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MISSION REPORT / RAPPORT DE MISSION

Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China) (705)
Ensemble de bâtiments anciens des montagnes de Wudang (Chine) (705)

8- 13 March 2014

This mission report should be read in conjunction with Document:
Ce rapport de mission doit être lu conjointement avec le document suivant:

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**REPORT ON THE MISSION TO THE ANCIENT BUILDING COMPLEX IN THE
WUDAN MOUNTAIN, (CHINA) (705)
FROM 8 TO 13 MARCH 2014**



Photo @ UNESCO/Feng JING

Feng JING (UNESCO World Heritage Centre)
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The mission is grateful to Mr GUANG Qiang, Mrs LU Qiong, and Mr LIU Yang and Mr SI Mao from the Department for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Professor LU Zhou from School of Architecture of Tsinghua University and Ms CUI Ming from the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage .These people kindly spent their time with the mission traveling to the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains and shared their knowledge and wisdom. The mutual respect and understanding displayed greatly inspired the mission team and its findings. The open and frank discussions with competent national and local authorities ensured a better understanding of the obligations by the State Party within the framework of the 1972 World Heritage Convention. We are also thankful to the Deputy Director-General of SACH, Mr TONG Mingkang and his staff to organize the mission, as well as Mr ZHOU Ji, Mayor of Shiyan City of Hubei Province, for taking the time to attend a debriefing meeting during the mission.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

In 1994, the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (705) was inscribed on the World Heritage List under cultural criteria (i), (ii) and (vi). The inscription recognized the property for its palaces and temples, which form the nucleus of this group of secular and religious buildings noted for their exemplary portrayal of the architectural and artistic achievements of China's Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. The palaces and temples of the Ancient Building Complex are located amongst the peaks, ravines and gullies of the picturesque Wudang Mountains in Shiyan City, Hubei Province of China. Established as a Taoist centre from the early Tang Dynasty, some Taoist buildings can be traced back to the 7th century. The surviving buildings exemplify the architectural and artistic achievements of China's secular and religious buildings of the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. The Ancient Building Complex reached its apogee during the Ming Dynasty, following a major building campaign undertaken by Emperor Zhu Di to align his imperial regime with Taoism.

Today, this vast complex encompasses four Taoist palaces and two temples built in valleys or on terraces, with many monasteries and cliff temples clustered around them, distributed regularly across the landscape and linked by a network of sacred roads. The serial property consists of 53 ancient buildings and 9 architectural ensembles.

At its 37th session, the World Heritage Committee examined the most pressing conservation issue affecting the integrity and authenticity of the property. The 'Lift-up and Protection Project of Yuzhen Palace of the property, which aims to protect the Yuzhen Palace from the flooding that will arise after implementation of the National South-North Water Diversion project to increase the capacity of the Danjiangkou Reservoir in Shiyan City, Hubei Province. The capacity of the reservoir is to be increased by heightening the dam wall from 1620 meters to 176.6 meters, thus increasing the water level from 157meters to 170meters and the storage capacity of the dam from 7.7 billion cubic meters to 11 billion cubic meters. A result of the predicted increase in the depth of the lake there will be a significant rise in water level further along the Shuimo River, which places the Yuzhen Palace at risk of flooding. The water diversion project is set to be completed at the end of 2014, thus the lift-up project of the Yuzhen Palace must be finished prior to that date.

At the conclusion of the project, the Palace complex and its immediate surroundings will become a peninsula of about 85,000 square metres within the reservoir. The area inside the wall of the Palace covers an area of 28,000 square metres, including the east palace ruins of 7,700 square metres, the west palace ruins of 11,822 square metres, and the central palace accounting for 8,400 square metres. Work on the project is almost completed, as the first phase of the reservoir project leading to the increase in water levels is due for completion by the end of 2014.

In this context, the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM note that although the Yuzhen Palace project has been planned since 2007, no information was provided to the World Heritage Committee before work commenced in summer 2012, as required by Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines. Thus there has been no opportunity for the Advisory Bodies to comment on this project before the work is almost complete.

Although the structure of the Yuzhen Palace will be saved, its relationship with the surroundings will be altered. After the conclusion of the project, the Yuzhen Palace will become a waterfront property on the bank of Shuimo River. In spite of the stated intention

that the project should preserve the integrity and authenticity of the Palace as well as the relationship of the Palace to the other components of the property and to the overall landscape and the property's authenticity and integrity, these would all be compromised by these alterations.

At the invitation of the State Party of China, and in accordance with Decision 37 COM 7B.60, a joint World Heritage Centre-ICOMOS-ICCROM reactive monitoring mission visited the property from 8 to 13 March 2014. The mission was conducted by Mr Feng JING, Chief of the Asia and the Pacific Unit of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Paris), Ms Lynne Di Stefano, Cultural Heritage Expert and Professor, Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong representing ICOMOS International and Mr Joseph King, Site Unit Director, International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM). The principal objectives of the mission were to have a full understanding of the potential negative impact of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and to consider the way the mechanics of the project had addressed in relation to other component parts of the property. The mission also aims to address how the issues that have been raised by this project, in connection with the inter-relationship of the buildings within the property to each other and to the entire landscape, could be addressed within the proposed Conservation Management Plan.

The mission met with representatives from a wide range of government agencies and institutions, as well as representatives from the religious community with site visits to several component parts of the property.

Key Findings

Key issues addressed during the mission and in the State Party report involve the above-mentioned project to raise-up the Yuzhen Palace (one of 62 component parts of the serial property) above the level of the new Danjiangkou Reservoir, and the overall management system for the property.

Project to raise up the Yuzhen Palace: This project was planned in 2007, and implementation begun in 2012 without details being presented to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. The mission was informed that, in response to the imminent flooding, the State Party had considered three options:

Scheme one: Dismantling the palace and reassembling it at a different site.

Scheme two: Leaving the palace in situ and protecting it with a surrounding dike on the exposed sides.

Scheme three: Lifting parts of the palace (three gates); and dismantling/removing all other parts including archaeological remains, and reassembling/reinstalling them on a new earthwork platform, 15 meters above the original ground level.

After consideration by a team of Chinese experts, the third scheme was selected and the work carried out beginning in 2012. At the time of the mission, the wooden buildings and archaeological remains had already been dismantled/excavated (documented and numbered) and put into storage near the site. In addition, the three gates had already been lifted, and the work undertaken to construct the earthwork platform. The platform was near completion with only final compacting of the infill to be completed. Once that work has been completed and a number of other details finalized, work will then begin on the re-erection of the wooden palace buildings and the replacement of the archaeological remains.

The mission found that the technical quality of the work carried out was excellent (details can be found in the State Party State of Conservation report). The mission noted, however that the raising up of this palace has necessarily changed the relationship of the palace to its setting. In the case of Yuzhen Palace, the spatial dimension is important, especially the relationship of the complex to the surrounding landscape. In particular, with the change in height, the surrounding hills are less pronounced and less effective in the context of *feng shui* (geomancy).

The mission further identified five key issues for the ongoing work:

1. the shape of the final earthwork platform;
2. reinstallation of archaeological remains;
3. landscaping of the final earthwork platform;
4. site usage;
5. site interpretation.

Management System for the Property: The mission team was presented with the current management system for the property. It was also presented with an outline of the *Master Plan on Conservation Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains* which was still under elaboration at the time of the mission. The mission pointed out four key aspects of the management that need reinforcement as the planning process continues in order for the OUV of the property to be fully sustained. These issues include:

1. development of a living heritage management approach for this serial property that takes into account the entirety of the cultural landscape rather than looking at the 62 component parts as individual elements that need protection;
2. management of tourism development to ensure that tourism infrastructure does not overwhelm the delicate landscape setting of the property;
3. respect for the carrying capacity of the individual elements of the property;
4. harmonization of the various planning instruments that cover the World Heritage property, Wudang Mountains Special Zone, and Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area .

Conclusion and mission recommendations

The Mission held open and frank discussions with the competent national and local authorities and concluded the following main recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Lift-up Project at Yuzhen Palace and Corrective Measures

It is regrettable that the project to raise-up the Yuzhen Palace was not presented to the World Heritage Committee in 2007 when the idea was first considered. It may have been possible for a solution, other than the three schemes developed by the State Party, to have been considered which could have had less impact on the OUV of the property. The lack of adequate consultation appears to reflect the lack of an adequate management structure at the property.

It is clear for the mission that the raising up of the Yuzhen Palace has caused a change in the relationship between the palace and its setting and context, both in terms of its relationship to the surrounding hills, and to the agricultural land which will now be submerged by the reservoir. It should be noted that the Yuzhen Palace is one of only 62

component parts of the property. It does, however, undoubtedly contribute to the overall OUV of the property, and all components part of the property should be equally safeguarded in the interests of protecting the OUV.

The mission found that the technical quality of the work carried out was quite high (details can be found in the State Party State of Conservation report). The mission noted, however that the raising up of this palace has necessarily changed the relationship of the palace to its setting. In the case of Yuzhen Palace, the spatial dimension is important, especially the relationship of the complex to the surrounding landscape. In particular, with the change in height, the surrounding hills are less pronounced and less effective in the context of *feng shui*.

The mission further identified five key issues for the ongoing work:

1 Platform Shape. The mission team recommends that an organic design in keeping with the natural topography of the site be used. This recommendation is made with the knowledge that considerable cost may be involved, but the team believes that the current design has a negative impact on the understanding of Yuzhen Palace including its setting.

2 Reinstallation of archaeological remains (East and West Palaces). The mission team recommends, with reservations, that the archaeological remains of the East and West Palaces be reinstalled at the new grade level (and in the exact planar location) providing that the impact on authenticity is clearly stated. (More will be said about authenticity under 7.5.)

3 Platform landscaping. The mission team recommends, and wholeheartedly supports, the landscaping of the grounds to as natural a state as possible. The mission team further recommends that photographic documentation of the site be consulted and that the choice of trees and shrubs be substantiated by a survey of nearby tree and shrub types in the natural environment. It may also be useful to reference other complexes within the property.

4 Site usage. The mission team recommends that the planned usage of the site, whether passive use or active use, be systematically considered – and in reference to maintaining the significance of the site and especially its relationship to other attributes of the property. In considering a new use for the site, the principle of the new use being as close as possible to the original use should be followed. This will be one of the very few ways of maintaining the “Spirit of the Place.” (As mentioned in 5.4 and 6.4, the use of the site directly relates to the need for a comprehensive tourism plan with an in-depth analysis of carrying capacity for the entire property.)

5 Site interpretation. The mission team recommends that the interpretation of the site be expanded to include the changes to the site noting in particular the necessity for the changes, the different options and the final decision. The team also recommends that the positive aspects of the “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project” be shared with the community, especially the systematic recording, documentation and information management of the project. At the same time, the impact on the authenticity and integrity of the site needs to be clearly explained.

It will be important that the State Party implement the above recommendations, particularly in regard to the final shape of the earthwork platform which should follow a more natural contour of the land rather than creating a more artificial peninsula effect. Further consideration must also be given to the final disposition of the archaeological remains that have been excavated from the property, as well as to the eventual landscaping, interpretation, and use of the Palace.

Recommendation 2: Management system and buffer zone identification

In regard to management, the mission recognized that the State Party is carrying out ongoing work to reinforce its management and monitoring framework at the property. There are serious concerns, however, that this framework must take into account the fact that this property is a living heritage site which must incorporate religious leaders and community members into the management system. The mission also considered crucial that from a management perspective, the property be treated as a cultural landscape, since the OUV of the 62 individual components cannot be protected without taking into account the entirety of the sacred landscape. For this reason, it will be of utmost importance to ensure that the various tools and plans developed for the World Heritage property, the Wudang Mountains Special Zone and Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area are harmonized so that a single management system can be put into action. In keeping with this landscape approach, the State Party should also confirm that the buffer zone of the property includes the entire Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area, as acknowledged at the time of inscription, rather than the 62 component parts with individual buffer zones as submitted during the retrospective inventory exercise.

Special attention must also be paid within the management system to avoiding the overdevelopment of tourism infrastructure within the property and within its larger cultural landscape. The mission found that tourism development has begun to reach a critical mass which could cause significant changes to the property if not controlled. Further, although the carrying capacity of the individual component parts has been considered, there is a need to enforce these limits, especially at peak tourism periods which occur several times per year. Many of the component parts are very fragile in nature and need constant monitoring and control if they are to be protected.

Recommendation 3: Clear vision setting for the Conservation Management Plan (CMP)

Although it appears that each individual conservation and/or redevelopment project has already been planned and implemented, they should be integrated into a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) in order to avoid unnecessary imbalance between tourism development and heritage conservation.

In this regard, the mission considers that there is no clear vision or strategy for future action, such as an estimation of incoming tourists in the future, commercial activities, and facility development in the Wudang Mountains. For example, cable cars and intrusive parking space within the property have been developed without a proper visitor management component in the current draft Conservation Management Plan. The CMP should study visitor management and draw the future plan to provide tourists with proper routes and facilities.

The Conservation Management Plan should also be closely coordinated with the local regional development plan of Shiyan city. In the long term, Wudang Mountains may well serve as a hub of tourist destinations in the wider area, such as Xiangfan, Shiyan and even Nanyang in Henan Province.

At the same time, the Conservation Management Plan should aim to protect traditional local culture by avoiding the excessive exposure of local life to tourists. Each conservation and improvement project should have a clear strategy and make it a priority to achieve these objectives. The case of the Yuzhen Palace lift-up project, which was planned and implemented without the correct property approval procedure, shows the lack of a clear strategy for cultural heritage protection and management.

Recommendation 4: Implementation of the Conservation Guidelines and CMP

A clear policy on the limits of acceptable change for each conservation intervention and/or reconstruction seems to be lacking. The decision making process is very centralised, always coming from the Director of Management Committee, which has to address the conservation of the whole scenic area, plus 62 components and the landscape of the property. Clear conservation guidelines should be formally implemented.

Also, coordination with other local bodies such as community organizations and Taoist associations is necessary to monitor the law enforcement situation, particularly in regards to the tourist related commercial activities around the heritage buildings and structures, and some conservation projects within the property.

The promotion and enhancement of the intangible heritage component such as Taoist festivals, Taichi and martial arts and Taoist music should be integrated into the CMP, as a cultural revival component for Wudang Mountains.

An operational monitoring mechanism or system should be integrated into the CMP with the involvement of the local population. As it is absolutely vital for the population to understand and be aware of the World Heritage property's value. This awareness should not be imposed with a top-down approach, rather, it should first emerge from the local population. In this regard, the Management Committee did a good job in mobilising the community as the principal protectors of the property, in particular protecting the landscape around the 62 component parts.

Recommendation 5: Heritage impact assessment for projects

The mission team is of the view that although inscribed as a building complex under cultural criterion (i) (ii) and (vi), the property should be maintained as a cultural landscape. Any further development/renovation projects should be very carefully planned and evaluated in line with the ICOMOS Guidelines on World Cultural Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) and follow proper decision-making and approval procedures.

It is therefore recommended, that one of the principal tasks for the Wudang Mountains Management Committee will be the evaluation and assessment of project proposals for change through techniques such as HIAs as well as environmental, visual, social and economic impact assessments, so that conservation and sustainable development may work together. Further training can also be provided by the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP, Shanghai). At the institutional level, it is recommended that the Management Committee should set-up a participatory planning, conservation and management process, involving regular consultations with different stakeholders involved in the property, and the community's direct participation in site management.

Recommendation 6: Capacity building and international exchange programme

The mission team was informed by the Wudang Mountains Management Committee that they would need improvements on strengthening exchange and cooperation with other

similar World Heritage properties to adapt to best practice and advanced experiences in heritage conservation and management. Also, there is a need for training on internationally recognised conservation concepts and practices, in particular those relating to cultural landscape and historic urban landscape development and conservation. The mission considers that in order to promote sustainable cultural heritage conservation, and enhance the management capacities of Wudang Mountains Management Committee, some on-site training activities and/or international exchange programmes could be organized to enable the site managers of Wudang to exchange experiences and good practices with other similar World Heritage properties in the world. It is suggested that the World Heritage Centre, WHITR-AP and ICCROM can organize some training workshops in Wudang Mountains on themes such as historic urban landscape management, heritage impact assessments.

Recommendation 7: Development of an overall Conservation Management Plan

In view of the alarming situation of this property, in relation to the lack of a clear strategy for cultural heritage protection and management that was reflected in the Yuzhen Palace lift-up project, and in the magnitude of on-going development projects and visitor facilities at the property, it is suggested that the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM provide technical assistance in guiding SACH and the Wudang Mountains Management Committee to develop a Conservation Management Plan.

1. BACKGROUND TO MISSION

In 1994, the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (C705) was inscribed on the World Heritage List under cultural criteria (i), (ii) and (vi). The inscription recognized the property for its palaces and temples, which form the nucleus of this group of secular and religious buildings noted for their exemplary portrayal of the architectural and artistic achievements of China's Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. The palaces and temples of the Ancient Building Complex are located amongst the peaks, ravines and gullies of the picturesque Wudang Mountains, Shiyan City, Hubei Province of China. Established as a Taoist centre from the early Tang Dynasty, some Taoist buildings can be traced back to the 7th century. The surviving buildings exemplify the architectural and artistic achievements of China's secular and religious buildings of the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. The Ancient Building Complex reached its apogee during the Ming Dynasty, with 9 palaces, 9 monasteries, 36 nunneries and 72 temples, following a major building campaign undertaken by Emperor Zhu Di to align his imperial regime with Taoism. Today, 53 ancient buildings and 9 architectural sites¹ survive, including the Golden Shrine and the Ancient Bronze Shrine, which are bronze prefabricated buildings constructed in 1307; the stone-walled Forbidden City of 1419; Purple Heaven Palace built originally in the 12th century, rebuilt in the 15th century and extended in the 19th century; the Nanyang Palace of the 12th and 13th centuries; the Fuzhen Temple of the 15th and 17th centuries; and the stone Zhishi-Xuanyue Gateway built to mark the entrance to the Wudang Mountains in 1522.

The buildings in the Wudang Mountains exhibit exceptional architectural art and technology and represent the highest level of Chinese art and architecture achieved over a period of nearly 1,000 years. They are examples of religious and secular buildings closely associated with the growth of Taoism in China and lavishly endowed by successive Emperors. As an exceptionally large and well-preserved Taoist building complex it is important material evidence for studying early Ming politics and the Chinese history of religion.

Criterion (i): The ancient buildings in the Wudang Mountains represent the highest standards in Chinese art and architecture over a period of nearly one thousand years.

Criterion (ii): The Wudang buildings exercised an enormous influence on the development of religious and public art and architecture in China.

Criterion (vi): The religious complex in the Wudang Mountains was the centre of Taoism, one of the major eastern religions and one which played a profound role in the development of belief and philosophy in the region.

In terms of integrity and authenticity, all the 62 ancient buildings and sites have been included in the property boundaries surrounded by extensive buffer zones with signs and enhanced safety control. Besides carrying out necessary works on the property such as cleaning, reinforcement, termite prevention and fire prevention, the principle of respecting the authenticity is strictly adhered in terms of maintenance and repair, so that the original condition of the property in terms of layout, specification, style and material are all preserved. Meanwhile, the setting of the property has been improved by relocating residents out of the property area, which helps to preserve the authenticity, as well as to restore the original setting.

¹ The text is quoted from the Statement of OUV adopted by the World Heritage Committee in July 2012. The figure here demonstrates all 62 component parts for the site when it was recognized as China's National Protection Unit in 1962. As a World Heritage site, it is composed of 49 component parts and the State Party will clarify this figure.

As a result of the planned national South-North Water Diversion project, the water level in the Danjiangkou Reservoir will rise approximately 15 meters. As a result some ancient buildings, in particular the Yuzhen Palace, will be elevated while some others may need to be relocated, which could impact the authenticity and integrity of the property.

After the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1994, small scale conservation work was carried out. In 1998, the World Heritage Committee requested the national and local authorities to incorporate sustainable tourism development strategies within the site management plan to ensure that the integrity of the site's cultural and historical setting is protected. In January 2003, the Director of the World Heritage Centre expressed his concern to the Chinese authorities over the news that some buildings of the Yuzhen Palace, one of the ancient palaces within the property, had been destroyed by fire. The Committee examined the state of conservation of the property in July 2004 and encouraged China's State Administration of Cultural Heritage to publicise the lessons learnt from this accident and to check the fire protection and other safety measures at all the cultural World Heritage properties and national treasures in China. The Committee further requested the State Party to strengthen its co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to mobilize technical assistance for enhancing preventive conservation mechanisms for timber architectural heritage in China. The fire of January 2003 highlighted the need for a better site Management Plan and stronger enforcement of existing governmental and local legislation protecting cultural property.

At its 37th session, the World Heritage Committee examined the most pressing conservation issue affecting the integrity and authenticity of the property. The 'Lift-up and Protection Project of Yuzhen Palace of Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains', which aims to protect the Yuzhen Palace from the flooding that will arise after implementation of the National South-North Water Diversion project to increase the capacity of the Danjiangkou Reservoir in Shiyan City, Hubei Province. The capacity of the reservoir is to be increased by heightening the dam wall from 1620 meters to 176.6 meters, thus increasing the water level from 157meters to 170meters and the storage capacity of the dam from 7.7 billion cubic meters to 11 billion cubic meters. A result of the predicted increase in the depth of the lake there will be a significant rise in water level further along the Shuimo River, which places the Yuzhen Palace at risk of flooding. The water diversion project is set to be completed at the end of 2014, thus the lift-up project of the Yuzhen Palace must be finished prior to that date.

According to the January 2013 report 'Report on the State of Conservation of Ancient Building complex in the Wudang Mountains, the implementation status of the project at the site is as follows;

- 2010: excavations carried out to establish the overall layout and structure of Yuzhen Palace. 3D scanning, modelling, extensive photography and 2D drawings were made of all existing buildings so as to provide detailed point locations for reconstruction;
- 2011: Beijing Traditional Chinese Landscape Architectural Engineering Company was contracted to carry out the dismantling and restoration of the cultural relics, the Hubei Provincial Academy of Building Research was contracted to carry out the lift-up works of the Temple Gates and Gates of the east and west Palaces and the Hubei Xinqi Construction Group Co. Ltd. to do the jacking up work.
- A warehouse was built to house all the dismantled heritage buildings.
- October 2011-February 2012: the ruins of the east and west palaces, palace wall, the complete structure of the central palace, courtyard, corridors, worship platform, and paving with golden bricks and other types of masonry and wood components dismantled.
- August 2012-November 2012: Gate of east Palace raised 7.5meters and the temple gate and west Palace gate raised 6meters.

- November 2012: Manual backfill and compaction of the internal area of the complex is 80% complete.

Built between the 15th and 17th centuries, the Yuzhen Palace is one of the most notable of the 53 buildings spread across the slopes of Wudang Mountain. The Yuzhen Palace lies on flat ground at the foot of the mountain and will be affected by the expansion of the Danjiangkou Reservoir as planned in the framework of the South-North Water Diversion Project implemented by the Government of China in order to optimize the allocation of water resources. As a result of raising the height of the Danjiangkou Dam, the water levels in the reservoir will rise between 8-19 meters and the Yuzhen Palace and other buildings will be in the submerged area. In order to 'save' the Palace, the South-North Water Diversion Project administration worked with cultural heritage departments of Hubei Province to formulate plans. Planning of the project started in 2007 and various options were considered including installing a cofferdam, in-situ lift-up and relocation. Taking into account principles of conservation, safety, technical difficulties in construction, project cost, project risk and operability, and other constraints, the in-situ lift-up option was selected. This means that the Yuzhen Palace and its surrounding land will be elevated by 15 metres to exceed normal water level.

In 2010, once the lift-up option had been agreed in principle, the Wudang Mountains Special Zone of Hubei Province, the Architectural Design and Research Institute of Tsinghua University and the Wuhan Changjiang Institute of Survey, Planning, Design and Research jointly designed the project. Three small-sized independent buildings, namely the main gate, the gate of the east palace and the gate of the west palace, have been lifted by 15 metres, while the other buildings have been removed and then reconstructed.

At the conclusion of the project, the Palace complex and its immediate surroundings will become a peninsula of about 85,000 square metres within the reservoir. The area inside the wall of the Palace covers an area of 28,000 square metres, including the east palace ruins of 7,700 square metres, the west palace ruins of 11,822 square metres, and the central palace accounting for 8,400 square metres. Work on the project is almost completed, as the first phase of the reservoir project leading to the increase in water levels is due for completion by the end of 2014.

In this context, the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM note that although the Yuzhen Palace project has been planned since 2007, no information was provided to the World Heritage Committee before work commenced in summer 2012, as required by Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines. Thus there has been no opportunity for the Advisory Bodies to comment on this project before the work is almost complete.

Although the structure of the Yuzhen Palace will be saved, its relationship with the surroundings will be altered. After the conclusion of the project, the Yuzhen Palace will become a waterfront property on the Shuimo River. In spite of stated intention that the project should preserve the integrity and authenticity of the Palace as well as the relationship of the Palace to the other components of the property and to the overall landscape and the property's authenticity and integrity, these would all be compromised by these alterations.

In this context, the Committee requested the State Party of China to invite a joint World Heritage Centre-ICOMOS-ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the property to facilitate a full understanding of the potential negative impact of the project on the OUV of the property and the care with which the mechanics of the project have been addressed in relation to the component parts of the Palace. The mission should also address how the issues that have been raised by this project, in connection with the inter-relationship of the

buildings within the property to each other and to the landscape, can be addressed within the proposed site Management Plan.

The joint Reactive Monitoring Mission to the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China) was carried out from 8 to 14 March 2014, upon request of the World Heritage Committee by its Decision **37 COM 7B.60** adopted at its 37th session in June 2013 (Phnom Penh, Cambodia). (See attached Annex 2). The Mission team was comprised of Mr Feng JING, Chief of the Asia and the Pacific Unit of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Paris), Ms Lynne Di Stefano (Canada), Cultural Heritage Expert from the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and Professor, Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong, Mr Joseph King (USA), Unit Director, International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM). The Mission was accompanied by Ms LU Qiong, Deputy Director-General, Department for Cultural Heritage Protection of SACH and her staff, as well as the staff of Wudang Mountains Management Committee. The mission visited a number of the component parts of the property: Yuzhen Palace, Danjiangkou Reservoir, Yuxu Crag/Palace, Taizi Slope (Fuzhen Temple), Golden Summit/Taihe Palace; Zixia0 (Purple Heaven) Palace, Nanyan Palace.

The reactive monitoring mission addressed the following key issues:

1. Assess the state of conservation of the property and factors affecting its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), authenticity and integrity, with particular attention to the potential negative impact of the Danjiangkou Reservoir Project in which Yuzhen Palace will become a peninsula within the enlarged reservoir instead of being connected to the foot of the mountain, with the result that its relationship with the landscape and with other buildings within the property will be compromised;
2. Review the management system and progress on the implementation of the Management Plan of the property and other relevant research and management guidelines for all stakeholders undertaking activities within the property;
3. In line with paragraph 173 of the Operational Guidelines, assess any other relevant conservation issues that may negatively impact the OUV of the property, such as the conditions of integrity, protection and management, including the status of the Management Plan and other plans;
4. Hold consultations with the Chinese national and local authorities and relevant stakeholders to review the progress made in addressing the concerns expressed by the World Heritage Committee in its previous decisions.

2. NATIONAL POLICY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

The Mission was informed by national and local heritage legislation and other legal frameworks governing the conservation and management of the World Heritage property. These include:

1. Law of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on Environmental Protection (1989)
2. Law of the PRC on the Protection of Cultural Heritage and its Regulation for Implementation (28 October 2002);
3. Regulations for the Implementation of the Law of the PRC on the Protection of Cultural Heritage (effective as of 1 July 2003);
4. Principles for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in China (May 2002, Issued by ICOMOS China)
5. China World Cultural Heritage Management Regulations (14 November 2006)
6. China World Cultural Heritage Monitoring and Inspection Principles (2006)
7. Regulations on Scenic Areas of China (2006)
8. Urban and Rural Planning Law of the People's Republic of China (28 October 2007)

Drawing from national laws and the 1972 World Heritage Convention, the Chinese government and local authorities developed the following documents and guidelines for the protection of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains:

- Measures for the Protection and Management of Cultural Heritage of Hubei Province;
- Regulations of Wudang Mountains Scenic Area of Hubei Province;
- Measures for the Planning of World Cultural Heritage of Wudang Mountains;
- Overall Planning of Wudang Mountains Scenic Area;
- Measures for the Administration of Culture Relics Preservation Projects;
- Measures for the Management of Renovation of Ancient Buildings;
- Principles for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in China;
- Urban Construction Planning and Tourism Development Planning of Wudang Mountains Special Tourism and Economic Zone;
- The Outline of the Master Plan for the Protection and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in Wudang Mountains (2011-2015);
- Implementation Plan of Daily Monitoring of Ancient Building Complex of Wudang Mountains

Since the 2003 fire at the Yuzhen Palace, a greater emphasis has been placed on enforcing the relevant legislations, guidelines and management plans of the property, as the relevant authorities have recognized how the implementation of such plans leads to better preservation, protection, display, and conservation of the property. The authorities have also recognized how proper management of the site can help to allow social and economic development to proceed in a way that is sustainable and non-damaging to the site. In order to achieve this, the State Administration of Cultural Heritage has contracted the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage and the Ancient Architecture Protection Centre of Hubei Province to develop the Master Plan for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in the Wudang Mountains. In support of this move Hubei Provincial Administration of Cultural Heritage has included legislation on 'Regulations on Protection of Ancient Architectural Complex of Wudang Mountains as a World Cultural Heritage' in an important work agenda and submitted a legislation proposal to the People's Congress of Hubei Province.

In 2006 relevant authorities recognized the need to increase the transparency and relevance of conservation work carried out at the property. In response they drew up two documents, 'Protection Planning of the Ancient Architectural Complex of Wudang Mountains during the Period of the 11th Five-year Plan' and 'Protection Planning of the Ancient Architectural Complex of Wudang Mountains during the Period of the 12th Five-year Plan'. As well the necessity of effective management, the requirement for conservation to be carried out in a standardized, institutionalized way was highlighted. To allow for this, the Cultural Heritage authority of Wudang Mountains Special Tourism and Economic Zone, under the guidance of Hubei Provincial Department of Cultural Heritage, developed 10 special management regulations. Through these most of the major potential safety hazards of the ancient buildings have been eliminated.

At present, the property is protected at the highest level by the Law of the Peoples' Republic of China (PRC) on the Protection of Cultural Heritage. The Management Committee of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone (hereinafter Wudang Mountains Management Committee, the site management), in which the property is located, exercises the local governmental responsibility and is exclusively in charge of protection, management, development, use, planning and construction in the Wudang Mountains scenic area. The Cultural Heritage Bureau, under the Management Committee, is responsible for the administration of cultural heritage in the Special Zone. The Institute for Cultural Heritage Conservation, a museum and 5 cultural heritage management departments are set under the Bureau to carry out conservation works. The 5 cultural heritage management departments are established according to the distribution of cultural heritage over the Mountains, and have clearly assigned staffing levels and scope of jurisdiction. With regard to the 28 remote component parts, voluntary conservators have been recruited from the villages where these sites are located to take care of them. At present, there are 84 such conservators that are professionally engaged in cultural heritage conservation.

Meanwhile, the "Four Legal Prerequisites" (demarcation of the boundaries, erection of an official plaque declaring a site a protected entity, creation of an archive for records, designation of an organization or person dedicated to management) and the 'five bring into' (bring into the economic and society development plan, bring into urban and rural construction plan, bring into the fiscal budget, bring into system reform, bring into leadership accountability system) for cultural heritage conservation have been achieved, and the heritage monitoring system and database have been established.

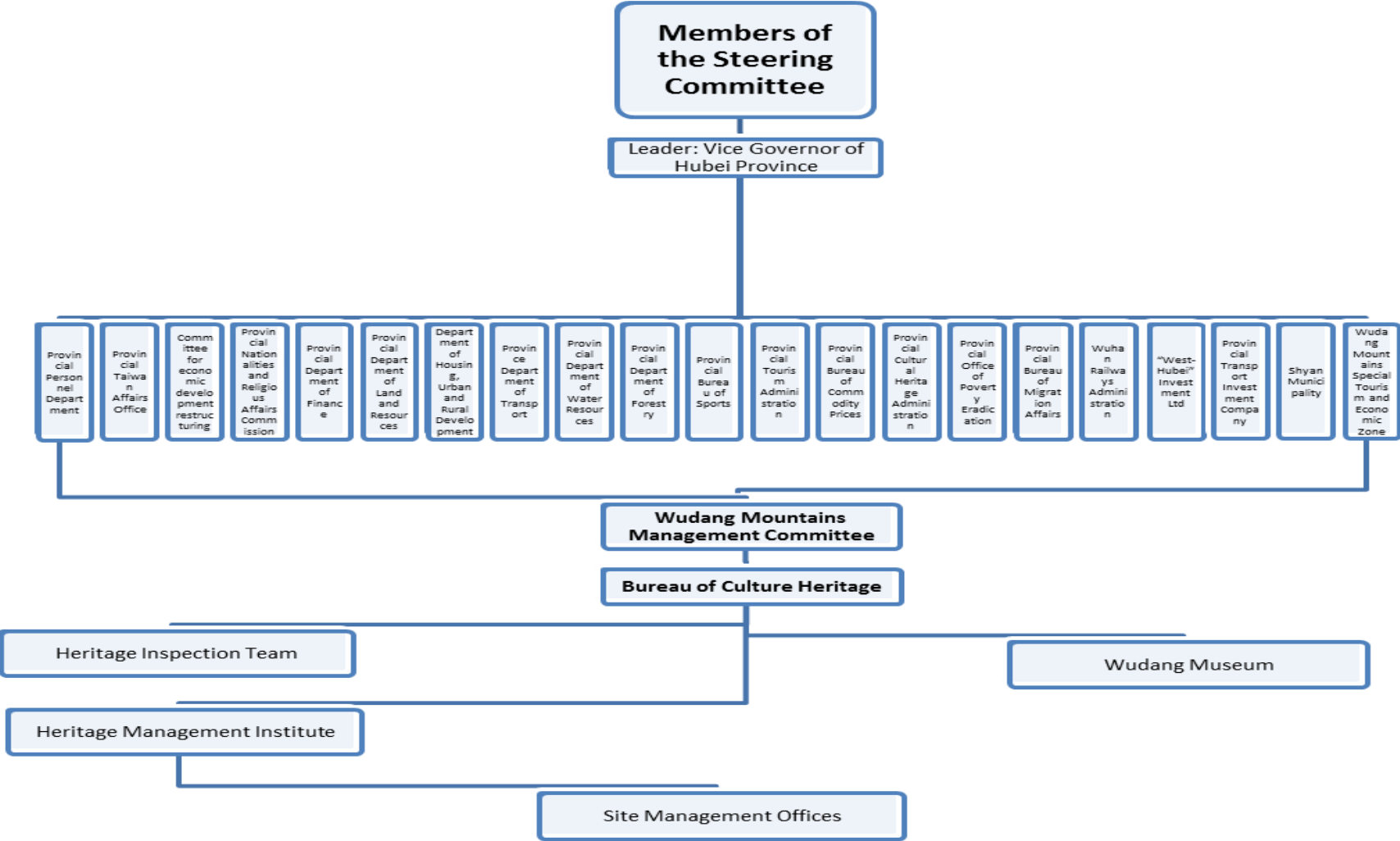
The Outline of the Master Plan of Wudang Mountains Scene Area, the Twelfth Five-year (2011-2015) Conservation Plan for the property has been developed, and the provincial government has issued laws and regulations including the Regulations of Wudang Mountain Scenic Area. The Master Plan for Cultural Heritage Conservation of Wudang Mountain is under preparation. Moreover, the top-level protection zone inside the Scenic Area has been expanded to coincide with the property boundaries. Farmers living in the property area have been relocated for better protection of the sites, while all constructions impairing the setting of the property have been demolished. The property is well managed and preserved through periodic, stringent and well planned maintenance and protection.

Theoretically, the legislative administrative system in place is adequate to ensure protection of the property. However, further improvement is required, in particular in terms of setting a broader vision for the protection and management of the property as a Cultural Landscape (the Chinese context of Scenic Area for Wudang Mountains), in integrating the tangible and intangible heritage values of the property and in coordinating the enforcement of different rules and regulations governing urban and rural planning, tourism development and heritage conservation.

In terms of institutional frameworks and management structure, it appears that there is a lack of coordination for the World Heritage property. In fact, a national system is in place to classify the three levels of protection (national, provincial and local/municipal). The property's status is Clearly defined as a national Scenic Area (supervised by the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Development). Some ancient buildings and monuments are classified as major sites for national protection (supervised by SACH). In general, it is forbidden to construct any building not necessary to the conservation of heritage sites in the property.

A clearance and assessment system for any construction plans in the buffer zones seems to exist. Any project planning and formulation within the property shall be entrusted to an entity with national planning qualifications, be assessed and monitored by experts, and the exercise shall be conducted in compliance with relevant national rules and regulations for project's examination and approval. However, the lift-up Project at Yuzhen Palace demonstrate a neglect of this commitment even though said commitment is in compliance with the requirements of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. In this regard, a closer and more effective coordination of different management entities is crucial for enhancing the conservation and management of the property.

Diagram of the Steering Committee for Wudang Mountains Special Zone of Hubei Province, China



It seems that there is also a monitoring framework being promoted by the SACH, starting from 2007. Regulations such as 'Administrative Measures for the Monitoring and Inspection of World Cultural Heritage in China' and 'Principles on the Advisory Management of World Cultural Heritage in China' were issued by SACH.

In terms of management structure, the SACH is responsible for supervising and guiding local authorities in carrying out the nomination, protection and management of World Cultural Heritage properties in China. Together with the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Development, it is jointly responsible for the mixed World Heritage properties and historic cities. In the case of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains, the landscape aspect, or the scenic area nature of the property, should be fully recognized and addressed in its management.

To reinforce the effectiveness of the protection of the property's OUV, appropriate land-use regulations and regional development planning should be further considered in view of the property's nature as a landscape. In particular cultural heritage impact assessment procedures for proposal development projects should be undertaken. The mission was briefed and provided with some information relating to the development of a Master Plan but would consider that vision-setting is crucial, with the assistance of the Advisory Bodies in the management planning process.

3 IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF ISSUES / THREATS

3.1 Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project

3.1.1 Context

There is a severe water shortage in the North China Plain, which has a direct impact on farmland and related settlements, as well as on such major urban areas as Tianjin and Beijing. In 2003, to cope with this urgent situation, China embarked upon the "South-to-North Water Division Project" for the transfer of water from the south of China, which has 80% of the China's water resources, to the north, which has only 12% of the country's water resources. This transfer of water involves three lines – west, middle and east.

3.1.2 Implications

The engineering of the middle line, in particular, has had a direct impact upon Yuzhen Palace, which is part of the "Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains." To meet the upstream demand for water, the existing dam, Danjiangkou Dam (and its associated reservoir), has had to be heightened by close to 15 metres in order to ensure the delivery of an adequate supply of water. The heightening of the dam has meant the enlargement of the reservoir and resulted in the flooding of more land, which has led in turn to the clearance of settlements and loss of vernacular buildings. It has also led to the need to safeguard the low-lying Yuzhen Palace in advance of the flooding.

3.1.3 Response

In response to the imminent flooding of Yuzhen Palace, experts considered three different protection schemes.

Scheme one: Dismantling the palace and reassembling it at a different site.

Scheme two: Leaving the palace *in situ* and protecting it with a surrounding dike on exposed sides.

Scheme three: Lifting parts of the palace (three gates); and dismantling/removing all other parts, including archaeological remains, and reassembling/reinstalling them after settlement of the new earthwork platform.

Scheme three was chosen– the “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project.” The argument driving this decision was that the position and orientation of Yuzhen Palace could be maintained. The only change would be in height. This argument, although potentially convincing, fails to address the difference between two-dimensional understandings of a place (planar) versus three-dimensional understandings (spatial). Understandably, once there is a change in height the spatial relationship between the place and its setting changes. In the case of Yuzhen Palace, the spatial dimension is important, especially the relationship of the complex to the surrounding landscape. In particular with a change in height the surrounding hills are less pronounced and less effective in the context of *feng shui*. Simply put, the relationship of Yuzhen Palace to its setting has been changed. And the change is perceivable.



Overall view of Yuzhen Palace showing the spatial context (looking south). Photo: Ye Simao

Note: Other solutions, such as documenting, recording and leaving the palace *in situ* seem not to have been considered – or not to have been considered acceptable. As became clear during the mission, the Palace has strong associations with Zhang Sanfeng, the Taoist priest, who is considered the founder of the concept of Taoist *Taijiquan*. This association seems to have driven the decision to “save” the site – and at enormous cost.

3.1.4 Process



West Gate, Yuzhen Palace. One of three gates lifted up *in situ*. Photo: LD DiStefano

Once the decision was made, an elaborate system was devised – and implemented – for (1) lifting-up the three entrance gates of the Yuzhen Palace *in situ* and (2) dismantling and storing the structural and decorative members of extant buildings and structures, as well as all archaeological remains.



Storage Area, “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project”. One of several storage areas for dismantled buildings and structures, as well as archaeological remains. Photo: LD DiStefano

Note: The structural and decorative elements of dismantled buildings and structures, as well as the archaeological remains, have been systematically numbered and mapped to their original location and storage location. The extensive storage facilities are impressive; they are well organised and secure with both a surveillance system and guard dogs.

3.2 Issues/Concerns identified

The mission team identified five issues/concerns in relation to the “Lift-up Project.”

3.2.1 Platform shape. The mission team enquired about the shape of the new earthwork platform, as it appears to be in sharp contrast to the natural contours of the setting.

3.2.2 Reinstallation of archaeological remains (East and West Palaces). The mission team enquired about the reinstallation of archaeological remains at the new height, rather than considering other options.

3.2.3 Platform landscaping. The mission team enquired about the proposed landscaping of the platform, as the visualisation of the proposed landscaping suggested an imposed formality out of keeping with the probable original landscaping. (Unfortunately, there seems to be little information about the original landscaping.)

3.2.4 Site usage. The mission team enquired about the planned usage of the extensive site, i.e. passive use as a historic site within a constructed landscape (i.e. the expanded reservoir “nips” at the platform)? Or: active use as a *t'ai chi chu'an* demonstration, performance and/or training venue? (This line of query actually leads to the need for a comprehensive tourism plan with an in-depth analysis of carrying capacity throughout the entire property.)

3.2.5 Site interpretation. The mission team enquired about how the site would be interpreted. Clearly, the rationale behind the “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project” needs to be fully explained, as well as its impact on the authenticity and integrity of the site.

3.3 Findings and observations

On site, and during a formal stakeholders' meeting, discussions took place regarding the aforementioned five issues/concerns.

3.3.1 Platform shape. During the formal discussion with stakeholders, the conservation architect explained the design approach. Since the platform was a new construction, it seemed that the shape of the platform should be totally new, i.e. distinctive.

Although this approach is defensible the mission team observed that an organic design in keeping with the natural topography would be more appropriate. This will require some modification to the current configuration of the retaining walls of the platform. As they exist now, there is a distinct break with the soon-to-emerge edge of the reservoir; the platform is almost treated as a peninsula rather than as part of a natural undulating shoreline.

3.3.2 Reinstallation of archaeological remains (East and West Palaces). During the formal discussion with stakeholders, the conservation architect explained the rationale for reinstalling the archaeological remains at the new grade level. Consideration had been given to excavating the site and reinstalling the remains at a below ground level (a basement level). However, although an initially appealing idea, the solution proved to be expensive and more importantly there was the issue of authenticity.

Clearly, the remains of the East and West Palaces were originally both above and below ground – and related to the same plane as the extant three gates and main buildings of the palace. More importantly the remains, because of their planar relationship, revealed clearly the original configuration of Yuzhen Palace – a matter of site integrity. To separate the archaeological remains from the three gates and the main buildings of the palace would seem both illogical and potentially confusing, although certainly inventive.

This has been a challenging area of concern. As the conservation architect mused: “If they're not put back, what do we do with them (the remains)?”

3.3.3 Platform landscaping. During the formal discussion with stakeholders, the conservation architect explained that the visualisation of the raised site, including the landscaping, was notional. There seems to be agreement that the landscaping of the platform should be as close as possible to the natural state (or a natural state).

3.3.4 Site usage. During discussions with stakeholders, several individuals commented that the future use of the site, if carefully considered, could help disburse tourists throughout the property. (As mentioned in 5.4, the carrying capacity of the property is a growing concern.)

3.3.5 Site interpretation. During discussions with stakeholders, a number of individuals spoke with genuine enthusiasm about how the “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project” had caught the interest and imagination of the general public. The process itself seems to have renewed interest in the importance of the site.

3.4 Corrective measures

3.4.1 Platform Shape. The mission team recommends that an organic design in keeping with the natural topography of the site be used. This recommendation is made with the knowledge that considerable cost may be involved, but the team believes that the current design has a negative impact on the understanding of Yuzhen Palace including its setting.

3.4.2 Reinstallation of archaeological remains (East and West Palaces). The mission team recommends, with reservations, that the archaeological remains of the East and West Palaces be reinstalled at the new grade level (and in the exact planar location) providing that the impact on authenticity is clearly stated. (More will be said about authenticity under 7.5.)

3.4.3 Platform landscaping. The mission team recommends, and wholeheartedly supports, the landscaping of the grounds to as natural a state as possible. The mission team further recommends that photographic documentation of the site be consulted and that the choice of trees and shrubs be substantiated by a survey of nearby tree and shrub types in the natural environment. It may also be useful to reference other complexes within the property.

3.4.4 Site usage. The mission team recommends that the planned usage of the site, whether passive use or active use, be systematically considered – and in reference to maintaining the significance of the site and especially its relationship to other attributes of the property. In considering a new use for the site, the principle of the new use being as close as possible to the original use should be followed. This will be one of the very few ways of maintaining the “Spirit of the Place.” (As mentioned in 5.4 and 6.4, the use of the site directly relates to the need for a comprehensive tourism plan with an in-depth analysis of carrying capacity for the entire property.)

3.4.5 Site interpretation. The mission team recommends that the interpretation of the site be expanded to include the changes to the site noting in particular the necessity for the changes, the different options and the final decision. The team also recommends that the positive aspects of the “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project” be shared with the community, especially the systematic recording, documentation and information management of the project. At the same time, the impact on the authenticity and integrity of the site needs to be clearly explained.

3.5 Concluding Comments

There is no doubt that this project compromises the significance of the property in terms of its tangible values, especially its architectural, archaeological and contextual values. However, if the project is completed according to the aforementioned recommendations, it can become a place of education through multi-layered interpretation, and a place of relevance through appropriate use.

It is unfortunate – and a matter of concern – that the “Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project” commenced with little or no communication with the World Heritage Center.

3.6 Management System for the Property

The mission team was presented with the current management system for the property. It was also presented with an outline of the Master Plan on Conservation Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains which was still under elaboration at the time of the mission.

For the mission, there are four key aspects of the management that need reinforcement as the planning process continues in order for the OUV of the property to be fully protected. These issues include:

- development of a living heritage management approach for this serial property that takes into account the entirety of the cultural landscape rather than looking at the 62 component parts as individual elements that need protection;
- management of tourism development to ensure that tourism infrastructure does not overwhelm the delicate landscape setting of the property;
- respect for the carrying capacity of the individual elements of the property;
- harmonization of the various planning instruments that cover the World Heritage property, Wudang Mountains Special Zone, and Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area.

4 ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY

4.1 Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project

It is regrettable that the project to raise-up the Yuzhen Palace was not presented to the World Heritage Centre in 2007 when the idea was first considered. It may have been possible for a solution, other than the three developed by the State Party, to have been considered which could have had less impact on the OUV of the property. The lack of adequate consultation appears to reflect the lack of an adequate management structure at the property.

The mission acknowledged that the work has been carried out to a high technical quality and with great care, which will allow for the palace buildings to be re-erected once the work on the platform is completed. It is further acknowledged that this extreme solution was taken in response to the flooding that will take place as part of a development project of national importance which will supply drinking water to the Beijing area. Nevertheless, it may have been possible for a solution, other than the three developed by the State Party, to have been considered which may have had less impact on the OUV of the property.

It is clear for the mission that the raising up of the Yuzhen Palace has caused a change in the relationship between the palace and its setting and context, both in terms of its relationship to the surrounding hills, and to the agricultural land which will now be submerged by the reservoir. It should be noted that the Yuzhen Palace is one of only 62 component parts of the property which include the Golden Shrine and the Purple Heaven Palace to name a few. It does, however, undoubtedly contribute to the overall OUV of the property, and all components part of the property should be equally safeguarded in the interests of protecting the OUV.

It should also be acknowledged that the work has been carried out to a high technical quality and with great care, which will allow for the palace buildings to be re-erected once the work on the platform is completed. It is further acknowledged that this extreme solution was taken in response to the flooding that will take place as part of a development project of national importance which will supply drinking water to the Beijing area. Nevertheless, it may have been possible for a solution, other than the three developed by the State Party, to have been considered which may have had less impact on the OUV of the property.

It is clear for the mission that the raising up of the Yuzhen Palace has caused a change in the relationship between the palace and its setting and context, both in terms of its relationship to the surrounding hills, and to the agricultural land which will now be submerged by the reservoir. It should be noted that the Yuzhen Palace is one of only 623 component parts of the property which include the Golden Shrine and the Purple Heaven Palace to name a few. It does, however, undoubtedly contribute to the overall OUV of the property, and all components part of the property should be equally safeguarded in the interests of protecting the OUV.

Nevertheless, taking into consideration all of the factors related to the imminent risk of flooding, the technical aspects of the project, the changes to the context of the component part, and its relationship to the overall property, it is not considered, on balance, that while the changes impact on the integrity of one component they do not constitute a threat to the OUV of the overall property, as the harmony between the disposition of the Yuzhen Palace and the other serial components within the wider mountain landscape will be maintained. It will be important, however, that the State Party take note of the recommendations made in the mission report, particularly in regard to the final shape of the earthwork platform which should follow a more natural contour of the land rather than creating a more artificial peninsula effect. Further consideration must also be given to the final disposition of the archaeological remains that have been excavated from the property, as well as to the eventual landscaping, interpretation, and use of the palace.

4.2 State of conservation at other sites

During the mission, and in addition to visiting Yuzhen Palace, the team visited five sites within the extensive property (53 complexes and nine palaces): Yuxu Rock (Monday, March 10), Taizi Slope (Monday, March 10), Golden Peak (Tuesday, March 11), Zixiao Palace (Tuesday, March 11) and Nanyan Palace (Wednesday, March 12).

Based on this limited inspection of the property, as well as on a report presented to the team on Monday, March 10 (The Report on Protection Management of Ancient Building Complex in Wudang Mountain), the state of conservation of the property seems to have improved in seven areas. There are, however, concerns, which will be enumerated after briefly reviewing the seven areas of improvement (as observed and/or conveyed in the report):

1. Improvement of the “Protection and Management Mechanism.” The Hubei provincial government has designated the property as a special zone – Wudang Mountain Tourism and Economic Special Zone. As well, a Cultural Heritage Bureau of Wudang Mountain Special Zone has been established (210 staff members in all). The bureau is comprised of the Cultural Heritage Protection Team, The Institute for Cultural Heritage Conservation, which includes five cultural heritage management divisions, and the Museum. Important to note: the five cultural heritage management divisions oversee temple management within divisions.

2. Implementation of “Four Legal Prerequisites” and “Five Bring Into.” Re: “Four Legal Prerequisites”: The demarcation of boundaries, erection of official plaques, creation of archives and designation of management body for each site has been achieved. Re: “Five Bring Into”: “Bring into the economic and society development plan, bring into the urban and rural construction plan, bring into the fiscal budget, bring into system reform and bring into leadership accountability system.”
3. Attention paid to “Heritage Legislation.” The Hubei provincial government has promulgated a number of laws so as “to standardise and strengthen the protection and management of ... ancient building complex in Wudang Mountain.” One especially important law is the “The Outline of the Master Plan of Protection and Management of Wudang Mountain Ancient Building Complex,” which is also called “Outline of the Master Plan on Conservation & Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2013-2030).” (This will be discussed elsewhere in this report.)
4. Attention paid to the “Protection of the Property.” Considerable effort has been made to deal with the timely maintenance of properties, as well as with needed restoration work. In the case of the latter, projects are first vetted by experts from the Cultural Heritage Bureau of Hebei and ultimately approved by SACH after review and approval by experts.
5. “Strengthening the Environmental Governance.” Improvement has been demonstrated in six areas: Nonstandard construction has been demolished or renovated, construction has been controlled within the core and buffer areas, non-standard signs have been “renewed,” forestation projects have been implemented, sanitation and cleaning has been improved (“Eight Minutes” allowed for disposal of any waste) and, importantly, reduction of the impact of tourism activities (introduction of eco-tourism motorcade and limited ticketing in peak periods).
6. “Strengthening the Heritage Monitoring System.” Although there appears to be some understanding of the nature of monitoring, it is unclear what is being monitored and why – with the possible exception of monitoring the number and behavior of tourists.
7. “Strengthening the Capacity of Theft-proof and Fire-proof.” Four measures are included: a fire brigade has been set up, fire-fighting facilities have been improved, the investigation and rectification of safety problems have been strengthened, including the formulation of “Five Prohibitions on Cultural Relics Safety” and “Seven Regulations on the Use of Cultural Relics,” and regular symposia have been held with stakeholders as a way solve problems relating to heritage protection.

Although there seems to be marked improvement in the state of conservation since 2005, a number of concerns remain. These include the following:

1. An overall vision for the property, including the Scenic Area in which it is embedded, is lacking.
2. The management systems of the property and the Scenic Area need to be clearly integrated.

3. Construction controls for the six villages within the Scenic Area (and visible from some of the property's attributes) need to be further tightened, i.e. village expansion needs to be more carefully controlled, height control need to consistently enforced and the architectural language of construction (for both new and renovated buildings/structures) needs to closely reflect - or sensitively support - the traditional architectural language, especially in terms of design, materials and colours.* This is a matter of negative visual impact.
4. There are possible concerns re: expansion and/or rehabilitation of attributes under the management of the Taoists. More information is needed on this
5. There needs to be clearer articulation of the relationship between the property and the landscape. The property is, in fact, a cultural landscape and should be seen as such.
6. There is an urgent need for a detailed tourism management plan. Current controls, including a diversion initiative and a cap on daily numbers, may not be enough. The carrying capacity of the property, especially that of its most popular sites, is a serious concern.
7. The spread of visitor services (hotels and parking lots) immediately outside the entrance has an indirect visual impact on the property

*The mission team observed, for example, that in one of the villages there was a building of exposed timber, designed in a rustic style, which could be found almost anywhere.

4.2.1 Management system at the property

In regard to management, it is recognized that the State Party is carrying out ongoing work to reinforce its management and monitoring framework at the property. There are serious concerns, however, that this framework must take into account the fact that this property is a living heritage site which must incorporate religious leaders and community members into the management system. It is also considered crucial that from a management perspective, the property be treated as a cultural landscape, since the OUV of the 62 individual components cannot be protected without taking into account the entirety of the landscape. For this reason, it will be of utmost importance to ensure that the various tools and plans developed for the World Heritage property, the Wudang Mountains Special Zone and Wudang Mountains National Scenic Zone are harmonized so that a single management system can be put into action. In keeping with this landscape approach, the State Party should also confirm that the buffer zone of the property includes the entire Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area, as acknowledged understood at the time of inscription, rather than the 62 component parts with individual buffer zones as submitted during the retrospective inventory exercise.

Special attention must also be paid within the management system to avoiding the overdevelopment of tourism infrastructure within the property and within its larger cultural landscape. The mission found that tourism development has begun to reach a critical mass which could cause significant changes to the property if not controlled. Further, although the carrying capacity of the individual component parts has been considered, there is a need to enforce these limits, especially at peak tourism periods which occur several times per year. Many of the component parts are very fragile in nature and need constant monitoring and control if they are to be protected.

4.2.2 Property boundary and buffer zone identification

The boundary/buffer zone identification issue of this property was also noted by the reactive monitoring mission. It has been noted that, in the ICOMOS evaluation report dated October 1994, there is below statement:

“The nomination dossier was unclear as to exactly what was being proposed for inclusion on the World Heritage List. This was, however, clarified by a map supplied by the Chinese authorities, showing the individual monuments identified to constitute the proposed World Heritage property, the buffer zone being the protected area of the Park (Scenic Area)”. Hence, it is being understood that the property’s buffer zone is the whole park of Wudang Mountains Scenic Area. (See Map attached in Annex 6.A)

However, in the report submitted in March 2014, the State Party put forward individual buffer zone for all 47 component parts (?) and the buffer zones proposed are much smaller than the “protected area of the Park” (See Map attached in Annex 6.B)

Taking into account this difference, the mission recommend that the State Party to clarify with the World Heritage Centre that the buffer zone of the property corresponds to the entirety of the Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area as acknowledged at the time of inscription, and not the 62 individual buffer zones submitted in the framework of the retrospective inventory exercise.

4.2.3 Visitor management

The 2003 State Party Periodic Report indicated that there were 695,000 visitors to the site in 2001. By 2013, the visitors reached around 5 million, while the environmental capacity of landscape was fixed for 4.55 million in the middle term, and 6.27 million in the long term. However, a sharp increase in the number of tourism visitors every year is uncontrollable through the sole effort of Wudang Mountains Management Committee. There should be a coordinated effort by all the stakeholders to deal with the influx of tourists, in particular pilgrimage visitors. In particular, a balanced regional strategy for future development/conservation/tourism programmes should be in place to alleviate the tourism pressure on the Wudang Mountains and to use other satellite cities such as Shiyan, Xiangfan and Nanyang. At the same time, a conservation management plan based on an objective assessment of heritage values should be in place, with a sound system for monitoring the change of the physical and social conditions of Wudang Mountains. Constant monitoring in line with international standards would play a considerable role in better protecting and managing the property.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1994. At the international level the concept of Cultural Landscape was under development in academic circles and the World Heritage community. In and around 2003, the responsible Chinese authorities were preparing a mixed World Heritage re-nomination for Wudang Mountains as a whole to integrate its values of landscape and natural environment in the World Heritage property. No further action has been followed since thenⁱⁱ.

After 20 years of inscription, the Wudang Mountains has witnessed rapid social and economic development in China. The World Heritage property, taking its original feature of

ⁱⁱ Summary of Periodic Report on the State of conservation of Wudang Mountains, May 2003, <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/705/documents/>, World Heritage Centre, Paris.

“ancient building complex” under criterion (I) (ii) (vi), will be facing more and more challenges in terms of its conservation and management. This has originated from the site’s dual nature as a National Scenic Area (National Park) with major Sites and Monuments for National Protection. It appears that further improvement is required, in particular in terms of setting a broader vision for the protection and management of the property as a landscape (cultural landscape or even historic urban landscape), to integrate the tangible and intangible attributes of the Wudang Mountains. Improvement is also required in coordinating the enforcement of different rules and regulations governing urban and rural planning, land-use, tourism development and heritage conservation. Apart from their Outstanding Universal Value, the ancient building complex and spaces contribute significantly to the value of the Wudang Mountains and Wudang city is branded with these historic characteristics. Next to the tangible attributes, intangible heritage attributes, including all associated cultural products such as Taichi, Wudang martial arts, Daoism culture and music as well as other elements representing local cultural identity and community pride and links with local history and Taoist culture, educational value and symbolic roles in addition to the spirituality of cultural heritage should be fully addressed in research and studies defining conservation and management strategies.

In the Wudang Mountains one of the primary issues in years to come will be urban and rural regeneration and expansion. In this regard, it is essential to establish an active and more dynamic interaction between conservation and development. These include processes of community consultation and public participation and they should be integrated into conservation and management system.

In the near future, if Wudang Mountains is a well-managed living heritage site it will have strong competitive power to attract not only tourists, but the residents of China as well. The historic values of built heritage, increasing associative intangible heritage values, including local cultural identity and community pride, the links with religious leaders and community members, educational value and the symbolic role of heritage (Taoism) and the spirituality of cultural heritage. All these components and associative cultural products constitute ‘cultural capital’ in the development programme for Wudang Mountains.

The Mission held open and frank discussions with the competent national and local authorities and concluded the following main recommendations:

5.1 Development of a vision/strategy for the Conservation Management Plan (CMP)

Although it appears that each individual conservation and/or redevelopment project has already been planned and implemented, they should be integrated into a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) in order to avoid unnecessary imbalance between tourism development and heritage conservation. The vision as outlined above should be a point of departure.

In this regard, the mission considers that there is no clear vision or strategy for future action, such as an estimation of incoming tourists in the future, commercial activities, and facility development in the Wudang Mountains. For example, cable cars and intrusive parking space within the property have been developed without a proper visitor management component in the current draft Conservation Management Plan. The CMP should study visitor management and draw the future plan to provide tourists with proper routes and facilities.

The Conservation Management Plan should also be closely coordinated with the local regional development plan of Shiyan city. In the long term, Wudang Mountains may well

serve as a hub of tourist destinations in the wider area, such as Xiangfan, Shiyan and even Nanyang in Henan Province.

At the same time, the Conservation Management Plan should aim to protect traditional local culture by avoiding the excessive exposure of local life to tourists. Each conservation and improvement project should have a clear strategy and make it a priority to achieve these objectives. The case of the Yuzhen Palace lift-up project, which was planned and implemented without the correct property approval procedure, shows the lack of a clear strategy for cultural heritage protection and management.

5.2. Implementation of the Conservation Guidelines and CMP

A clear policy on the limits of acceptable change for each conservation intervention and/or reconstruction seems to be lacking. The decision making process is very centralised, always coming from the Director of Management Committee, which has to address the conservation of the whole scenic area, plus 62 components and the landscape of the property. Clear conservation guidelines should be formally implemented.

Also, coordination with other local bodies such as community organizations and Taoist associations is necessary to monitor the law enforcement situation, particularly in regards to the tourist related commercial activities around the heritage buildings and structures, and some conservation projects within the property.

The promotion and enhancement of the intangible heritage component such as Taoist festivals, Taichi and martial arts and Taoist music should be integrated into the CMP, as a cultural revival component for Wudang Mountains.

An operational monitoring mechanism or system should be integrated into the CMP with the involvement of the local population. As it is absolutely vital for the population to understand and be aware of the World Heritage property's value. This awareness should not be imposed with a top-down approach, rather, it should first emerge from the local population. In this regard, the Management Committee did a good job in mobilising the community as the principal protectors of the property, in particular protecting the landscape around the 62 component parts.

5.3 Lift-up Project

In the 2003 State Party Periodic Report, it was indicated that *“some of the buildings in the complex are located by the side of Danjiangkou Reservoir will be affected by the implementation of the National Project of South-North Water Diversion which will result in the rise of the Danjiang Dam from the current 160 meters to 175 meters and the rise of the water level in the reservoir by 15 meters. In the areas to be submerged in the future, some ancient buildings such as the Yuzhen Palace, the Ancient Gaokou Theatre and the Taishan Temple in the Qingwei Imperial Palace will have to be removed for conservation. The integrity of some of the ancient buildings may be influenced somewhat when they are removed for conservation”*ⁱⁱⁱ

It is regrettable that the project to raise-up the Yuzhen Palace was not presented to the World Heritage Committee in 2007 when the idea was first considered. It may have been possible for a solution, other than the three schemes developed by the State Party, to have been considered which could have had less impact on the OUV of the property. The

ⁱⁱⁱ Periodic Report on the State of conservation of Wudang Mountains, May 2003, p-9 See : <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/705/documents/>, World Heritage Centre, Paris.

lack of adequate consultation appears to reflect the lack of an adequate management structure at the property.

The mission found that the technical quality of the work carried out was quite high (details can be found in the State Party State of Conservation report). The mission noted, however that the raising up of this palace has necessarily changed the relationship of the palace to its setting. In the case of Yuzhen Palace, the spatial dimension is important, especially the relationship of the complex to the surrounding landscape. In particular, with the change in height, the surrounding hills are less pronounced and less effective in the context of *feng shui*.

The mission further identified five key issues for the ongoing work:

1. the shape of the final earthwork platform;
2. reinstallation of archaeological remains;
3. landscaping of the final earthwork platform;
4. site usage;
5. site interpretation.

Nevertheless, taking into consideration all of the factors related to the imminent risk of flooding, the technical aspects of the project, the changes to the context of the component part, and its relationship to the overall property, it is not considered, on balance, that while the changes impact on the integrity of one component they do not constitute a threat to the OUV of the overall property, as the harmony between the disposition of the Yuzhen Palace and the other serial components within the wider mountain landscape will be maintained. It will be important, however, that the State Party take note of the detailed recommendations made in the mission report, particularly in regard to the final shape of the earthwork platform which should follow a more natural contour of the land rather than creating a more artificial peninsula effect. Further consideration must also be given to the final disposition of the archaeological remains that have been excavated from the property, as well as to the eventual landscaping, interpretation, and use of the Palace.

5.4 Management system and buffer zone identification

In regard to management, the mission recognized that the State Party is carrying out ongoing work to reinforce its management and monitoring framework at the property. There are serious concerns, however, that this framework must take into account the fact that this property is a living heritage site which must incorporate religious leaders and community members into the management system. The mission also considered crucial that from a management perspective, the property be treated as a cultural landscape, since the OUV of the 62 individual components cannot be protected without taking into account the entirety of the landscape. For this reason, it will be of utmost importance to ensure that the various tools and plans developed for the World Heritage property, the Wudang Mountains Special Zone and Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area are harmonized so that a single management system can be put into action. In keeping with this landscape approach, the State Party should also confirm that the buffer zone of the property includes the entire Wudang Mountains National Scenic Area, as acknowledged at the time of inscription, rather than the 62 component parts with individual buffer zones as submitted during the retrospective inventory exercise.

Special attention must also be paid within the management system to avoiding the overdevelopment of tourism infrastructure within the property and within its larger cultural landscape. The mission found that tourism development has begun to reach a critical mass which could cause significant changes to the property if not controlled. Further, although the carrying capacity of the individual component parts has been considered, there is a need to enforce these limits, especially at peak tourism periods which occur

several times per year. Many of the component parts are very fragile in nature and need constant monitoring and control if they are to be protected.

5.5 Heritage impact assessment

In general, the World Heritage property of the Ancient Building Complex in Wudang Mountains has undergone a wide range of changes in the two decades since its inscription on the World Heritage List.

The ancient buildings in the Wudang Mountains represent the highest standards in Chinese art and architecture over a period of nearly 1000 years. Further, buildings in the Wudang Mountains exercised an enormous influence on the development of religious and public art and architecture in China. The religious complex in the Wudang Mountains was the centre of Taoism, one of the major eastern religions and one which played a profound role in the development of belief and philosophy in the region.

At present, Wudang Mountains has turned from being a quiet, sacred Centre of Taoism to a busy tourist destination. The magnitude of the change of facilities in the property and other on-going development projects has reached an alarming stage and is difficult for the local authorities to cope with.

Of course, it is understandable that there will be a limited amount of change. Wudang Mountains is still a living landscape and the local population needs better living conditions. But the speed of the change should be controlled to be of a manageable extent, and local authorities should act as a principal player in safeguarding the mountain in a good condition.

The mission observes that the local authorities have been making considerable efforts to manage the changes and improve the physical conditions of the property through a wide range of works, from limiting the number of tourist shops to controlling the quality of conservation works, investing in the improvement of roads and redeveloping the surrounding area to comply with the historic environment/fabric.

The mission team is of the view that although inscribed as a building complex under cultural criterion (i) (ii) and (vi), the property should be maintained as a cultural landscape “as combined works of man and nature”^{iv}. Any further development/renovation projects should be very carefully planned and evaluated in line with the ICOMOS Guidelines on World Cultural Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) and follow proper decision-making and approval procedures.

It is therefore recommended, that one of the principal tasks for the Wudang Mountains Management Committee will be the evaluation and assessment of project proposals for change through techniques such as environmental, visual, social and economic impact assessments, so that conservation and sustainable development may work together. Further training can also be provided by the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP, Shanghai). At the institutional level, it is recommended that the Management Committee should set-up a participatory planning, conservation and management process, involving regular consultations with different stakeholders involved in the property, and the community’s direct participation in site management.

5.6 Capacity building and international exchange programme

^{iv} Definition of Cultural Landscape as indicated in Paragraph 47 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, WHC/13.1, July 2013.

The mission team was informed by the Wudang Mountains Management Committee that they would need improvements on strengthening exchange and cooperation with other similar World Heritage properties to adapt to best practice and advanced experiences in heritage conservation and management. Also, there is a need for training on internationally recognised conservation concepts and practices, in particular those relating to cultural landscape and historic urban landscape development and conservation. The mission considers that in order to promote sustainable cultural heritage conservation, and enhance the management capacities of the Wudang Mountains Management Committee, some on-site training activities and/or international exchange programmes could be organized to enable the site managers of Wudang to exchange experiences and good practices with other similar World Heritage properties in the world. It is suggested that the World Heritage Centre, WHITR-AP and ICCROM can organize some training workshops in the Wudang Mountains on themes such as historic urban landscape management, heritage impact assessments.

ANNEXES

Annex 1	Terms of Reference
Annex 2	Decision 37 COM 7B.60
Annex 3	Composition of the Mission Team
Annex 4	itinerary and programme
Annex 5	List and contact details of people met
Annex 6	Maps (most recent maps of the boundaries of the property)

Annex 1

Terms of Reference Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring Mission to the World Heritage property of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China) (C 705)

8–14 March 2014

At its 37th session, the World Heritage Committee requested the State Party of China to invite a reactive monitoring mission to the World Heritage property of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (Decision **37 COM 7B.60**), to be jointly conducted by the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM. The objective of the monitoring mission will be to assess the state of conservation of the property, with particular focus on the potential negative impacts on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) from the project to raise the Yuzhen Palace. This will include an assessment of the authenticity and integrity of the property and a review of the existing management system as well as the status with the implementation of the Management Plan.

In accordance with the above-mentioned Decision **37 COM 7B.60** adopted at the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (Phnom Penh, 2013), and in light of the state of conservation report and annexed Project Plan for the Raising and Protection of Yuzhen Palace submitted by the State Party on 28 January 2013, the reactive monitoring mission should address the following key issues:

1. Assess the state of conservation of the property and factors affecting its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), authenticity and integrity, with particular attention to the potential negative impact of the Danjiangkou Reservoir Project in which Yuzhen Palace will become an island within the enlarged reservoir instead of being connected to the foot of the mountain, with the result that its relationship with the landscape and with other buildings within the property will be compromised;
2. in the light of the recent decisions made on the Yuzhen Palace, review the management system for the property, including approaches to undertaking Heritage Impact systems for proposed projects, and assess progress with the development of a Management Plan for the property;
3. In line with paragraph 173 of the Operational Guidelines, assess any other relevant conservation issues that may negatively impact the OUV of the property, such as the conditions of integrity, protection and management, including the status of the Management Plan and other plans;
4. Hold consultations with the Chinese national and local authorities and relevant stakeholders to review the progress made in addressing the concerns expressed by the World Heritage Committee in its previous decisions.

Based on the results of the above-mentioned assessments and discussions with the State Party representatives and stakeholders, the mission will develop recommendations to the Government of China and the World Heritage Committee with the objective of providing guidance to the State Party for the development of an integrated conservation and management strategy that will ensure the strict protection of the property's Outstanding

Universal Value. It should be noted that recommendations will be provided within the mission report (see below), and not during the mission.

The mission will prepare a concise report on the findings and recommendations within 6 weeks following the site visit, in line with the World Heritage Centre reactive monitoring mission report Format.

Annex 2

Extract of the Decisions adopted the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013)

Decision: 37 COM 7B.60

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-13/37.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **28 COM 15B.62**, adopted at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004),
3. Notes with concern that a project to raise the Yuzhen Palace above the levels of the raised Danjiangkou Reservoir was planned in 2007 and implemented since 2012 without details being provided to the World Heritage Committee, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of *Operational Guidelines*;
4. Also notes that as result of the project, the Yuzhen Palace will become an island within the enlarged reservoir instead of being connected to the foot of the mountain, and that its relationship with the landscape and with other buildings within the property would be compromised;
5. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to assess the potential negative impact of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value, including authenticity and integrity of the property and to review the management system for the property as well as progress with the implementation of a Management Plan;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

Annex 3

Composition of the Reactive Monitoring Mission Team

1. Mr Feng JING, Chief, Asia and the Pacific Unit, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France
2. Ms Lynne DI STEFANO, Expert of ICOMOS International, Professor, Architectural Conservation Programme, Department of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong SAR, China;
3. Mr Joseph KING, Site Unit Director, ICCROM, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, via di St Michele, 13 I-00153, Rome, Italy.

Annex 4

Mission Itinerary and Programme

Mar. 8th, Saturday

Mr. Feng Jing from Paris

Mr. Joe King from Amsterdam

Ms. Lynne DiStefano from Hong Kong

Check-in at the Asia Hotel, Beijing

Mar. 9th, Sunday

07:25-09:30 fly from Capital airport T3, Beijing to Xiangyang Liuji airport by flight CA1385

09:30-11:30 Drive from Xiangfan to Wudangshan city

11:30-11:50 Check-in at Wudangshan Hotel

12:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:10-15:10 Visit Wudang Museum and the archive center of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains

Guide: Han Jibin Deputy Curator of Wudang Museum

15:30-17:30 Presentation on the conservation project of Yuzhen Palace and the state of conservation & management on the property

Speakers:

Li Faping Presentation on the Project of Yuzhen Palace and Protection and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in Wudang Mountain

Lu Zhou Presentation on the design of the Lift-up & conservation Project of Yuzhen Palace

Cui Ming Presentation on the Outline of the Master Plan

18:00-19:00 Welcoming dinner by Shiyan Municipal Government

Mar. 10th, Monday

08:30-09:00 Breakfast

09:10-11:00 Field visit Yuzhen Palace including the construction site, component warehouse, archive and the monitoring rooms, visit the Danjiangkou Reservoir

Presenter: Zhao Benxin, Deputy Director of Mt. Wudang Special Zone Cultural Heritage Administration.

12:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:10-16:30 Visit Yuxu Rock

Presenter:

Lu Huaqing, Staff member of Mt. Wudang Special Zone Cultural Heritage Administration

He Jiaojiao, assistant interpreter and translator

16:40-17:30 Visit Taizi Slope and the monitoring room

Presenter: Wang Lichang, Staff member of Mt. Wudang Special Zone Cultural Heritage Administration

18:00-19:00 Dinner in the staff dining hall of Taizi (Prince) Slope

19:00-19:20 Return to Mt. Wudangshan Hotel

Mar. 11th, Tuesday

08:30-09:00 Breakfast

09:00-12:00 Visit Golden Peak by cable car

12:00-13:30 Lunch (Ziyun Hotel)

14:00-15:00 Tea meeting with the managers of the Zixiao Palace

15:00-17:00 Visit Zixiao Palace including viewing Taoism Ceremony, Wudang martial arts performances, foreign students' martial arts performances, communicating with the Taoism students

Presenter:

Liu Wenguo, Deputy President of Mt. Wudang Taoist Association

17:00-17:40 Return to Mt. Wudang Hotel

18:00-19:00 Dinner

Mar. 12th, Wednesday

08:30-09:00 Breakfast

09:10-11:00 Visit the Nanyan Palace

12:00-15:00 Lunch break

15:00-17:00 Stakeholders meeting

18:00-19:00 Dinner host by SACH

Mar. 13th, Thursday

08:00-10:30 Breakfast and drive to Xiangyang Airport

10:30-12:20 Flight CA1386/ZH1386 from Xiangyang to Beijing

16:30 Ms. Lynne Di Stefano leave Beijing for Hongkong at Capital Airport T3

Mar. 14th, Friday

11:55 Mr. Joe King leave Beijing for Amsterdam at Capital Airport T2

Mar. 15th, Saturday

10:05 Mr. Jing Feng leave Beijing for Paris at Capital Airport T2

Annex 5

List of persons met during the reactive monitoring mission

1. State Administration of Cultural Heritage, Beijing, China

Mr Guan Qiang, Director-General, Department for the Protection of Monuments and Sites, Archaeology (Department of World Cultural Heritage), Executive Vice Chairman of ICOMOS China

Mrs Lu Qiong, Deputy Director-General, Department for the Protection of Monuments and Sites, Archaeology (Department of World Cultural Heritage)

Mr Liu Yang, Director, Division of World Cultural Heritage, Department for the Protection of Monuments and Sites, Archaeology

Mr Shao Jun, Deputy Director, Division of World Cultural Heritage, Department for the Protection of Monuments and Sites, Archaeology

Mr Ye Simao, staff member of Department for the Protection of Monuments and Sites, Archaeology

Professor Lu Zhou, School of Architecture, Tsinghua University, Vice-Chairman of ICOMOS China

Mr Wang Yi, Staff member of World Cultural Heritage Monitoring Center of the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage, Interpreter

Mrs Cui Ming, Planner of cultural heritage conservation project, Planning Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage

2. Hubei Province, China

Mr Shen Hainingm, Counsel of Hubei Provincial Government, Inspector-General of Hubei Provincial Department of Culture

Mr Li Chaobin, Director-General of Hubei Provincial Cultural Heritage Administration

Mr Wang Fengzhu, Deputy Director-General of Hubei Provincial Cultural Heritage Administration

Mr Liujie, Senior staff of Hubei Provincial Cultural Heritage Administration

3. Shi Yan Municipality, Hubei Province

Mr Zhou Ji, Secretary of Shiyan Municipal Party

Mr Long Liangwen, Member of the Municipal Party Committee, Executive Deputy Mayor of Shiyan Municipal Government

Mr Liu Xueqin, Deputy Mayor of Shiyan Municipal Government

Mr Li Faping, Deputy Mayor of Shiyan Municipal Government, Director of the Management Committee of Mount Wudang Special Zone

Guo Chongxi, Director of Shiyan Municipal Cultural Heritage Administration

4. Mount Wudang Site Management Authority, Hubei Province

Mr Yang Danhua, Deputy Director of the Management Committee of Mount Wudang Special Zone

Mr Chen Pinghai, Deputy Inspector of Mount Wudang Special Zone

Mr Shu Tao, Director of Mount Wudang Special Zone Cultural Heritage Administration

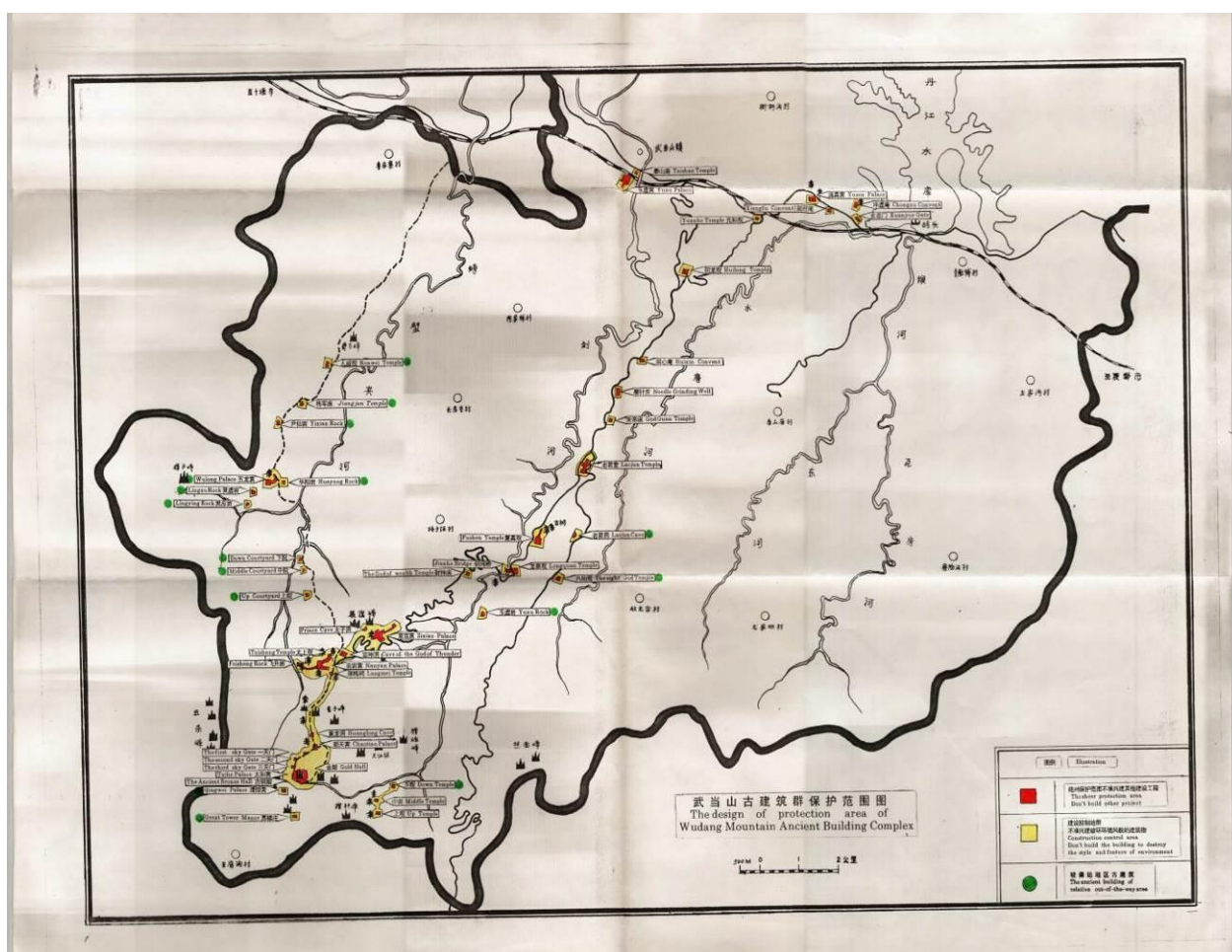
Ms Long Chen Chen, Staff of the Management Committee of Mount Wudang Special Zone.

Annex 6

Maps, including the most recent maps of the property boundary)

A. Map from the nomination dossier, October 1994

“The nomination dossier was unclear as to exactly what was being proposed for inclusion on the World Heritage List. This was, however, clarified by a map supplied by the Chinese authorities, showing the individual monuments identified to constitute the proposed World Heritage property, **the buffer zone being the protected area of the Park (Scenic Area)**”. --ICOMOS Evaluation Report, October 1994



B. Map submitted by SACH, China in March 2014 indicating property boundary and buffer zones of the individual component parts

