

ICMS Annual Meeting

Networking Event

Ukiyo-e and Printer's Demonstration

Technical Inspection: World Heritage "Nikko Toshogu Shrine"

Conference Preparation

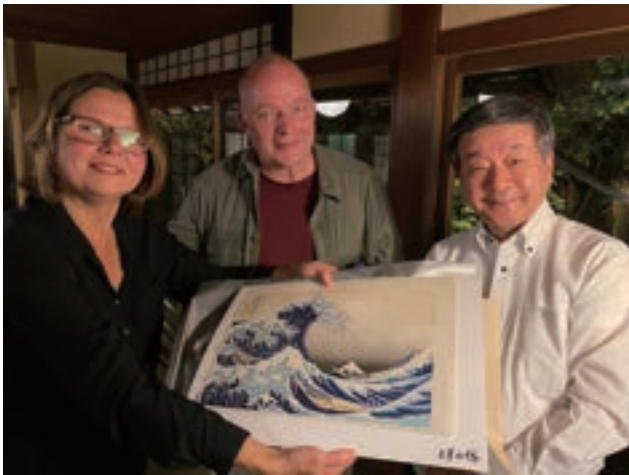
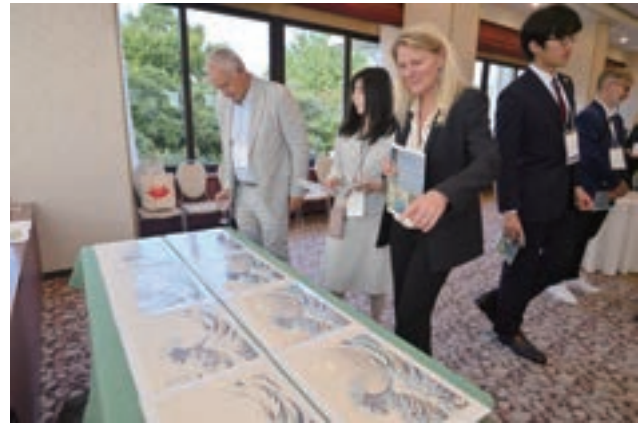
Conference General Information

Operational Support List for ICOM-ICMS Conference 2023 in Tokyo





Ukiyo-e and Printer's Demonstration



Technical Inspection: World Heritage "Nikko Toshogu Shrine"



Krzysztof OSIEWICZ (Poland)

National Institute for Museums and public Collections
Head of Public Collections Protections Department

Thank you for the warm welcome and the perfect organization of the conference, as well as giving us the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture.

I fully agree with Paulina's comments regarding the Nikko World Heritage Site.

In my opinion the greatest threat to the structures at the Nikko World Heritage Site are:

1. The old trees around them. In case of a typhoon or an earthquake they could fall on the buildings, causing irreversible damage;
2. A fire outbreak, whether as a result of arson or other phenomena, would probably be detected and extinguished by the staff. However, I did not notice a fire detection system in the interiors. I would consider

installing linear heat detectors (in cable form) on the external walls around the temples;

3. I noticed the fire extinguishers, but finding them was not easy even for me (I was able to find only two properly marked fire extinguishers). They remain invisible to visitors and in the event of a fire they will not be able to use them;

4. Visitors, especially from abroad, should be provided with an explanation of what the alarm points look like, what they are for and what to do if they need to be used;

5. The CCTV system covers communication routes, but not all courtyards are within its range. In my opinion surveillance should cover all spaces inside and outside buildings, especially the courtyards in front of temples. Cameras can be mounted discreetly, and this will allow for the identification of possible perpetrators of property destruction. The recordings will also serve as evidence in



the event of any accidents where visitors behave inappropriately. In Poland we store recordings from museum cameras for 30 days. In my opinion (only based on the sightseeing I was able to do) the image quality at night and during rain or fog is unsatisfactory.

As Paulina wrote, the area of the complex is insufficiently marked. From my perspective it is downright unfriendly for an individual tourist:

1. What was missing for me were the staff members in the courtyards of the temples (the entrance area to the temples, the stairs), although the posts for security workers were present there. Such staff could provide assistance to visitors and show them the evacuation route in the event of danger or visitor panic. Otherwise I rate the security at the entrance to the complex and at the gateways as very good;

2. It would be useful to establish the direction of sightseeing and to mark it well.

Our comments reflect our position as visitors who do not have the full knowledge of the procedures, documents, or the security center. As such they may be subject to errors.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to meet and to learn about a tiny part of the Japanese culture. We are at your disposal for any assistance you may require, and we would appreciate the opportunity to keep in touch. We would like to extend an invitation to you to visit Poland whenever your schedule permits.

Best regards



Valentina SABUCCO (Italy / UK)

Arts Council England

1.

Background

On the 13th of October 2023, I visited the Nikko Toshogu Museum as part of one of the excursions organised following the ICOM ICMS' Annual Conference.

On the way to the Museum, all ICMS participants attending the event were tasked to comment on the security arrangements in place at the Museum, and to provide any recommendations as applicable.

Please find below my observations based on what I could see during my visit. I shall include for completeness that no security-related conversations were held with the curators or the operations manager at the venue so the below assessment, although providing some feedback, is not as comprehensive as it could have been if more information around the security of the museum was shared with participants ahead or during the visit.

2.

Museum location and layout

The Museum falls within the Shrines and Temples of Nikko UNESCO World Heritage Site boundary.

It is a modern, two-storey, free-standing building with the main entrance, reception, toilets, retail area on the ground floor, and exhibition spaces and media room on the first floor. The first floor can be reached either by stairs or lift.

On the first floor, two portable shrines are displayed before entering the exhibition and are protected by a

physical barrier and additional 'do not touch' signs. The exhibition space, made of interconnected galleries with no windows, displays various items organised in different categories, including items from the daily life of Tokugawa Ieyasu as well as complete collections of weapons and combat equipment from the Tokugawa shogunate.

The visitor path within the exhibition space is designed so that visitors access from one door and exit from another, facilitating this way visitors flow and management.

3.

Level of Threats and Risks

Because the venue exhibits weapons and other armouries made of materials which could be easily melted down and resold for their value, theft is considered possible but due to the location of the museum and time that would take to criminals to get there, the risk is currently seen as low. Also, the Museum is located within the boundary of a World Heritage Site, made of different shrines and temples that do offer more easily available items that can be stolen.

Accidental or intentional damage by visitors should not be excluded. The fact that objects are in display cases reduces the risks of damage being caused but those items on open display need being invigilated.

Possible damage caused by fire or arson (the museum is surrounded by trees and other wooden structures), or natural disaster more broadly should not be excluded, so an emergency plan which identifies procedures in these instances should be in place.



4.

Physical Structure

The perimetral walls of the ground floor area and first floor are made primarily of glass and concrete, the former making these space potentially very vulnerable to breaks in or damage. It is unknown the specifics of the glazing used but if it is traditional safety glass, it is assessed that the success of break in with appropriate tools at ground floor level would be very likely. The doors entering and exiting the exhibition space seemed to be double-leaf wooden doors, which are recessed into the walls during opening hours. Because during the visit they were concealed, it was not possible to verify their robustness, locking mechanisms, and whether they are alarmed. It is unknown whether the site benefits of 24h security guard presence on site or if the venue is 'lock and leave'. For this reason, I would recommend that the exhibition space is always securely locked at night and if keys are used, these are never taken off site by staff but left in the office in a safe box.

5.

Alarms

An intruder detection and fire systems are in place, however it is unknown their specifics making it difficult to comment on them.

6.

Display cases

Inside the exhibition space all items are cased limiting the potential risks of items being damaged, whether intentionally or accidentally. However, the specifics of the display cases are unknown so it is not

possible to comment on their robustness.

7.

Invigilation

At the time of the visit, some members of staff patrolling the two floors of the Museum were identified. It is recommended that a stationary member of staff is located just outside the exhibition space, where the two portable shrines are on display to ensure that people do not climb the barriers in place and cause damage to the items either on purpose or accidentally while taking selfies for example. Continuous invigilation should also be provided in the galleries whenever there are objects on open display for the same reasons as above.

8.

Emergency Plan

It is unknown whether an emergency plan is in place and, if yes, what its content is. However, it is recommended, as a good practice, that a plan exists specifically for the museum as opposed to the overall World Heritage Site, and is reviewed annually. A salvage plan should also exist.

Museum staff and, if applicable, volunteers should be trained in its use once a year so that in case of an emergency they know who is in charge, who to contact, and overall procedures to follow.

Date of this report: 20 October 2023

Nikko Toshogu Museum – Security Considerations



Nicolle Manuelle B. Bittencourt (Brazil)

Ph. D. Student at Waseda University

The Toshogu Shrine in Nikko holds great historical significance and is renowned for its outstanding architecture. It is recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. It is a complex with different buildings where you can find examples of artistic craftsmanship. For the shrine visit, the attendees had two guide options, one in Japanese and the other in English.

Regarding security measures, the Toshogu Shrine seems to have taken various actions to ensure the safety of buildings, collections, and visitors. An important aspect is the presence of security personnel who appear prepared to promptly address any disruptions that may occur, such as individuals obstructing access to the stairs. They seemed to be strategically stationed throughout the complex.

Access controls and crowd management strategies appear to be in place, requiring visitors to use designated entry or exit points to access the buildings and their surroundings. Inside the buildings, internal surveillance cameras were installed at different angles.

I wish that in the future, we may have the opportunity to explore additional areas or interact with staff members to gain a deeper understanding of the security measures in use.



Paulina FLORJANOWICZ (Poland)

National Institute for Museums

Once again thank you very much for your hospitality and perfect organisation of the ICMS2023 conference in Tokyo. I feel privileged to have been able to be a part of it.

We safely returned home, Krzysztof and I, and went back to our office, but we did not forget about our “homework” for you, regarding the security measures at the Nikko World Heritage Site.

1. I didn't see “exit” or “emergency exit” signs inside the historic buildings, especially the shrines. If a fire would start in them, people would not know where to go and which way they should get out.

2. As a non-Japanese speaker I think it would be difficult for me to get around the site without a guide. We were there with a guide so we were instructed where to go. Otherwise, I think we would be disoriented with no clear path for the site.

3. There are a lot of different signs, information plates and other labels, both in Japanese and English. It is a bit overwhelming. Some refer to security, some to historic facts (these are actually unified) and some to souvenirs sales etc. I think it would be much more helpful for the visitors, also security wise, if there was one unique visual identification/corporate design for the whole site, so the visitor would know immediately if the given sign is important or just informational or promotional.

These are my remarks, from the perspective of a non-Japanese speaking museum visitor and I hope it helps.

Kind regards



Pavel JIRÁSEK (Czechia)

ICOM Czech Republic

Excursions to UNESCO World Heritage Site Nikko - Toshogu Shrine, Fuji Art Museum and Takao Heritage Site brought many and new experiences. The participation of ICMS members in the fire drill at Museum 599 was very inspiring. Great organization by Japanese colleagues, a friendly atmosphere and excellent food enhanced the unforgettable experiences of the entire conference.

I thank all the organizers - the management of the National Museum and the Fuji Art Museum, as well as all the volunteers and translators. I learned a lot. Special thanks go to Satoshi Steven Sugiura for the brilliant management of the entire ICOM ICMS conference.

At UNESCO World Heritage Site Nikko, during the tour I focused on technical protection systems that significantly increase the level of protection of objects against various threats. At the same time, they consider the occurrence of fire as the most serious threat to wooden historical buildings. This can happen due to defects in electrical installation, carelessness of the operator or service suppliers, or even for natural reasons - e.g. lightning strike. Arson is a separate chapter, what has to be taken in consideration. Effective preventive measures are a fire alarm system, an automatic fire extinguishing system, or even a modern video surveillance system based on infrared cameras or with a smoke detection function. These devices were installed in the Nikko Toshogu Museum, but not on the objects in situ. I also noticed the absence of these technical systems in the Takao Heritage Site. But perhaps they are so perfectly hidden that they are not visible to an educated visitor.

However, if they are not installed, I dare to recommend that you start thinking about it. You can always find a way to maximally satisfy aesthetic requirements (for their installation) and safety requirements.

Thank you very much!

どうもありがとうございます!

Hans-JÜRGEN HARRAS (Germany)

Former Head of Security
National Museums of Berlin – Foundation of cultural property of former state Prussia

I enjoyed our visit to the Nikko Toshogu Shrine during the ICMS meeting 2023 very much. I liked the peaceful atmosphere there. The shrine is a really impressive site.

Because you asked for having an eye especially on security and safety I will give you some remarks: I have seen some video cameras which seems to be watching the scene and the most important points. But I wasn't able to recognize where the videos are being watched.

In the wooden buildings of the shrine I wasn't able to recognize if there are smoke detectors installed or not. If there are some they are very well hidden. I would like to recommend to have some portable fire extinguisher there, so that in the case of a fire it could be extinguished very fast.

On the trails in the shrine area are some stairs. I would like to recommend to install handrails on both sides on the stairs (and maybe in the middle) to support elderly and handicapped people to use the stairs.

The guards in the shrine buildings are very attentive but in the same time well hidden and polite. I wouldn't have recognized them when there were no action from them necessary.

In summary I have to admit that the security and safety in the shrine is on a very good level and everything worked very well. You have to deal everyday with a huge amount of visitors and that has been handled very nice.

Many thanks for everything!



Ilgvars IMŠA

ICOM and ICMS member,
the Deputy Director of Literature and Music Museum, Riga

As part of the ICOM Security Conference and kind invitation of the Ministry of Culture of Japan, on October 13, 2023, we visited UNESCO Heritage site- Shrines and Temples of Nikko (Complex) with the aim to evaluate the security perimeter from the perspective of daily visitor, and possibly suggest recommendations.

The Complex area is protected under the 1957 Natural Parks Law. The property area of 50.8 ha, which includes the buildings mentioned above, is also protected under designation as a Historic Site by the 1950 Law. Under the law, proposed alterations to the existing state of the property are restricted and any alteration must be approved by the national government.

I drew attention to the fact that the expert was not provided with in-depth information on the type, scope and technical solutions of the security used in the Complex. Expert did not meet or consult with the administration of the Complex or representatives of the Security Division. The aforementioned expert conclusions are made exclusively based on personal observations when visiting the complex as a visitor, interested in culture.

It is not possible for the expert to assess the protection of the property and the objects in it against natural disasters such as storms, typhoons, heavy rains, but it can be concluded that from its geographical location the property of buildings is well protected from flooding, since property is located in a mountainous area. At the same time the Complex is located in the forest area, and under the influence of strong winds there is a risk that ancient trees can cause damage to individual buildings or infrastructure when breaking and falling. Therefore, periodic checks of arborist are of high importance.

It can be concluded that in the event of a forest fire, as well as in the event of a short circuit of the power supply, lightning strike or accidental and deliberate burning, there is a risk of ignition of wooden buildings, structures, and objects in the property. At the same time, expert does not exclude, that wooden buildings and objects in the Complex are protected with special impregnated anti-combustion materials, which reduces the spread of fire, in order to minimize the impact of a fire accident. The Complex is located in a hard-to-reach location, expert is aware that the museum has close cooperation with local firefighters who use firefighting

transport specifically suited to the highlands and forests and also work closely with local communities.

Looking at Shrines and Temples of the Nikko site the expert got impression that the Complex wasn't vulnerable during the working hours. In the territory of Complex there is a sufficient number of service personnel, supervisors, cashiers, souvenir sellers who, if necessary, could eliminate the looming violations of the law and ensure physical security.

The security protection of the complex after working hours and during the twilight and night hours is a cause for concern, since there was no impression that the property was properly protected and enclosed around the perimeter and in case of unauthorized entry, the damage from the villains and vandals would be promptly identified and stopped. This observation is solely expert's assumption from what could be seen, although security cameras and other technical solutions to prevent, potential vandals, were not noticeable, it is highly possible that technical solutions such as motion sensors and thermal cameras or infra sensors are deployed.

I am sure that the management of the Complex has a well-developed contingency plan, with risks identified and described including management solutions for each individual situation.



Kim COVENT (Belgium)

Ghent Local Police

Dear ICMS colleagues,

The ICOM ICMS annual meeting 2023 in Tokyo was a complete success. The reception and the venue were excellent, thank you so much; but also, the program, the speakers, and the excursions were on point. The network that you brought together had an invaluable worth for me and it was a luxury to meet all these people in person. Thank you to the organization in Tokyo for an exceptional event and a personal thank you to the ICMS Board for their support in getting me to Japan. I really appreciate your support.

I would like to start by apologizing for my delayed response, but I have now set some time aside to complete the homework. It is, of course, very reasonable to ask the participants for feedback and additional insights. I do hope that you received many answers and that my contribution can provide some added value. The assignment was to give a personal review of the safety and security measures/situation at the various heritage sites we have visited. I did not include the Tokyo National Museum at Ueno in my overview.

Kegon Falls, Nikko (Tochigi)

What is it: Surrounded by the breathtaking landscape of Nikko National Park, Kegon Falls' water flows from Lake Chuzenji, the country's highest natural lake, and cascades in a 97-meter drop into a rocky plunge pool surrounded by greenery. There are two ways to view Kegon Falls, a free upper deck to see it from above, and a lower observatory for a head-on view, accessible by an elevator for a small fee.

Safety issues: Once you take the elevator to the observatory, you are stuck. In case of an emergency, it seems that all visitors are forced to either stay outside and try their luck on the mountain or use the two elevators back to the ground floor. This is a safety risk. During our visit, we didn't see a ramp for people with disabilities, but I assume there are alternative ways to reach the platform besides the one all the other visitors take. Also, since there is a shop on the visitor's platform, there may be a different service elevator to replenish stock and merchandise. I read online that the site used be famous for suicides (beginning of 20th century). I don't know if that is the reason why metal fences are constructed

around the stairs and platform, but even if so: they won't deter people who are determined to cross them.

Security issues: The elevator and tightly designed rows for queuing may invite pickpockets.

Nikko Toshogu Shrine

What is it: Nikko Toshogu Shrine enshrines the most famous samurai leader Tokugawa Ieyasu. Its carved and brilliantly decorated structures are part of the Shrines and Temples of Nikko UNESCO World Heritage site. This includes the original carving that inspired the 'see no evil, speak no evil, hear no evil' maxim.

Safety issues: I didn't see many immediate safety issues, especially since we were introduced to a very impressive Japanese safety preparedness concerning fires, floods, earthquakes, and volcano eruptions. I understand the need for respect by removing our shoes, but I don't like the consequence of people walking around in a somewhat vulnerable state without protective footwear in case of an emergency.

Security issues: There were no visible security guards on site, nor visible cameras, or other security technology. I would be most concerned with a) vandalism by unknown offenders to the cultural heritage objects and b) theft from or assaults on the monks performing the traditional demonstrations in the shrine.

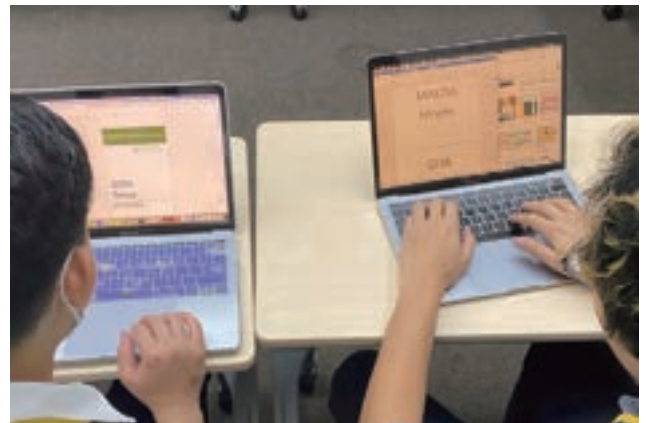
Nikko Toshogu Museum

What is it: The Toshogu is a smallish museum with a great collection of artifacts and guide to the history of the site. The museum shows two informative films in Japanese.

Safety issues: None that I became aware of during my visit.

Security issues: None that I became aware of during my visit. Most of the object were well protected, maybe a few small items were susceptible to vandalism or theft.





Operational Support List for ICOM-ICMS Conference 2023 in Tokyo

ICOM-ICMS Tokyo Conference 2023 Support Staff (in alphabetical order)

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- Eiki IMAMURA - Ayame
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- Kazuo UNNO - Megumi
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- Shinjiro SATO - Nikko Security Service Co., Ltd.
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- Taiga MITANI - OICHOC Co., Ltd.
- Takaaki YASUE - Ueno Seiyo-ken
- Takahiro ASANO
- Tanimmal Thanyaporn **【Disaster Security Inspection Sites】**
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- Takashi HASEGAWA - Shirakawa-go (World Heritage)
- Takami TSUMURAYA - Himeji Castle (World Heritage)
- Victor S. KUWAHARA - Nijo Castle (World Heritage)
- Yuya KUBO - Mount Takao (Japan Heritage)
- Kenrokuen Garden, Kanazawa
- Kanazawa Castle
- Tokyo National Museum
- Tokyo Fuji Art Museum
- Nikko Toshogu Treasure Museum
- Kyocera Museum of Art, Kyoto
- Takao 599 Museum