

INDIA

Group of Monuments of Hampi

II.1 Introduction

Year of Inscription 1986

Organisation Responsible for the Report

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II.2 Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria C i, ii, iv

Statement of Significance

- Proposed as follows (new):
“The austere and grandiose site of Hampi was the latest capital of last great Hindu Kingdom of Vijayanagara. It's fabulously rich and powerful princess built the suburban townships (puras) surrounding the large Dravidian temple complexes containing subsidiary shrines, bazaars, residential areas and tanks applying the unique hydraulic technologies and skillfully and harmoniously integrating the town and defense architecture with surrounding landscape resulting in a visual setting unrivaled anywhere.
The monuments and sites, set amidst dramatic landscape dominated by craggy and isolated hills and ridges, lush green agricultural fields, meandering river Tungabhadra, contribute to a unique vast archaeological landscape without any parallel in the world. The remains unearthed within the site delineate both the extent of economic prosperity and political status that once existed indicating a highly developed society. The famed markets, the wealth and power of the empire won the admiration of travelers from the contemporary world. The diversity and composition of the surviving monuments and site richly demonstrate man's spirit and achievement in the medieval times of south India. Hampi has been providing spiritual inspiration to the people through the ages. Even today, Hampi continues to be a sacred place of religious and cultural significance in the minds and faiths of visitors.



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Imposing monumental vestiges, partially disengaged and reclaimed, today, make Hampi as one of the most seizing ruins of the world.”

- Renomination proposed, because ICOMOS recommended in 1982 that there is a need to extent the area and protection to the whole of the archaeological site.

Status of Site Boundaries

- The demarcation line and buffer zone are not adequate.
- The area needs to be extended from an original 47sq.km to a total area of 105.90sq.km, covering the Core, Buffer and Peripheral Zones.

II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity

Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- Values and authenticity/integrity maintained, except in certain pockets of the area.
- Changes to the authenticity/integrity: growth of modern religious complexes on the plateau; construction of 2 bridges across the river and another cable styled bridge; increased agricultural activity around a few monuments; encroachments in and around Virupaksha temple; unplanned tourist resort and growth of residential buildings.
- Changes in the future: unregulated modern tourist related constructions; the haphazard and unregulated growth of service providing infrastructure to the flow of pilgrims; growth of residential structures in and around monuments.

II.4 Management

Administrative and Management Arrangements

- The ASI needs co-operation from local authorities to enforce laws, in order for them to be properly implemented.
- 11 acts and rules listed. The site is protected by legislative arrangements sufficient to preserve its values. If applied, the traditional practices would enhance these values.

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

- Overall management made at the national and state levels, with various agencies at municipal, town and village levels. There is no need to revise the above arrangements.
- No Management plan; but a site management plan is under preparation.
- Actions foreseen in the future: draft area management authority Act which is enlisting experts for the preparation of a site management plan; demolition of a suspension bridge; decision to implement the recommendation of WH Expert for Anegundi bridge; task force constituted for monitoring decisions; GIS developed for the site.

Present State of Conservation

- No major changes in material, style workmanship of the monuments. The majority of monuments have received attention.
- Because of construction of 2 bridges, commercial and religious constructions and a tourist resort, there have been changes in the authentic setting.
- Because of constant worship, additions and alterations were made to different parts of the complex.
- Asphalted the roads over the ancient pathway has partly affected authenticity.
- Placed on the List of WH in Danger in 1999.

Staffing and Training Needs

- Staff total number: 114 Staff at the local level, insufficient to monitor the site. Additional staff needed for conservation, archaeological works, security, documentation and management.
- The staff needs training in modern scientific tools in archaeology, geophysical prospecting, photogrammetric documentation, security of monuments, tourism management, museum display techniques.

Financial Situation

- Sources of funds from Central Government and State: for functioning, repairs and maintenance. Special funding is available on request and from the State funds for the HWHMA which has power to raise resources through fees and charges. A fund will also be created.
- 1991-92: Rs.34,568,200 (US\$ 730,080)
- Funding is sufficient at the national level where there has been a sharp increase. At the regional level however, additional funding is required.
- * International Assistance from WH Fund: none.

Access to IT

- No computers on site, but at the regional office. No email or Internet access.
- No use of GIS, but HWHMA is developing GIS for the site, by applying the space technology. Indian satellite will be used in mapping. GIS spatial analysis techniques will be used in archaeological research.

Visitor Management

- Approx. 225,000 visitors in 2001-02.
- Basic facilities available on site.
- Needed facilities: information kiosks, drinking water, public conveniences, internal public transport, cafeteria - souvenir, parking, guest house, documentation centre, library, conference - auditorium, signage, video film on Hampi, self guiding audio-systems, traditional transport modes, picnic spots.
- No public use tourism/visitor plan. A plan has been prepared and will be implemented within the next 3-6 months.
- Communication of WH values through: WH days and weeks yearly celebrated, street drama, Hampi Utsav Festival held yearly.
- Educational programmes: programmes are conducted in schools; regular photo exhibitions, WH days with special lectures for awareness raising arranged. Schools send students regularly to exhibitions and to visits during which the ASI interacts with them. Competitions are also held in painting, essay writing, elocution...

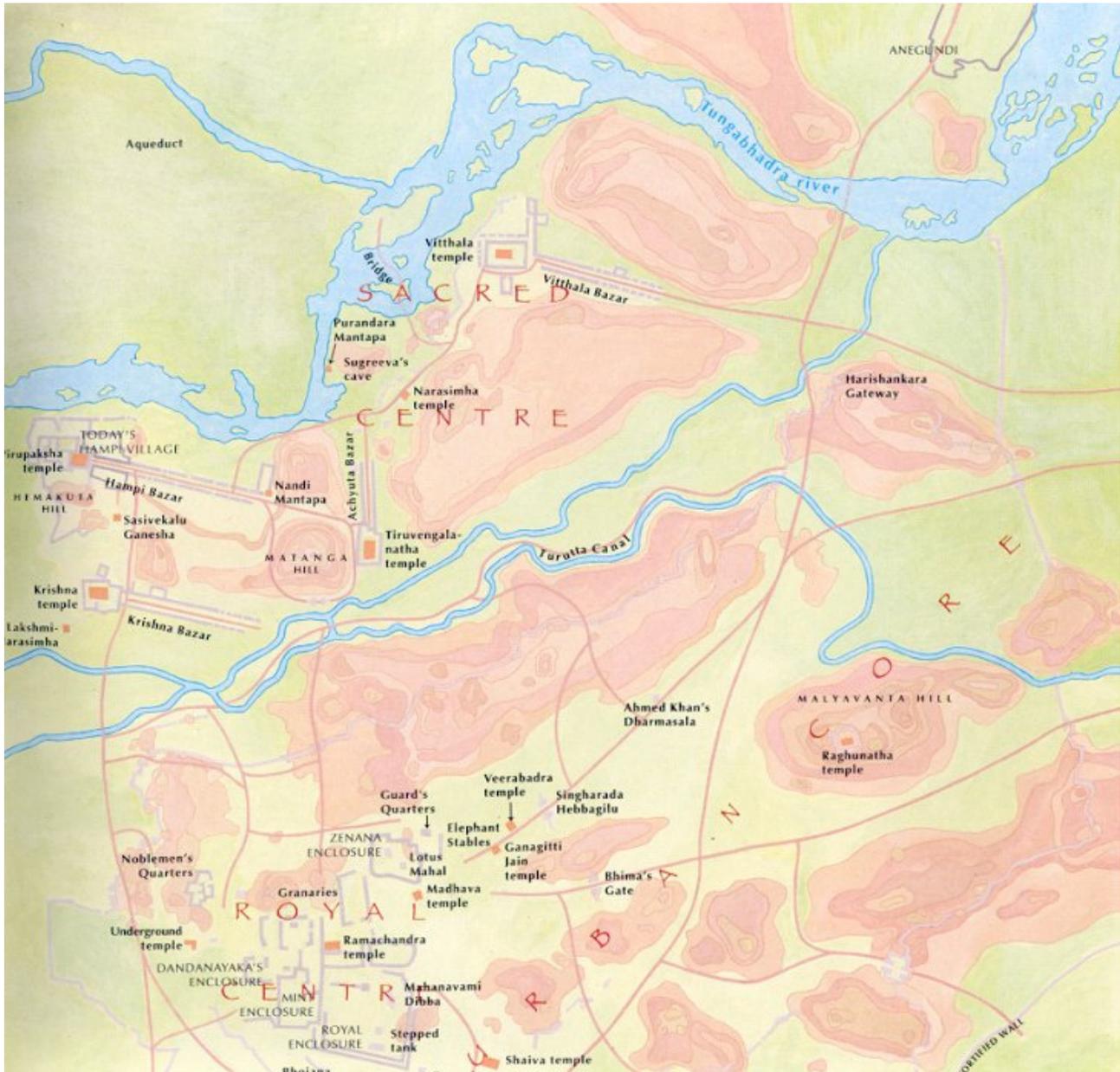
"Visual damage to the WH property because of enormous growth of incompatible and undesirable constructions in the plains, hills, and core zone of Anegundi and Virupapuragadda."



Stepped Tank of the Royal Centre

- Role of the inscription to the List of World Heritage: increased tourist volume, increased general awareness after in danger listing, people co-operate better with the authorities and boost to international research programmes.

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Map showing detail of the Group of Monuments of Hampi

II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

Threats and Risks

- Encroachments in and around Virupaksha temple
- Visual damage because of enormous growth of incompatible and undesirable constructions in the plains & hills, and the core zone of Anegundi & Virupapuragadda.
- 2 bridges across river threaten the visual setting in the Core area; land-use pattern in the Core area; historically under cultivation.
- Modern electrification juxtaposing the historical structures create undesirable visual clutter.
- Quarrying in core, buffer & peripheral zones has been stopped.
- Occasional floods during monsoon, earthquakes very rare and drought.

- Haphazard movement of visitors, people and vehicles affects the site.
- Virupapuragadda affected by growth of tourists resorts.

Counteractive Plans

- No emergency plan.
- Factors responsible for damages are: Floods are controlled and minimised by a dam built in the 1950's; the risk of fire is minimal. Measures are taken for repairs in the event of floods.
- Improvements needed: preparation of a management plan.
- Impacts of factors: after listing the site as being in danger and the series of follow-up actions, factors are decreasing.

- Measures adopted or planned: quarrying stopped; Bhoruka Mini Hydel Project halted; 10 acres of land for a visitors facilitation centre; visitor movement route identified and mapped; 4 additional convenience blocks construction in progress; signage finalised rehabilitation of unauthorised occupants of bazaar initiated; installation of a wireless radio system for communication; GIS under preparation; Hampi pilot project for space research technology; roads improved; land acquired for the construction of the bypass road; HWHMA constituted.

II.6 Monitoring

Monitoring Arrangements

- No monitoring system in place, but it is inbuilt in the day-to-day management and consists of 2 areas; monitoring of state of conservation and monitoring factors affecting property. HWHMA will strengthen the process, together with actions of independants NGOs.
- No monitoring system planned.
- Partners: engineering colleges of Hampi.
- Foreseen improvements: to have a working and collaborative management with national institutes of engineering for regular monitoring.

Monitoring Indicators

- Indicators identified: engineering institute to monitor the structural defects; extension of the mapping programme to gradually monitor the state of conservation.

II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- Values: need to broaden statement of significance to include missing values. The area has increased dramatically. Major changes are encroachments, constructional activities, 2 bridges. No other changes.
- Management and factors affecting property: management strengthened through HWHAMA. Main factors are: modern religious buildings, encroachments, commercial establishments, 2 bridges, uncontrolled growth of tourist resorts, occupation of ancient monuments, unplanned modern vertical and horizontal houses expansion; multiple entries and lack of a management plan.
- Future actions: preparation of a management plan, GIS, community education and awareness, mitigating the impact of 2 bridges, facilitation centre, rehabilitation of unauthorised constructions, control of mushrooming, signage.
- Timetable for the implementation of the Plans: 8 months for the management plan.

* State of Conservation Reports

1999 Committee, WHC-99/CONF.209//14 - reactive monitoring mission by a WH Centre staff in October 1999: 2 cable-suspended modern bridges, partially constructed within the protected area. Both bridges impact negatively on site:

(i) Both bridges dominate the natural environment and rural setting, threatening the integrity of the WH site.

(ii) Dislocation and reconstruction of an important historical monument signifies serious problems in the implementation of cultural heritage legislation and policies which points to the need for corrective measures to ensure the authenticity of the site.

(iii) Vehicular traffic, especially large trucks, will increase dramatically. Further increase in traffic, will augment risks of collision into 15 th and 16 th century historic monuments and ancient archaeological remains. Moreover, it will hamper archaeological research and excavation, causing negative impact on the local inhabitants, tourists and visitors to the site.

(iv) The second cable-stayed foot-bridge will connect the historic monuments and archaeological remains of Hampi and Virapapura Gada Island, the latter declared as a protected area. The construction is part of a tourism development plan of a private developer. Fears that the implementation of the current tourism development plan will damage the archaeological remains for future scientific research or documentation of the sites on Virapapura Gada Island. Concerning the state of conservation a needs-assessment of the local communities, heritage protection, and sustainable tourism development supported by sound data analysis had not been undertaken before the decision to construct the bridges. Feasibility studies to identify alternative locations and designs not undertaken prior to the implementation of the works underway. The construction of the bridges was temporarily halted in July 1999 following the decision of the Bureau and immediate action was to be taken to protect the WH value of the site. The elaboration of a management plan has been recommended by UNESCO and ICOMOS experts since the inscription. Discussions held on the inclusion of this site on the List of WH in Danger, for consideration by the Committee at its 23rd session.

2000 Bureau, WHC-2000/CONF.202//4 - No official response received concerning the actions taken by the State Party to remove the threats facing the site since its inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger. A joint ICOMOS-UNESCO Mission in February 2000 witnessed on-going construction of the large vehicular bridge and near-completion of the small footbridge over the Tungabhadra River. Corrective Measures were recommended to the State Government and the concerned Central authorities.

The Corrective Measures consisted of the following four points:

1. Removal of threats caused by the two bridges.
2. Removal of threats caused by dismantling and dislocating historic monuments within the World Heritage site.
3. Removal of threats caused by illegal encroachment within the World Heritage site.
4. Removal of potential threats caused by ad-hoc development plans within the World Heritage site, including tourism development plans within Virapapura Gada.



Large vehicular bridge over the Tungabhadra River. Works were stopped in 2000 and the bridges are to be built outside of the WH Property boundaries.

In May 2000, information received that construction was being accelerated to complete the vehicular bridge, and that the State Government had announced its intention to inaugurate the two bridges in August 2000. "The Bureau, deeply concerned with the continued construction of the two bridges within the site, requests the authorities to implement the ICOMOS-UNESCO Recommended Corrective Measures to remove the threats facing the site. The Bureau requests the Centre to continue to assist in developing a comprehensive management plan. The Bureau requests the authorities to submit by 15 September 2000 a report on progress made in removing the threats facing the site, as well as on the implementation of the recommendations made by UNESCO/ICOMOS Mission in February 2000. The Bureau recommends that the Committee retain this site in the List of World Heritage in Danger".

2001 Bureau, WHC-2001/CONF.205//4 - 4-point recommendations for corrective measures elaborated in February 2000, endorsed by the Bureau in June 2000 and by the Committee in December 2000. Following a study by State Government, State Government decided to dismantle and relocate two bridges in May 2000. Authorities took action to remove illegal encroachment within the site by November 2000. Authorities began the preparation of a management

plan by November 2000. The Chief Minister of the State Government announced that a detailed study of the vehicular bridge connecting Anegundi and Hampi would be undertaken. A plan of action for implementing the 4-point recommendations drafted by the WH Centre for consideration by the Authorities between January and April 2001. The authorities informed the WH Centre that they welcome Centre's proposal for a UNESCO team of experts to elaborate a comprehensive management and development plan.

"The Bureau welcomes the positive action to elaborate a comprehensive management plan for the site. The Bureau requests the State Party and the Centre to continue its close co-operation to complete the needs assessment and feasibility studies to ensure that an integrated conservation and development management plan be elaborated, adopted and implemented as soon as possible. The Bureau requests the State Party and the Centre to report on the progress made in removing the threats to the site for examination by the Committee at its 25th session."

2001 Committee, WHC-2001/CONF.208//9 - Following the recommendation of the UNESCO-ASI National Workshop for Management of Indian World Cultural Heritage (22-24 October 2000) the State Government informed that the necessary legal steps were being taken for a Hampi Planning Authority to be established to co-ordinate development and cultural and natural heritage conservation activities within the protected areas.

State Authorities began the preparation of a comprehensive management plan in November 2000. In October 2001, a UNESCO International Planning Expert undertook a mission to assist the authorities in elaborating this plan; In September 2001, the WH Centre mobilized extrabudgetary funds amounting to US\$ 80,000 for the rehabilitation of one historic building within Hampi into a Heritage House to serve as an interpretation centre providing free information on the WH values of the site to visitors, legal/administration advice and information to the local community members. This contribution was used for the organization of a Stakeholders' Workshop as well as for the production and dissemination of information brochures. The State Government informed that the resettlement of 300 illegal encroachers within Hampi site had been organized between January and July 2001, violations within historic monuments or their immediate vicinity had been corrected. The remaining illegal encroachment are being addressed with State funding. In July 2001, the Authorities submitted a training assistance request to co-fund a study tour to the United Kingdom for the regional and national site-managers of Hampi to share site-management experiences with English Heritage. Following the request of the Bureau at its 25th session, the World Heritage Centre expects to receive further updated information concerning the (a) relocation of the two

intrusive bridges, (b) implementation of the 4-point recommendations for corrective measures, and (c) preparation of the comprehensive management plan, for examination by the Committee at its 25th session.

“The Committee welcomes the positive actions taken and being planned by the State Party and the World Heritage Centre to elaborate a comprehensive management plan for the site. The Committee congratulates the State Government of Karnataka and the Deputy Commissioner of Bellary for taking the necessary actions in removing a large number of illegal encroachments from within the World Heritage protected areas. The Committee requests the State Party and the Centre to continue its close co-operation in order to complete the needs assessment and feasibility studies as a matter of urgency, in order to ensure that an integrated conservation and development management plan be elaborated, adopted and implemented as soon as possible. The Committee requests the State Party and the Centre to report on the progress made in removing the threats to the site for examination by the Committee at its 25th session.”

2002 Committee, WHC-2002/CONF.202/18 - The World Heritage Centre had not received further information concerning the establishment of a special administrative body empowered to ensure integrated development and conservation of the totality of World Heritage protected areas.

The World Heritage Centre commenced the preparation for the implementation of a project funded by voluntary contributions from TEMA, amounting to US\$ 80,000 for the rehabilitation of one historic building within Hampi into a Heritage House for Enhanced Management of the World Heritage protected areas.

The World Heritage Centre, English Heritage and the Indian Authorities agreed upon dates in May 2002 for a Study Tour to the United Kingdom for the regional and national site-managers of Hampi to share site-management experiences with English Heritage.

Following the request of the Committee at its twenty-fifth session, the World Heritage Centre expects to receive further updated information concerning the progress made.