

Placemaking in Small Towns

Workshop: Architecture at the Edge

Gráinne Shaffrey, President ICOMOS Ireland

Galway, September 2017





ICOMOS works for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage places. It is the only global non-government organisation of this kind, which is dedicated to promoting the application of theory, methodology, and scientific techniques to the conservation of the architectural and archaeological heritage. Its work is based on the principles enshrined in the 1964 International Charter on the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (the Venice Charter).

ICOMOS is a network of experts that benefits from the interdisciplinary exchange of its members, among which are architects, historians, archaeologists, art historians, geographers, anthropologists, engineers and town planners.

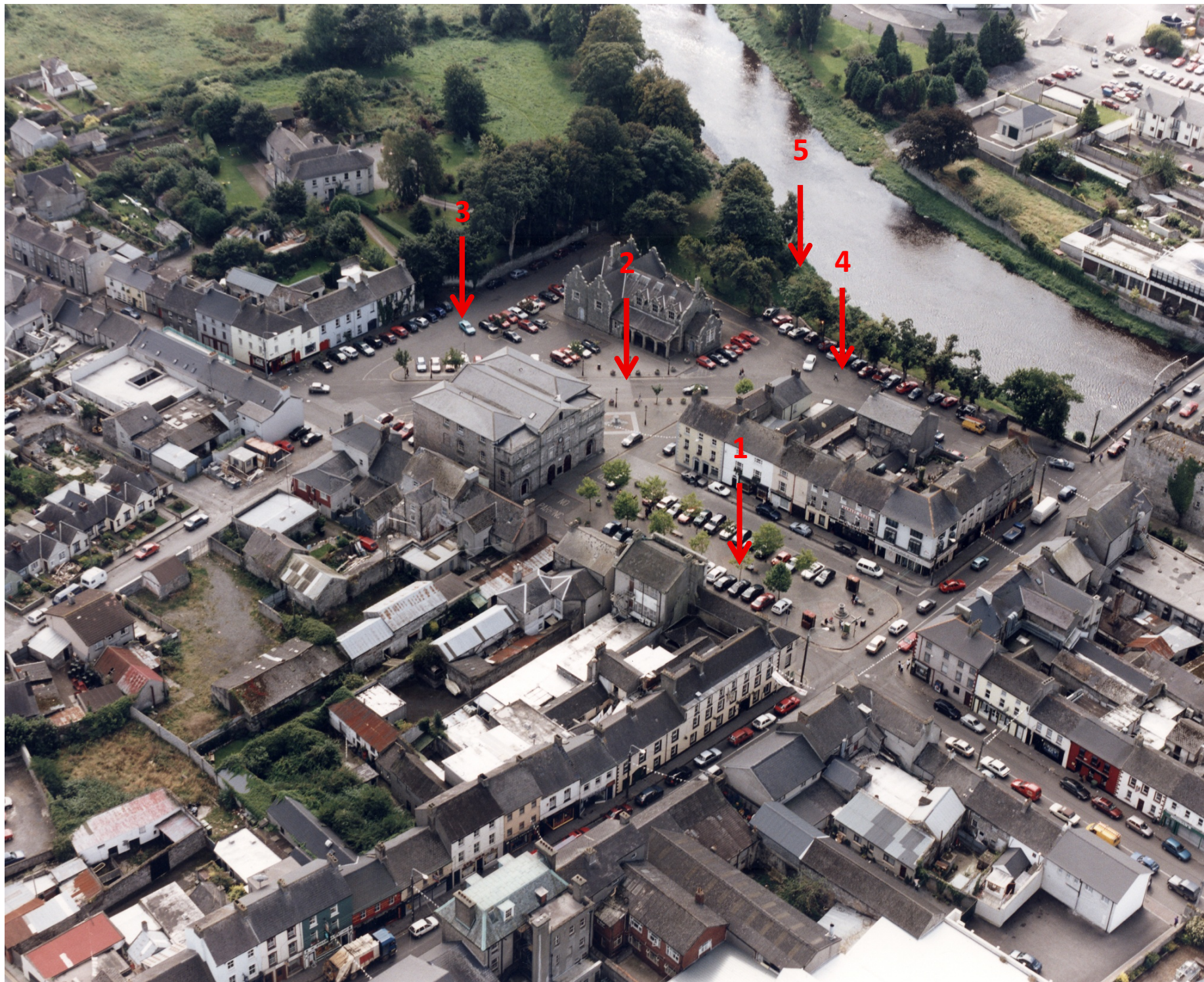
The members of ICOMOS contribute to improving the preservation of heritage, the standards and the techniques for each type of cultural heritage property: buildings, historic cities, cultural landscapes and archaeological sites



MISSION

ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, is a global non-governmental organization associated with UNESCO. Its mission is to promote the conservation, protection, use and enhancement of monuments, building complexes and sites. It participates in the development of doctrine and the evolution and distribution of ideas, and conducts advocacy. ICOMOS is an Advisory Body of the World Heritage Committee for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO. As such, it reviews the nominations of cultural world heritage and ensures the conservation status of properties.

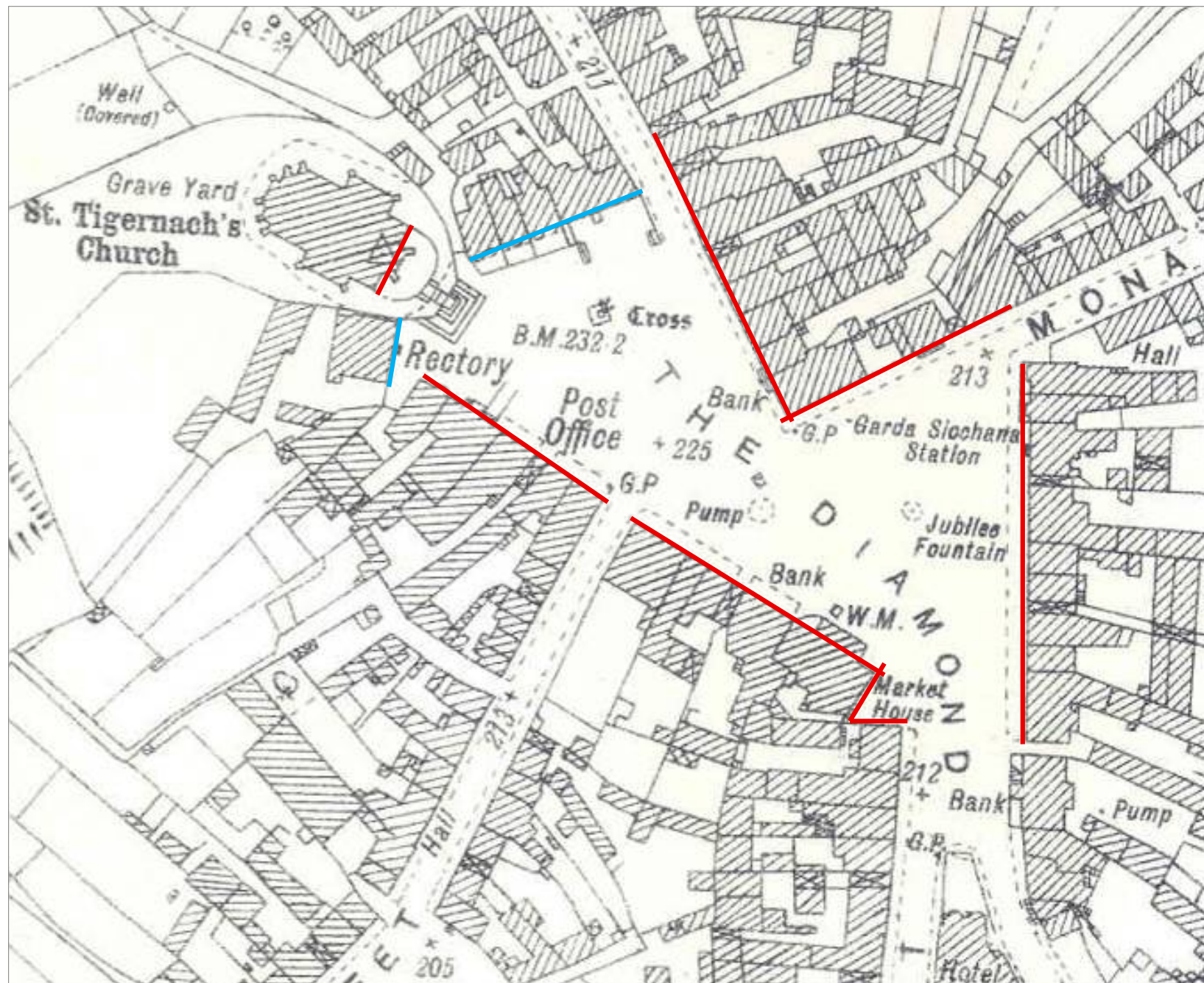
Its creation in 1965 is the logical outcome of initial conversations between architects, historians and international experts that began in the early twentieth century and that materialized in the adoption of the Venice Charter in 1964. In light of numerous studies, conferences, symposia and discussions led by its National Committees and International Scientific Committees, ICOMOS has gradually built the philosophical and doctrinal framework of heritage on an international level.





Clones





Clones









Spatial Enclosure and Topography – Inistioge









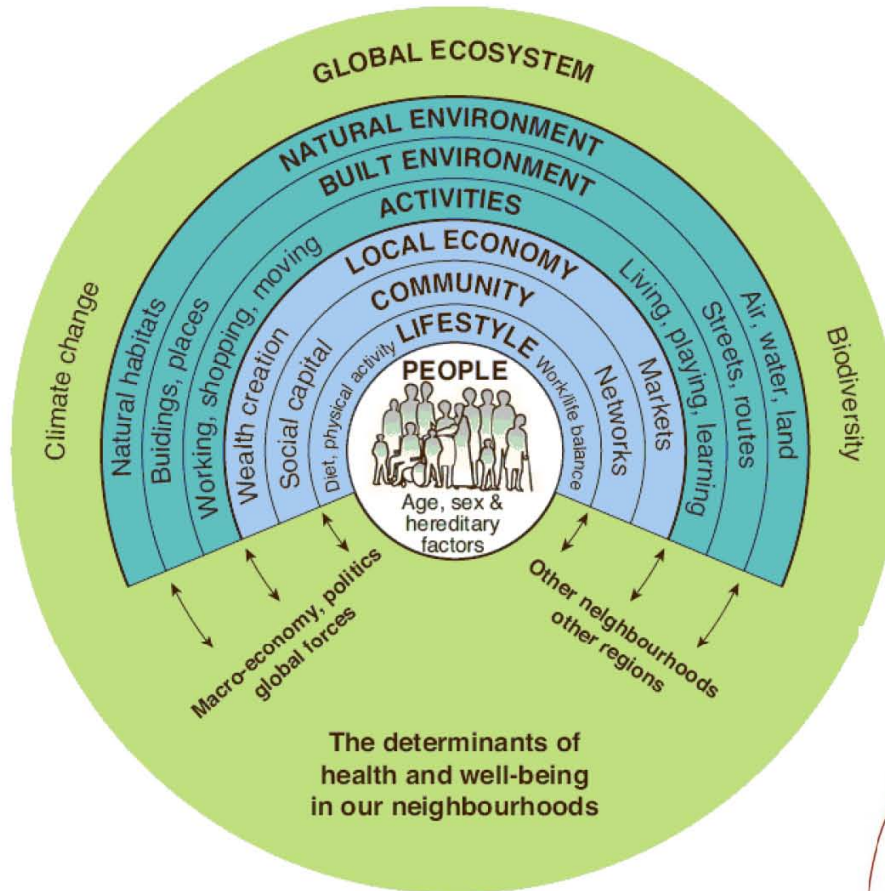




Francis Tibbalds, *Making People Friendly Towns*, 1988)

“The human animal requires a spatial territory in which to live that possesses unique features, surprises, visual oddities, landmarks and architectural idiosyncrasies”

(Desmond Morris, The Human Zoo)



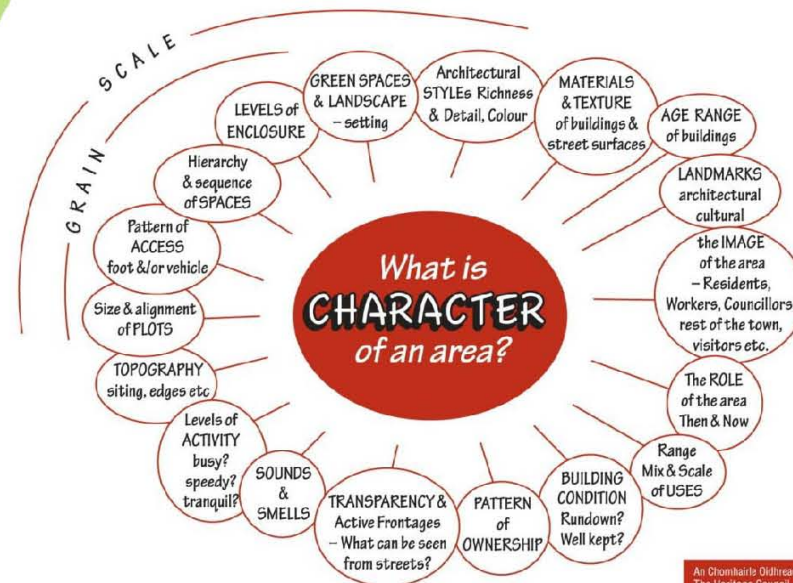
Barton & Grant 2006 (based on Whitehead and Dahlgren diagram of 1991)



Why?

The town is a fundamental – and existing – piece (place) of Community(ies)

To loose this – do we start over? Can we afford to?



Source: Richard Guise, 2005

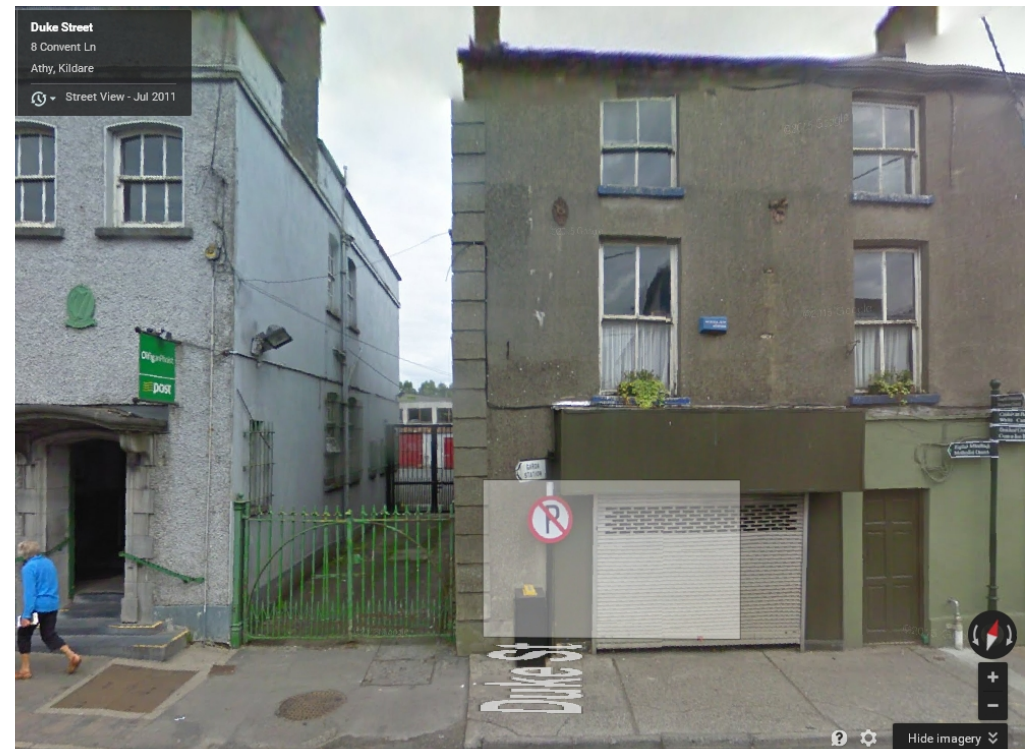
An Chomhairle Oldheachra
The Heritage Council



a paradigm shift...?

EU target: by 2050 reduction in energy consumption by 80%

Implication (EU) in 2050, 90% of the existing building stock will still exist and be in use

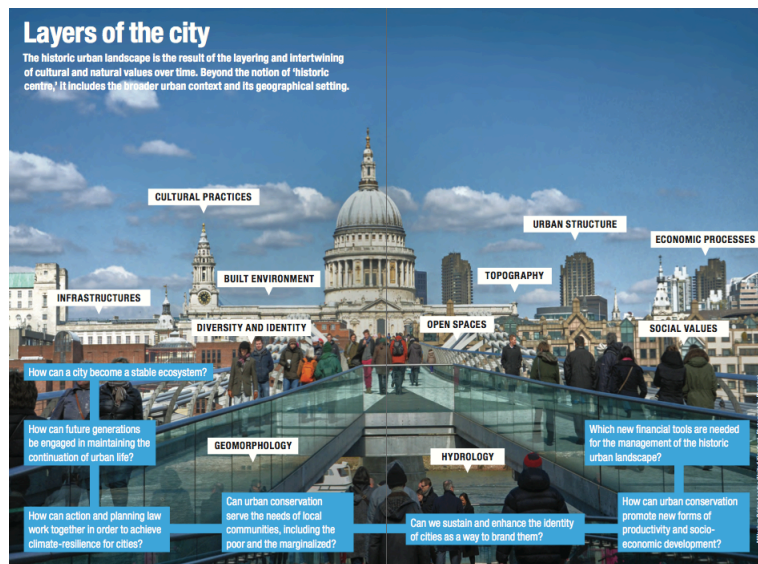


If all the above makes sense.....

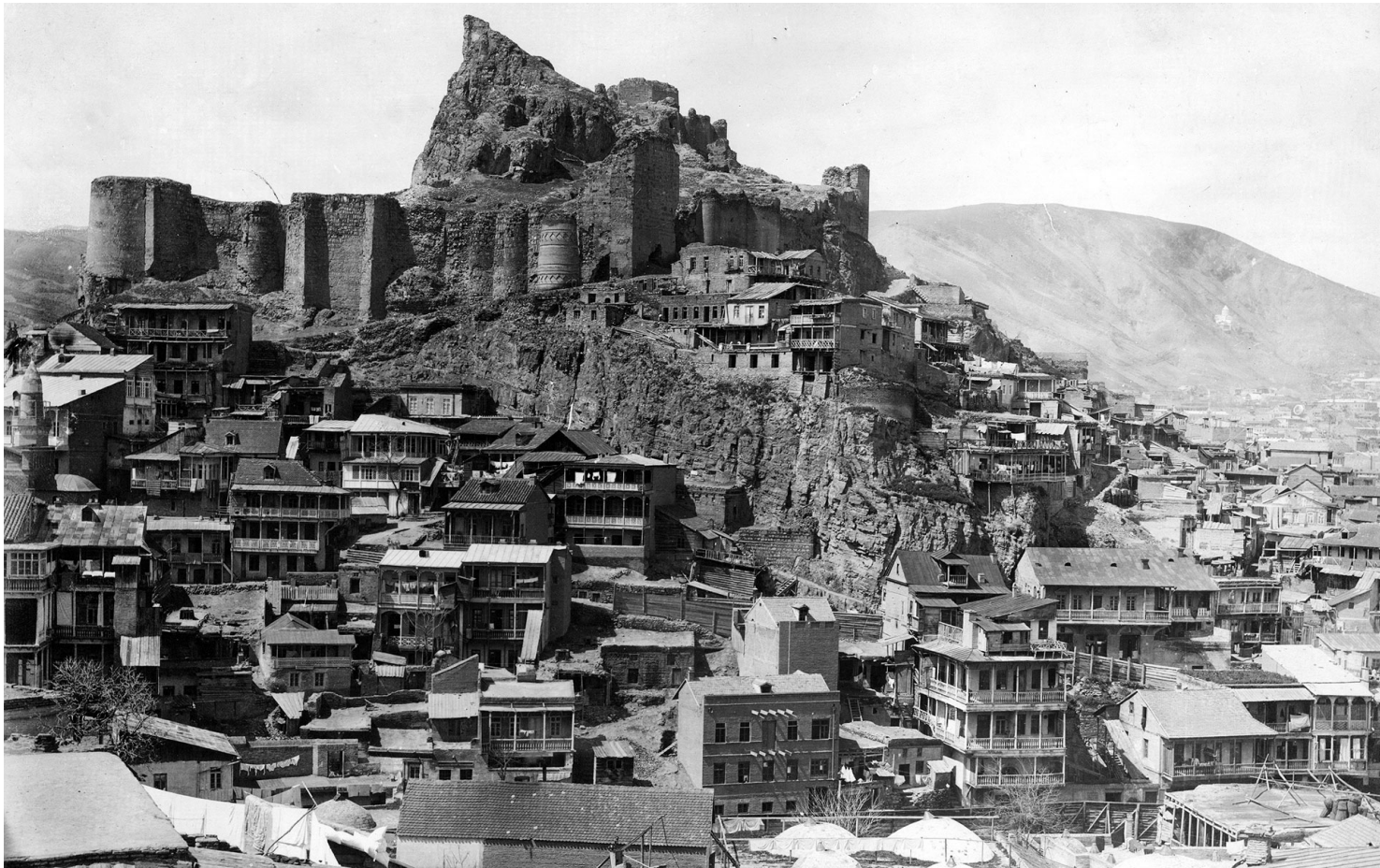
What can we do about this?

ICOMOS & Other related Charters & Doctrines:

- Venice Charter
- Washington Charter
- Burra Charter (Places of Cultural Heritage)
- Valetta Principles
- UNESCO Recommendations on Historic Urban Landscapes, 2011
- CoE Framework Convention on Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro Convention, 2005)
- Sustainable Development Goals (New Urban Agenda)



Integrated; inclusive; informed; tangible & intangible; manage change; understand impact



The Washington Charter, adopted by the ICOMOS General Assembly in 1987, establishes the principles and guidelines for the protection and conservation of historic towns. The Charter seeks to complement the Venice Charter, whose emphasis is on the individual monument. It addresses such issues as:

- integration of preservation objectives into planning policies;
- qualities of historic towns that should be preserved;
- **participation of residents in the preservation process; and**
- **the social and economic aspects of historic town preservation.**

**The Valletta Principles
for the Safeguarding
and Management of
Historic Cities,
Towns and Urban
Areas**

Adopted by the 17th ICOMOS
General Assembly on
28 November 2011



**Principes de la
Valette pour la
sauvegarde et la
gestion des villes et
ensembles urbains
historiques**

Adoptées par la 17^e Assemblée
générale de l'ICOMOS le 28
novembre 2011



**Principios de La Valeta
para la salvaguardia
y gestión de las
poblaciones y áreas
urbanas históricas**

Adoptado por la XVII Asamblea
General de ICOMOS el 28 de
noviembre de 2011



**ΟΙ ΑΡΧΕΣ ΤΗΣ
ΒΑΛΕΤΑΣ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ
ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΚΑΙ
ΔΙΑΧΕΙΡΙΣΗ ΤΩΝ
ΙΣΤΟΡΙΚΩΝ ΠΟΛΕΩΝ
ΟΙΚΙΣΜΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΑΣΤΙΚΩΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΩΝ**

Υιοθετήθηκαν από τη Γενική
Συνέλευση του ICOMOS της
28ης Νοεμβρίου 2011



**Принципы Валлетты
по сохранению и
управлению
историческими
городами и
урбанизированными
территориями**

Приняты 17-й Генеральной
Ассамблеей ИКОМОС 28
ноября 2011 г

ICOMOS

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New life for historic cities

The historic urban landscape
approach explained



The historic urban landscape approach sees and interprets the city as a continuum in time and space. Countless population groups have left their mark, and continue to do so today.



The historic urban context includes notably the site's topography, geomorphology, hydrology and natural features, its built environment, both historic and contemporary, its infrastructures above and below ground; its open spaces and gardens, its land use patterns and spatial organization; perceptions and visual relationships; as well as all other elements of the urban structure. It also includes social and cultural practices and values, economic processes and the intangible dimensions of heritage as related to diversity and identity.

(Unesco Recommendations on Historic Urban Landscapes, 2011)



Urban heritage, including its tangible and intangible components, constitutes a key resource in enhancing the liveability of urban areas, and fosters economic development and social cohesion in a changing global environment. As the future of humanity hinges on the effective planning and management of resources, conservation has become a strategy to achieve a balance between urban growth and quality of life on a sustainable basis.

To a question on elegance and taste



My knowledge of materials and my access to skilled people, plus time, created what you call taste. I believe that things in our lives should be cared for, and they should be used at their highest level of use. SO PART OF WHAT YOU SAW WAS MY WILLINGNESS TO CARE FOR THINGS AND INVEST IN THE CARE OF THEM.



(Theaster Gates, Kassel 2012)

end