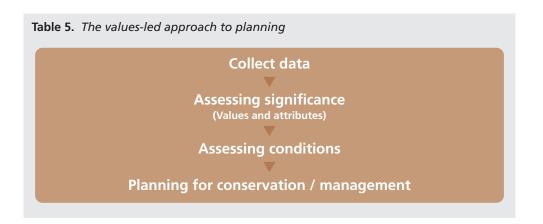


This approach has been widely adopted worldwide and has had both beneficial and disadvantageous aspects. The recently developed values-led approach seems to be gaining popularity for its ability to address some of the complexities surrounding heritage and in particular its applicability to World Heritage.

The values-led approach

The values-led approach is, in many ways, a response to the recognition of the increasing complexity of heritage. It evolved in various parts of the world, for instance in Canada and the USA, and became better known through the Burra Charter, first developed by ICOMOS Australia in 1979 and subsequently updated. The Charter promoted the assessment of the significance of a place – based on the values attributed by all stakeholders (not only by the experts) and the use of a Statement of Significance – as a basis for developing conservation and management strategies. This concept was developed further by the work on Conservation Plans of James Kerr (1982). He brought a systematic approach to developing conservation and management plans based on values and, more importantly, on the cultural significance of a heritage place to society. This approach adopts the premise that people in society ascribe various values to heritage.



This approach has been further developed elsewhere, for example by English Heritage in its Guidance on Conservation Plans: