

<b>Institution:</b> Newcastle University		
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 34 Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, Library and Information Management		
<b>Title of case study:</b> Strengthening Cultural Property Protection During Armed Conflict and Peacekeeping Operations		
<b>Period when the underpinning research was undertaken:</b> 2003-2018		
<b>Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:</b>		
<b>Name(s):</b>	<b>Role(s) (e.g. job title):</b>	<b>Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:</b>
Peter Stone	Professor	1997-present
<b>Period when the claimed impact occurred:</b> August 2013-2020		
<b>Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014?</b> N		
<p><b>1. Summary of the impact</b></p> <p>This case study demonstrates significant change to policy, practice, and behaviour, nationally and internationally, by politicians and the military, heritage, and humanitarian sectors regarding Cultural Property Protection (CPP). Stone's research has led to a very high profile, which has enabled practical action, which has resulted in significant impact.</p> <p><b>Nationally</b>, research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led to the establishment of a new Ministry of Defence CPP Unit in 2018;</li> <li>• Contributed to the passing of the UK's 2017 Cultural Protection (Armed Conflicts) Act and subsequent ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two Protocols of 1954 and 1999 (hereafter 1954 HC).</li> </ul> <p><b>Internationally</b>, research led to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of UNESCO's only Chair in CPP and Peace;</li> <li>• Restructuring and strengthening of the Blue Shield (advisory body to UNESCO on CPP);</li> <li>• Stronger implementation of CPP as a responsibility and opportunity within NATO;</li> <li>• Development of CPP as an aspect of peacekeeping training and practice;</li> <li>• Embracing of CPP as an important aspect of the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); and</li> <li>• [text removed for publication]</li> </ul>		
<p><b>2. Underpinning research</b></p> <p>This case study is based on research carried out by Stone since 2005 that has addressed the need for a wholesale change of policy, practice, and behaviour across the political, military, heritage, and humanitarian sectors regarding CPP. Parts of the impact from this research have been delivered by others in the UNESCO Chair team at Newcastle (Emma Cunliffe and Paul Fox) established on the back of Stone's research, supported in Cunliffe's case by her own research (e.g. her 2017 <a href="#">article</a> 'Heritage Destruction: lessons from the Middle East and North Africa region for post-conflict countries').</p> <p>Stone's research has been based on, and has influenced, close interaction with colleagues in these different areas, understanding their circumstances and constraints, while opening their eyes to responsibilities and opportunities associated with CPP. Publications have moved from a reflective discourse of charting failure, by all of the above sectors, to identifying the philosophical and practical changes required, from all sectors, if cultural property is to be better protected during armed conflict. The research since 2005 has comprised: one co-edited and one edited book on CPP [PUB2, PUB3] and sixteen peer reviewed academic articles and/or book chapters. Many of these refer to the same issues, and advocate the same actions, but are targeted at different academic and/or practitioner communities. Six key publications are discussed below.</p> <p>Stone's key research began with his 2005 article 'The identification and protection of cultural heritage during the Iraq conflict' [PUB1] and his 2008 co-edited book <i>The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Iraq</i> [PUB2]. Both are reflective contributions on failure by all sectors and chart the lack of understanding of the importance of CPP and therefore the failure to implement proactive CPP practice. <i>Destruction</i> was described in the <i>Times Higher Education</i> (31 July 2008) as "an extraordinary achievement that will stand as the definitive account of the desperate, avoidable,</p>		

*cultural tragedy of Iraq*” and won the prestigious 2011 Archaeological Institute of America, James R Wiseman Award, the citation of which noted “...*this book has the ability to open a wider dialogue between specialists and the general public about cultural heritage issues that resonate on a global scale*”. These brought him to the attention of politicians and those in the national and international community involved in CPP. Nationally, for example, a copy of *Destruction* was requested by both the UK’s Iraq Inquiry and the (then) Department for Culture, Media, and Sport Select Committee, to which Stone was invited in 2008 to give written and oral evidence; internationally, his research led to invitations to brief politicians and speak at military, heritage, and humanitarian conferences and restricted meetings. Since 2013, he has spoken at 46 international academic/military meetings in 23 countries; presented at 18 national academic/military meetings; and given 21 presentations to the general public/non-Newcastle students.

Central to his publications has been the acknowledgment that if the heritage sector wants cultural property to be protected during armed conflict (and peacekeeping operations) it needs to work in partnership with politicians, the military, and humanitarians. Not all accepted this, and Stone was accused of “providing academic and cultural legitimacy to the invasion [of Iraq]” (Hamilakis, Y. 2003, *Public Archaeology*, 2: 107). Stone’s response was the 2011 edited book *Cultural Heritage, Ethics and the Military* [PUB3], in which he outlined why and how engagement with the military was a legitimate and much needed heritage stance, but in which he was forced to paraphrase his critics’ arguments as they would not contribute to a book in which other contributors were serving in the armed forces.

Stone’s research addressed the importance of CPP to the humanitarian sector e.g. in his 2012 article “Human Rights and Cultural Property Protection in Times of Conflict” [PUB4] and the need for political/ legal policy leadership, which led to him being invited to co-author the 2012 policy brief “The value to the UK of ratifying the 1954 Hague Convention...” and the [co-authored briefing-paper](#) (with Cunliffe and Fox) for the 2018 NATO Summit.

His 2013 “4 Tier Approach” article [PUB5], outlined the four times heritage specialists need to work with the military if effective CPP is to become a reality (long-term; immediately pre-deployment; during conflict; post-conflict), and his 2016 article “The Challenge of Protecting Heritage in Times of Armed Conflict” [PUB6], republished in 2019 with minor modifications for a military audience as “The Seven Risks to Cultural Property In The Event Of Armed Conflict”, outlined the wide-range of threats to the cultural heritage and how they could be mitigated with better planning and behavioural practice.

### 3. References to the research

[PUB 1] 2005 “The identification and protection of cultural heritage during the Iraq conflict: a peculiarly English tale”. *Antiquity*, 79:306:933-943. Peer reviewed journal. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003598X00115054>.

[PUB 2] 2008 (Co-edited with Joanne Farchakh Bajjaly) *The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Iraq*. Boydell & Brewer, Woodbridge. Paperback 2009. (224 pages). Available on request.

[PUB 3] 2011 (edited) *Cultural Heritage, Ethics and the Military*. Boydell & Brewer, Woodbridge. (228 pages). Available on request.

[PUB 4] 2012 “Human Rights and Cultural Property Protection in Times of Conflict”. *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, 18(3), 271-284. Peer reviewed journal. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13527258.2012.651737>.

[PUB 5] 2013 “4 Tier Approach in the Protection of Cultural Property”. *British Army Review*, 159, 40-51. Available on request.

[PUB 6] 2016 “The Challenge of Protecting Heritage in Times of Armed Conflict”. *Museum International* 2016, 67(1-4), 40-54. Peer reviewed journal. Republished in 2019 as “The Seven Risks to Cultural Property In The Event of Armed Conflict” In *British Army Review, Culture in Conflict Special Edition*, (102-113). Available at: [https://www.army.mod.uk/media/6862/bar\\_special\\_culture\\_conflict\\_web.pdf](https://www.army.mod.uk/media/6862/bar_special_culture_conflict_web.pdf)

### 4. Details of the impact

Stone’s research has had a wide national and international impact and its significance is seen **nationally**, in the MoD establishing a new CPP Unit as a direct result of Stone’s article [PUB5] and in its impact on the UK passing new national legislation and ratifying existing international law; and **internationally**, through influencing and changing policy, practice, and behaviour in

UNESCO, the Blue Shield, UN Peacekeeping deployments, the ICRC, UN Human Rights, [text removed for publication], and NATO.

### National impact

Stone's early underpinning research [e.g. PUBS1-4] led him to be asked to co-author the 2012 UK National Commission for [UNESCO Policy Brief](#) on why the UK should ratify the 1954 HC, which was a key background document used for briefing Ministers, Members of both Houses of Parliament, and civil servants during the 2016-17 debates on the ratification of the 1954 HC.

Following his 2008 evidence to the DCMS Select Committee, Stone was asked for advice by civil servants, Ministers, and Members of both Houses of Parliament during the passing of the Cultural Property (Armed Conflicts) Bill in 2016-17 and subsequent ratification of the 1954 HC & Protocols. He was personally thanked by numerous speakers during these debates [IMP1] and, in one private meeting was referred to by a Minister as the "*mother of the Bill*" [IMP2].

The Commanding Officer of the UK's new Cultural Property Protection Unit wrote: "*In 2017 Parliament ratified the Hague Convention... as a result of which [the Ministry of] Defence established the Cultural Property Protection Unit (CPPU) in 2018, to ensure that UK Armed Forces respect and protect cultural property during the conduct of military operations. Having sat through the Parliamentary debates as the Convention made its way through Parliament, I am very much aware of the influence that Prof Stone had on that process*" [IMP3], Stone's 2013 '4 Tier Approach' article [PUB5], "...prompted me to write the military paper which has, post-ratification, resulted in the development of the policy, doctrine, geospatial data, education, training and the CPPU in Defence, with much of this work to put the structure in place to deliver CPP taking place now" [IMP3]. Not since the Second World War has CPP been so comprehensively integrated in the UK's armed forces. Given the Newcastle's UNESCO team's profile, Fox and Cunliffe were asked to write the UK Blue Shield's Position Paper on the *UK Implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention* [IMP5a].

### International Impact

Stone's research brought him to the attention of **UNESCO** and enabled Newcastle University to successfully apply to establish a UNESCO Chair in CPP and Peace, the only such Chair in the world (<https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/list-unesco-chairs.pdf>), predicated on the development of research, policy, and practical delivery of better CPP. "*In light of the good results achieved... [and]... confirmed by the positive evaluation of its activities*", the Chair was renewed from January 2020 for a further four years (letter from UNESCO 9 May 2019).

Stone's impact on the **Blue Shield** (advisory body to UNESCO on CPP) has been "...immense..." [IMP4]. In particular his 2011 *Ethics...* book [PUB3], 2013 '4 Tier Approach' article [PUB5], and his 2016 'Challenge' article [PUB6] "...provide much of the philosophy of and framework within which the Blue Shield Board and all Blue Shield national committees work, and which form a central part of the military training materials produced by the Blue Shield" [IMP4]. The two articles [PUB5, PUB6] have both (the latter with minor modifications) been formally adopted as Blue Shield policy [IMP5b]. His research has given Blue Shield "...the credibility to be currently developing a formal MoU with UNESCO and, unthinkable until Stone laid the foundations, the ICRC" [IMP4].

Stone's research and role as UNESCO Chair led to the development of a closer relationship between the Blue Shield and **ICRC** which led to the signing of a MoU in February 2020 [IMP7]. This is an unprecedented development within the Humanitarian response to CPP.

Stone's 2012 "Human Rights and CPP in Times of Conflict" article [PUB4] was part of his research that attracted the attention of the **UN Special Rapporteur for Cultural Rights**. Stone supported the Special Rapporteur in her preparation of her first (2016) report to the UN General Assembly, that set-out a human rights approach regarding the intentional destruction of cultural heritage (IMP8a), by attending specialist international meetings [e.g.IMP8b], providing reference material and contacts, and organising, through the UK national committee of the Blue Shield, a London workshop during which she tested her ideas. Stone's 2016 *Museum International* article (PUB6) was cited in the Report (IMP8a). Never before had this issue been addressed as a human rights issue at this level at the UN (IMP8b).

Newcastle's UNESCO team, led by Paul Fox, has stimulated "*a significant raising of awareness of the importance of CPP within [NATO]*" leading to the signing of a Letter of Intent in

June 2020 [IMP9]. This followed an unprecedented level of activity (2017-2020) including:

- “Working on NATO exercises in particular Trident Jaguar (2018) and Trident Jackal (2019);
- Commenting and supporting the writing of a Direction and Guidance Document for NATO Command Structure on CPP (CPP Directive);
- Working with the NATO Rapid Reaction Corps in the UK and Greece;
- Supporting the development of a better geo-spatial data base for the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict;
- NATO asking the UNESCO Chair team to write the CPP briefing document for the 2018 NATO Summit, which was a great success;
- Dr Stone in particular being invited to speak at the NATO CPP Conference in Brussels in April 2019” [IMP9].

The CPP Directive is a particularly significant impact as it is the first step towards NATO developing a CPP Policy that will require all 29 Member States, and quite probably most of its 40 Partners, to formally implement CPP into their education, training, and operational standards. Stone was invited (9 December 2020) to join a restricted NATO High-Level Event on Human Security (26 February 2021), that will lay the groundwork for the development of principles and guidelines for CPP, and then a working group that will support the development and drafting of a policy for the NATO Council for anticipated approval by mid-2021. The geospatial standards developed by the UNESCO team are being included in The Multilateral Interoperability Programme (MIP), a military standardization body comprising 24 member nations, the European Defence Agency, and NATO, <https://www.mimworld.org/portal/projects/welcome/wiki/Welcome>.

[text removed for publication] As with other impact noted here, this contributes to ensuring the sustainability of the research and impact activities associated with CPP.

Stone also advised the NATO Civilian/Military Centre of Excellence on its 2015 publication *CPP Makes Sense* for which he was awarded a special commendation plaque as “a token of appreciation for his contribution”. The publication integrates Stone’s ‘4 Tier Approach’ into suggested good practice. The Newcastle team was asked to comment, and did so, on NATO’s Allied Rapid Reaction Corps’ Note: *CIMIC & Human Security in Corps Warfighting*, that is to be incorporated into standard practice. The UNESCO team was thanked for the “very helpful and positive response” (email from Allied Rapid Reaction Force, 2 June 2020) and have had further input into the redrafting of this document.

Most of the training and education delivered by the team relates to CPP in armed conflict. However, the team has also developed a specialist focus on CPP for **Peacekeeping** deployments, training staff of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), and the Directorate General of Antiquities three times, as well as the Fijian Army (2018) and Irish Defence Forces (IDF) (2019). As a result, the IDF is in the process of getting CPP approved as an official course within its training system (IMP6a). The UNIFIL and Fijian training was carried out in cooperation with the relevant UNESCO Regional Offices (see below) and the UNIFIL training led to an MoU between the Blue Shield, UNIFIL, and others in October 2020 and to a partnership between Blue Shield, UNIFIL, and LAF to help secure and stabilise buildings in Beirut following the devastating 4 August 2020 explosion (IMP10).

**Four brief examples** illustrate how highly Newcastle’s UNESCO team is regarded internationally for its impact on training and education related to CPP (IMP6):

**UNESCO Regional Office Beirut (regarding UNIFIL training):** “In all of his work Professor Stone brings a depth of knowledge about how and why CPP is important not only to the military, but also, more importantly, to the individuals and communities whose lives are interrupted and frequently destroyed by armed conflict. He has been a great friend and colleague to this regional office, but I am also aware he works on a very wide international stage. The Newcastle Chair in CPP&P has been very influential on raising the profile of CPP&P internationally” (IMP6b).

**UNESCO Regional Office in the Pacific (regarding Fijian Army training and wider CPP activity):** “Prof Stone... has actively engaged in building capacity in CPP and promoting the 1954 Convention in the Pacific island states”. He has “...facilitated CPP work in the Pacific by supporting the institutional development of Blue Shield Pasifika (BSP), helping its participation in the General Assembly of the Blue Shield (Vienna 2017) as well as the Australia Blue Shield Symposium (Canberra 2018). He further assisted the Fijian authorities to invite a [Blue Shield] resource person ... to ... help deliver... the Training of Trainers for the Integration of CPP in Military Training (Fiji,

2018). His strong support has resulted in the formal recognition of BSP as a regional committee of the BS in early 2019” (IMP6c).

**US Air Force Culture & Language Center (AFCLC):** The UNESCO Chair in CPP&P “is a team which conducts research of the highest calibre and then applies and integrates those insights with a diverse range of partners to make the protection of cultural property a reality. Our relationship with the Newcastle team is vital as AFCLC continues to develop exercise support standards and scenario templates to challenge decision-making regarding cultural heritage/property and broader sociocultural dynamics in such command-level, joint, multi-national and multi-domain exercise and war gaming environments” (IMP6d).

**Antalya Bilim University, Turkey:** “Professor Stone has been helping us plan a new undergraduate degree in Heritage Management which will be the first of its kind in Turkey... [his] overall contribution has been extremely helpful and the degree will be significantly stronger and more relevant because of his thoughtful contributions - many based on his personal experience throughout his long career. His insights and understanding regarding the importance of cultural heritage to communities, to cultural property protection in the event of armed conflict, and to the interpretation of the past and how heritage might be used as a means of promoting peace and understanding, have been particularly helpful. All will be integrated into the new course” (IMP6e).

Taken together the underpinning research has had a major impact on the national and international acceptance of the importance of CPP by supporting new legislation, ratification of international humanitarian law, establishment of a new military unit and influencing and supporting change in international military, heritage, and humanitarian organisations. As indicated above, the work continues and future impact will establish the importance and long-term legacy of the research.

## 5. Sources to corroborate the impact

**IMP1** Extracts from Hansard.

**IMP2** Email from Head of Cultural Property, DCMS (11 January 2017).

**IMP3** Letter from Commanding Officer UK MoD’s CPP Unit (21 November 2019).

**IMP4** Letter from President of the Blue Shield to Newcastle University’s Vice Chancellor (20 November 2019).

**IMP5** (a) UK Blue Shield’s Position Paper on the UK Implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention: <http://ukblueshield.org.uk/uk-blue-shield-position-paper-on-1954-hague-convention-s-17-offence-guidance/>; (b) The Blue Shield Approach to CPP: <https://theblueshield.org/about-us/what-is-the-blue-shield/>.

**IMP6** Email correspondence with UNESCO Chair Team at Newcastle re training and education: (a) Irish Defence Forces, 30 December 2019; (b) UNESCO Regional Office Beirut, 26 March 2019; (c) UNESCO Regional Office in the Pacific, 21 March 2019; (d) US Air Force Culture & Language Center, 21 March 2019; (e) Antalya Bilim University, 25 March 2019.

**IMP7** MoU between Blue Shield and the ICRC (13 February 2020).

**IMP8** (a) Report of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights: <https://undocs.org/en/A/71/317>; (b) Invitation letter from the UN Special Rapporteur to CPP workshop.

**IMP9** Letter from Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, NATO (1 April 2019).

**IMP10** Video of post-explosion work in Beirut (2 November 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KaiR39mzaE>.

Supporting evidence for all other sources referred to in the text is available on request.