

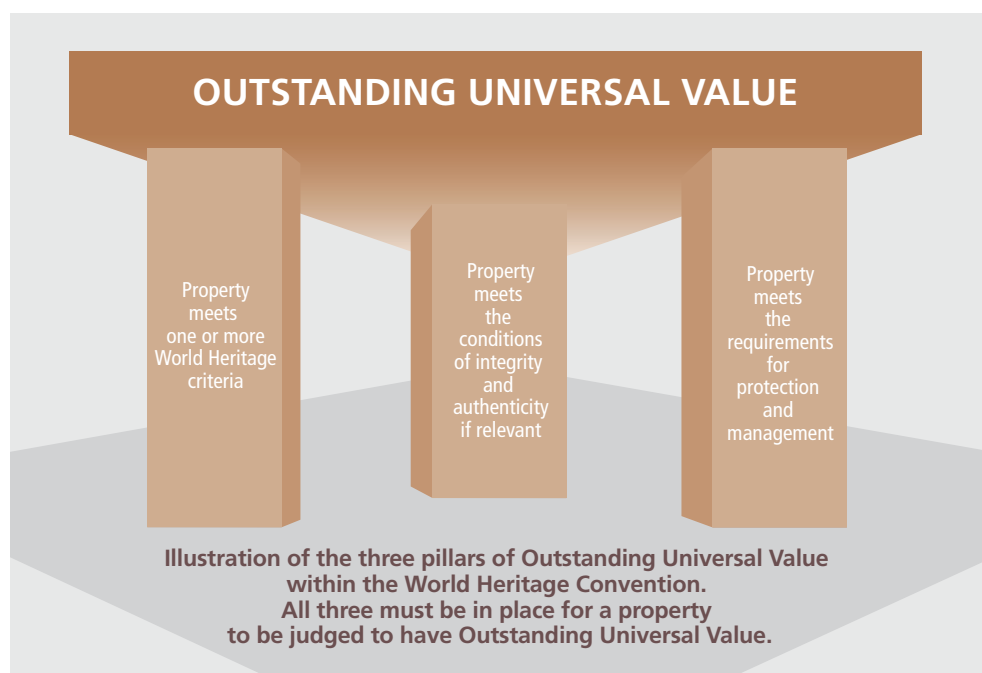
of Outstanding Universal Value was contained in the 2005 *Operational Guidelines* and is repeated in subsequent revisions including the 2012 edition:

*'Outstanding Universal Value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity'* (OG para 49).

However, OUV has a broader dimension that needs to be understood when justifying it for nominations and that in turn will form the foundation for managing the property. The OG state with regard to OUV:

*To be deemed of Outstanding Universal Value, a property must also meet the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity and must have an adequate protection and management system to ensure its safeguarding.* (OG paras 77-79)

A property needs to meet these three requirements of Outstanding Universal Value to be included on the World Heritage List (see diagram below):



**Diagram 3:** The three pillars of Outstanding Universal Value. *Source: IUCN (2007).*

### Managing OUV

Section 3 (OG Annex 5) of the nomination format provides for the elaboration of OUV. Guidance to complete this section is provided in the Resource Manual *Preparing World Heritage Nominations* (see under the headings of criteria, authenticity, integrity and management and its relationship to the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) which will form the basis for future management of the property in order to protect OUV).

### Criteria

Criteria for assessing Outstanding Universal Value were established much earlier. Modified on various occasions, the ten criteria currently used by the Committee for both cultural and natural heritage are: