

Earliest 16th Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl, Mexico Cultural site inscribed in 1994

These 14 monasteries stand on the slopes of Popocatepetl, to the south-east of Mexico City. One of them is the ex-convent of Yecapixtla built in the 16th century. They are in an excellent state of conservation and are good examples of the architectural style adopted by the first missionaries — Franciscans, Dominicans and Augustinians — who converted the indigenous populations to Christianity in the early 16th century. They also represent an example of a new architectural concept with open spaces of renewed importance.



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<u>Project objectives:</u> Focusing on young people, the activities of the WHV-Zacualpan project are expected to complement the local conservation efforts via the involvement of international volunteers.

<u>Project activities:</u> The volunteers will work on cleaning the site and the surrounding areas and on developing a better local understanding of WH issues with guided tours and presentations at elementary and high schools. Furthermore, volunteers will have the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the Village main festivity in which the ex-convent is used as the main scenario.

<u>Partners:</u> Several institutions such as the Parish de Rosary Virgen, Morelos institute of Culture, the Municipality and the Tourism Office of Zacualpan or the INAH Morelos will facilitate the material and organisational implementation of the project.

Nataté Voluntariado Internacional A.C. Contact: Nicolas Aguilar

natate@natate.org





