II.1 Introduction

Year of Inscription 1983

Organisation Responsible for the Report
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II.2 Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria C iii

Statement of Significance
- Proposed as follows:
  "It is one of the most important and robustly built
  strongholds of the Mughal Period, embellished with
  number of richly decorated buildings
  encompassing the imposing Mughal style of art
  and architecture. The Fort, semi-circular on plan
  and surrounded by 70 feet high double rampart
  and moat successfully withstood the onslaught of
  time, nature and men, and still survive in fairly
  good condition of preservation."
- The report proposes an extension to the property.

Status of Site Boundaries
- The demarcation line and buffer zone are
  adequate.
- No revision needed to the site boundaries.

II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity

Status of Authenticity/Integrity
- Values and authenticity/integrity well preserved.
- Few changes to the authenticity/integrity, tourism
  pressure and visitor facilitation has necessitated
  some alteration in the originality (integrity) of the
  property. All of these interventions and alterations
  are add-ons.

II.4 Management

Administrative and Management Arrangements
- The ASI needs co-operation from local authorities
  to enforce laws, in order for them to be properly
  implemented.
- Act of 1958, amended in 1992 is enough for the
  protection.
- Overall management made at the local and
  national levels. The above arrangements are
  considered sufficient.
- Management plan: the Xth five year plan, drawn-up
  in 2002, foresees such arrangements.
- So as to preserve the values in the future, a site
  management plan is under preparation by the ASI,
  ADA & TCPO.

Present State of Conservation
- Successive major intervention since 1997.
- Changes since inscription: At present, the
  statement of conservation is satisfactory. However
  some "cosmetic conservations" are required in
  many places.

Staffing and Training Needs
- Staff total number: 70 Staff. Not sufficient to
  monitor the site. It is necessary to increase the
  personnel and install monitoring and control of
  visitors.
- The staff need training in computer, visitor
  management, study and preparation of lime and
  GIS.

Financial Situation
- Sources of funds from Central Government.
- Funding is not sufficient. No details provided.
- * International Assistance from WHF, UNESCO,
  and various sources: none.

Access to IT
- No computers, no email or Internet access.
- No use of GIS.
Visitor Management

- Various facilities: 2 sets of toilet blocks, drinking water point, ASI publication counter.
- Needed facilities: interpretation orientation, information kiosk, toilet blocks, water points, ramps for physically challenged visitors, rest areas, publication counters, library and research centre, etc.
- Plan for public use: no existing plan.
- Communication WH values through: cultural days, national days, publications and website.
- Educational programmes: no such programmes exist. However, students are occasionally invited and get involved in various creative or educational activities to create a feeling of relatedness with the monument.
- Role of the inscription into the List of World Heritage: place of special importance, increased visitors, and researchers. Brings the property under various types of pressure.

Monitoring Indicators

- Regular monitoring systems exist to survey the structure and ambience, with documented reports (photos) and archives.
- Cracks monitored with tell-tale glasses. So far, no formal key-indicator have been fixed.
- For Air quality, through a Central Pollution Control Board.

II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

Threats and Risks

- Development pressure: population, vehicles, tourism based economy, poor and/or inadequate infrastructure, increase of hotel facilities, increase of small scale industries.
- Environmental pressures: no mention.
- Natural disasters and preparedness: no mention.
- Tourist/visitor pressures: floors and approachable portions of the monument bear the consequences of tourist inflow. Vandalism.
- Inhabitants in buffer zone: no mention.

Counteractive Plans

- No emergency plan.
- Actions: ASI liaisons with local administration for help in difficult situations.
- Improvements needed: sophisticated systems for screening visitors and to survey crowd movements.
- Impacts of factors: increasing.
- Measures adopted or planned: development of green belts, creation of a Heritage zone bringing Agra Fort and Taj Mahal as part of the "Taj Ecocity".

II.6 Monitoring

Monitoring Arrangements

- A monitoring system in place.
- Partners: no partners involved at present.
- Foreseen improvements: establishment of some formal key indicators and use of modern gadgetry.

II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- Management and factors affecting property: legal arrangements could be effective if properly implemented; repairs carried-out, manpower increase necessary to monitor and control visitors and a visitor management plan is badly needed; staff training needed; visitor facilities needed, visitor management plan, under preparation.

* State of Conservation Reports

1997 Committee, WHC-97/CONF.208/8BRev

Serious surrounding air pollution deteriorated the white marble, stone inlays and sandstone of the three sites. The ASI and Government have systematically cleaned the surfaces, replaced deteriorated panels, and taken measures to reduce air pollution by imposing restrictions on industries. The planned construction of a new industrial complex was recently prevented. However, a comprehensive assessment of the origin and impact of pollution is necessary. A French private enterprise will provide US$ 236,735, to fund a three-year research project for the conservation of the Taj Mahal and monuments at Agra Fort and establish a conservation laboratory in Agra Fort. This will fund UNESCO participation in the TA-2474, funded by the Asian Development Bank.

"The Bureau took note of this information and requested the Indian authorities concerned to keep the Secretariat informed on the progress of the research project, the establishment of the conservation laboratory, and of the TA-2474".