Preserving Human History in Space – a Path to Sustainable Development and Peace

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What is Sustainability?
Preserve and Learn
World Heritage Sites
One Giant Leap for (Hu)mankind

• July 20, 1969: humanity’s first footsteps off our planet Earth and to the stars.
• They mark an achievement unparalleled in history, and one that is common to all humankind.
Centuries of Science From Around the World

• Eratosthenes (Greece) – used the sun to measure the (round) Earth.

• Abd al-Rahman al-Sufi (Persia) – made the first known observation of the Amdromeda galaxy.

• Copernicus (Poland) – proposed that the Earth revolved around the Sun. A theory supported by Galileo (Italy).

• Zu Chongzhi (China) – accurately measured an Earth year and successfully predicted the number of times the Sun and the Moon overlap.
The Sites Memorialize the Work of Thousands, if Not More

Ron Creel – Apollo Lunar Roving Vehicle Team Member for Thermal Control Solutions (Recommended)
MMSEV-Like Rovers/Habitat Can Provide Isolation for Protection
They Came in Peace for All
Human Milestones
An Archaeologist’s Dream

• Confirmation of humans as “an exploratory, migratory animal.”

• The Lunar Landing Sites are the first archaeological sites with human activity that are not on Earth.

• The Sites are frozen in time. Undisturbed by wind or rain. Untouched by any other human – or any living organism – since.

• They represent one of the most important technological developments in human history.

*Ben Finney, From Sea to Space.
**Lisa Westwood, Archaeology and Heritage of the Human Movement into Space.
Protections Under International Law.

- Outer Space Treaty
- Liability Convention
- Registration Convention
- Rescue and Return Agreement
  - All are silent with respect to the preservation and protection of human cultural heritage.
  - But they do affirm the concept that no nation may claim sovereignty over any territory in space.
But What About the Sites?

- Recall Article II of the Outer Space Treaty: "outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means."
- Under UNESCO, nations can only nominate sites within their territory.
- The Moon cannot, pursuant to international law, be considered the territory of any nation.
ACTUAL PLAQUE FROM APOLLO 11 FIRST LUNAR LANDING! "HISTORIC" 1-OF-A-KIND!!
Recovered from the Sea of Tranquility!

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Convention on the Preservation and Management of Human Heritage in Outer Space

• Precedent is available for a multilateral solution:
  • UNESCO World Heritage
  • Underwater Heritage Convention
  • Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty
For All Moonkind

- Nonprofit organization.
- Leadership and administration are entirely volunteer.
- Three Advisory Councils/Three part solution
  - Legal: draft Convention and MOU with private organizations
  - Education and Awareness: multimillion dollar experiential campaign targeting children and encouraging STEM education
  - Archaeological and Heritage: recognized experts in space archaeology
We are all volunteers

Passionate about space, passionate about history, but most important, passionate about community and creating a future in space that is spurred by healthy competition, yes, but built on a foundation of collaboration.
Our Challenge: Recognize Preservation as a Sustainable Goal

• Sustainability is preservation.
• Sites offer materials that we can study, recycle and maybe even reuse.
• Preservation is the foundation of a sustainable community, in this case, a community of humans taking its first tentative steps off Earth.
• Preservation creates cooperation. Understanding and celebration of our shared past will help build stronger partnerships in the future.
• We will do the groundwork.
Our Future Depends on History