



Summary State of Conservation Report 2015 Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works, Chile (C 1178)

The State Party reports in regard to the 38 COM Decision and on the implementation of corrective measures established in the Desired State of Conservation adopted at the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee:

Due to the earthquake that affected the north of Chile beginning of April 2014, no new works could be undertaken in the framework of the Priority Interventions Programme. The Site Manager defined a new list of priority interventions due to the earthquake, and the State Party requested International Assistance of the World Heritage Fund to design these interventions and implement two of them. The State Party is expecting the results of the evaluation.

The updated Management Plan is being submitted, both in printed and electronic version. Two projects of assessment of the state of conservation of materials in the property, which will be useful as inputs for the development of a Conservation Plan, will be implemented during 2015. In the framework of a study for the Modification of the Local Regulatory Plan of Pozo Almonte the requirements for the territorial protection of the Site will be collected.

The “Heritage Interpretation Plan” of the Site is in place, including the corresponding audio tours and interpretation signs. In 2014 begun the restoration and fitting out of the General Store (*Pulpería*) of Humberstone as the “Saltpeter Era Interpretation Center”, and work was carried out on the restoration design for the ex-General Hospital and the Administration House of Santa Laura, to be fitted out as the “Iodine Museum”.

According to the Saltpeter Museum Corporation’s Risk Prevention Plan, during 2014 was approved by the Security Mutual the Internal Regulation for Order, Hygiene and Security, which means it is legally binding. During 2014 was maintained night and day surveillance of the property, with a total of 8 guards. This will be maintained in 2015; no thefts were reported. The same team as reported in 2012 will be kept in charge of the management of the Site.

As success factors for the removal of the property from the In Danger List is considered the progress made regarding the establishment of a Ministry of Culture and the process of design of a National Programme for World Heritage Sites, with the participation of different Ministries.