

Resolution 3 (2009)

Guidelines for the designation and protection of Historic Sites and Monuments

The Representatives,

Recalling the protection afforded to historical sites and monuments by Article 8 of Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty,

Recalling also Measure 3 (2003), as amended by subsequent Measures, which sets out the current list of Historic Sites and Monuments,

Recognizing the unique value of all the historic and cultural remains of early exploration of the Antarctic continent,

Considering that the cultural and historic heritage of Antarctica is susceptible to loss and decay over time through natural processes and increased human pressure through the placement of logistical and scientific facilities and increased human impacts from visitors and tourists,

Recalling Resolution 5 (2001), which provides guidelines for the handling of pre-1958 historic remains,

Recalling further Resolution 8 (1995), Resolution 4 (1996) and Resolution 4 (2001),

Aware that successive Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings have developed guidelines to ensure that the process for designating Historic Sites and Monuments under the Antarctic Treaty fully complies with the objective of identifying, protecting and preserving the historic and cultural values of Antarctica,

Recommend that the *Guidelines for the designation and protection of Historic Sites and Monuments* appended to this Resolution be used by Parties as guidance on questions related to the designation, protection and preservation of historic sites, monuments, artefacts and other historic remains in Antarctica.

Appendix to Resolution 3 (2009)

Guidelines for the designation and protection of Historic Sites and Monuments

1. Parties should make every effort to preserve and protect, in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol, including Annex V, the Historic Sites and Monuments situated in the Antarctic Treaty area. Whenever appropriate, they should consult together on their restoration or preservation and adopt all adequate measures to protect all artefacts, buildings, monuments, archaeological and cultural remains and sites endowed with historic significance, from damage or destruction.
2. Where appropriate, Parties should arrange for each of these historic monuments or sites to be appropriately marked with a notice indicating in the English, French, Russian and Spanish languages that the monument or site is designated as an Historic Site or Monument, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol.
3. Parties who wish to nominate a particular Historic Site and or Monument should address in the proposal one or more of the following:
 - a. a particular event of importance in the history of science or exploration of Antarctica occurred at the place;
 - b. a particular association with a person who played an important role in the history of science or exploration in Antarctica;
 - c. a particular association with a notable feat of endurance or achievement;
 - d. representative of, or forms part of, some wide-ranging activity that has been important in the development and knowledge of Antarctica;
 - e. particular technical, historical, cultural or architectural value in its materials, design or method of construction;
 - f. the potential, through study, to reveal information or has the potential to educate people about significant human activities in Antarctica;
 - g. symbolic or commemorative value for people of many nations.
4. The Party or Parties that nominated and/or are undertaking management of a Historic Site or Monument should keep the site or monument under review to assess whether:
 - a. the site or monument still exists in whole or in part;
 - b. the site or monument continues to meet the guidelines outlined in the previous paragraph;
 - c. the description of the site or monument should be amended and updated when necessary;
 - d. the location and if possible the limits of the site or monument are on its topographic maps, hydrographic charts and in other relevant publications.
 - e. the site requires protection or management and, if so, whether it should be also designated as, or included in an Antarctic Specially Protected Area or as an Antarctic Specially Managed Area;
 - f. in light of this review, the Historic Site or Monument should be de-listed.
5. During the preparations for a listing of a Historic Site or Monument, the proposing Party should ensure adequate liaison with the originator of the Historic Site or Monument and other Parties as appropriate. During the writing of a site management plan or conservation strategy, the proposing

Party is encouraged to consider the adoption of further protective measures, including whenever appropriate:

- a. The development in a comprehensive manner of a conservation strategy, including the establishment when appropriate of buffer zones to guard buildings and monuments against damage;
 - b. To the extent possible, seeking to achieve coherence through all the steps leading to historic commemoration such as the design of commemorative monuments, cairns or plaques, and any place-names attached to Historic Sites or areas of historical significance, including buffer zones.
 - c. The requirement for environmental impact assessments of activities undertaken to erect a new historic monument or site. In the course of such assessment, the proponent should consider the most environmentally appropriate approach to achieving their objective of historic and cultural protection.
 - d. The application of risk assessment in areas of intense human activity or otherwise in more remote and inaccessible areas where the vulnerable nature of historic sites and monuments may require that the protection include an area considered sufficient, compatible and adequate for preserving the historical values of the designated sites or monuments and avoid increased risk of damage arising out of human activity in Antarctica.
 - e. The preparation of site guidelines, related to visitors and access by aircraft, vehicles or vessels, through visible marking, mapping and regular surveying, as well as issuing Historic Sites and Monuments Guidelines and other interpretive and educational material.
 - f. The periodic undertaking of surveys or visits to the designated Historic Sites and Monuments and circulating reports thereafter on the condition of such Historic Sites and Monuments, including additional information on measures adopted to protect them from destruction or damage.
 - g. The inclusion of any relevant Historic Sites and Monuments in the check-lists of Inspections undertaken under Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty and Article 14 of the Environmental Protocol.
6. Parties should observe the interim protection provided by Resolution 5 (2001) (Guidelines for handling of pre-1958 historic remains whose existence or present location is not yet known) during the three year period after the discovery of a new historic artefact or site has been brought to their attention by any person or expedition who discovers pre-1958 historic remains, and consider afterwards the formal incorporation of the artefact/site into the protected or managed areas designated under Annex V of the Protocol. If there is uncertainty as to the age of a newly discovered artefact/site it should be treated as a pre-1958 artefact/site until its age has been definitively established.
 7. To that end, Parties should notify the other Parties of the discovery, indicating what remains have been found, and where and when. The consequences of removing such remains should be duly considered. If items nonetheless were removed from Antarctica, they should be delivered to the appropriate authorities or public institutions in the home country of the discoverer, and remain available upon request for research purposes.
 8. Visitors to Antarctica should be informed of the importance of protecting the historic and cultural heritage of the Antarctic continent and its surrounding islands and of all restrictions applying to artefacts, sites and monuments listed under the Antarctic Treaty system or protected under Resolution 5 (2001). This may include by developing historic site information guidelines and incorporating information about cultural heritage into a range of public education and interpretive

materials to be prepared by the Parties, reminding visitors to Antarctica that they must not engage in conduct that results in interference to any scientific stations or environmental protected areas, as well as buildings, historical monuments, sites, artefacts, relics, commemorative plaques or site markers. The conservation of these features differ from the protection of biological or environmental phenomena but are equally important to the understanding of the values of Antarctica.