State of Conservation of the World Heritage Properties in the Asia-Pacific Region

INDONESIA

Prambanan Temple Compounds

II.1 Introduction

Year of Inscription 1991

Organisation Responsible for the Report
- Development of Culture and Tourism Board
- Department of Development and Preservation of Culture
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II.2 Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria Ci, iv

Statement of Significance
- Proposed as follows:
  “Prambanan temple compound consists of Prambanan Temple (also called Lorojonggrang), Sewu Temple, Bubrah Temple and Lumbung Temple. Prambanan Temple itself is a complex consisting of 240 temples. […] All the above mentioned temples form the Prambanan Archaelogical Park.”

While Lorojonggrang, dating from the 9th century, is a brilliant example of Hindu religious bas-reliefs, Sewu, with its four pairs of Dwarapala giant statues, is Indonesia’s largest Buddhist complex. With over 500 temples, Prambanan Temple Compound represents not only an architectural and cultural treasure, but also a standing proof of past religious peaceful cohabitation.

Status of Site Boundaries
- Zone 1 should be revised as it does not cover all the archaeological remains surrounding Prambanan and Sewu temples. Zone 2 (buffer zone) should be free of any archaeological remains, the problem being today that the four main temples are actually included in the second zone.

“The main objective of extending the preserved zone to outer temples is to make sure that the “Prambanan Temple Compounds” WH property truly represents Prambanan as the capital of Ancient Mataram Kingdom.”

II.3 Statement of Authenticity / Integrity

Status of Authenticity/ Integrity
- The World Heritage value is considered to have been maintained.

II.4 Management

Administrative and Management Arrangements
- Relevant national laws include: (i) Regulation No. 9 regarding tourism (1990); (ii) Regulation No. 5 regarding World Heritage Properties (1992); (iii) President Decree No. 1 regarding the management of Borobudur, Prambanan, Rato Boko Archaeological Park & its Controlling Area (1992); (iv) 4 ministerial decrees on registration, ownership, protection & research in WH properties issued between 1993 and 1995.

- Relevant regional laws include: (i) Regulation of Yogyakarta Special Region no. 6, 1997 regarding the determination of 7 ‘cultural preservation areas’; (ii) The Governor of Yogyakarta Special Region’s Decree no. 236/KPTS/1995 regarding the establishment of cultural preservation community.

- The ongoing management plan implemented in 1953 not only deals with environmental arrangements and temple conservation and restoration, but also insists on visitor management and enhancing of security regulations.

Present State of Conservation
- The regular monitoring of the Prambanan complex showed the following modifications: (i) oxidation & stone cracks due to the use of iron-hoes in the 1953 restoration of the Siwa Temple; (ii) wearing-out of stone due to an increase in the number of visitors; (iii) using cement instead of stone; (iv) natural factors affecting the monuments such as rain, water, ultraviolet rays, micro-organisms & grass growing on the stone surfaces.

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- The restoration of the other temples included one main temple (Perwara Lumbung) and 8 auxiliary temple restorations, as well as the replacing of the 8 giant Dwarapala statues of Sewu Temple.

**Staffing and Training Needs**
- The Prambanan Conservation Unit (SPSP DIY) employs 104 people. The Sewu Conservation Unit (SPSP of Central Java) employs a dozen people. The Prambanan complex unit (Taman Wisata Candi Prambanan), which deals with the entire temple compound, currently employs more than 210 people, half of them being contractual staff members.
- Additional staff is needed in the archaeological and architectural domain, in heritage management, and in technical conservation.
- Technical training of staff in conservation and measuring skills is needed. GIS training and general management training is also considered to be beneficial to the proper protection of this WH site.

**Financial Situation**
- Conservation and management of the WH Property is financed entirely by the Indonesian State, but funding is considered insufficient.
- No figures provided.
- International Assistance from WHF as follows: (i) 1999, US$5,000 On-site promotion at Borobudur and Prambanan (not implemented).

**Access to IT**
- There is no on-site operational access to the Internet, nor is there a GIS for the site.
- No other information provided

**Visitor Management**
- The Prambanan Temple Compound attracted 754,720 tourists between January and September 2002, 679,366 were domestic tourists.
- Visitor facilities include: information centre, guides, exhibitions, restrooms, parking lot, museum, restaurant & souvenir shops.
- More restrooms, electronic monitoring equipment, facilities for the disabled and multi-language notice boards are still needed.
II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

Threats and Risks
- Increasing visitor pressure, resulting in wearing-out of stone and vandalism.
- Development of local communities in zone 3, threatening the harmony of the site’s landscape.
- Extensive stone erosion (between 0.1 and 7.6 cm deep) on Prambanan and Sewu temples.
- Stone damage due to rainwater infiltration from the temple roofs and growth of moulds, fungus, etc.
- Potential natural disasters such as earthquakes (either tectonic or volcanic).

Counteractive Plans
- “During school holiday, the number of visitors is more than maximum capacity, so that another potential tourist destination should be found by the government in order to spread out the visitors.”
- The government’s participation in the control of properties in zone 2 is low. “Its participation should be increased by activating Dinas Tata Kota (City Planning Service) to use and manage the land, so that the environment developing does not threaten the preservation of the temple and communities’ residences are better distributed.”
- Co-operation is planned with the Borobudur Study and Conservation Institute to do research on stone erosion.
- Presently, there is no emergency plan or risk preparedness plan for the World Heritage property.

II.6 Monitoring

Monitoring Arrangements
- A monitoring mission was organized by UNESCO in 1995 in the framework of the WH Monitoring Programme.
- The WH site undergoes regular monitoring from local authorities, although no formal monitoring system has been set up.
- Monitoring observations have been undertaken in co-operation with the Borobudur Study and Conservation Institute, the Gadja Madah University in Jakarta and the Institute of Environmental Health Engineering.

Monitoring Indicators
- The following indicators are being used regularly during monitoring missions: (i) stability of the temples with regard to the first measurements in 1984; (ii) stone density of temple measurements implemented in 2000; (iii) stone stair erosion; (iv) peeling off of stones under the temples’ structure as observed in 1992 and 2002.

II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

Conclusions and Proposed Actions
- “The important value of Prambanan Temple Compound has raised since [it was] registered on the World Heritage List in 1991.”
- The distribution of authority, funding and conservation duties between the PT Taman Wisata Candi Borobudur, Prambanan and Ratu Boko, the provincial and regional government and other institutions is unbalanced.
- The Presidential Decree of 1992 that determines the management of Indonesian World Heritage Properties has to be revised in order to transfer 20% of the entrance fee resources to the preservation and development of the Prambanan Temple Compound.
- “The Body of Developing Culture and Tourism is still responsible for preservation efforts until the present day.”
- A management development strategy is currently being elaborated and includes following actions: (i) widening of the management of the Prambanan temples to the cultural heritage located on the hills nearby; (ii) creation of an organization for planning and controlling management in the area; (iii) “environmental impact control is implemented with tight management control and supported by related institutions”; (iv) improving community participation in cultural and environmental preservation by revising current regulations.

* No State of Conservation Reports