and future generations to poverty eradication, to clean water and to sustainable food production. Therefore, much of their work contributes directly to many of the SDGs.

This paper will explore the findings of the survey in more depth with case studies showing how heritage conservation relates to 14 of the 17 SDGs and to a significant number of the targets for each goal thus showing that heritage is a pillar of sustainable development.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

Oliver Maurice has been an honorary Director (of Advocacy and Membership) since INTO was founded in 2007. Prior to that he was, for 5 years, a voluntary heritage consultant to National Trusts around the world, during which time he visited Australia, Fiji and many parts of Asia as well as Europe, the USA, Canada and the Caribbean. His experience was gained from working for the National Trust in England for 32 years firstly as a land agent and then, for the last 18 years, as a Director, firstly of the Northumbria Region and finally the North West Region.