

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Independence Hall

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- United States of America

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

78


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1979

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Independence Hall	39.949 / -75.15	2	0	2	1979
Total (ha)		2	0	2	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Independence Hall	01/03/2006	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Jonathan Putnam
US National Park Service Office of International Affairs
World Heritage Program Officer

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Cindy MacLeod
Independence National Historical Park
Superintendent

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [View photos from OUR PLACE the World Heritage collection](#)
2. [Independence Hall National Historical Park \(U.S. World Heritage\)](#)
3. [Independence Hall National Historical Park \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)
4. [World Heritage in the United States](#)

Comment

Item #2, Independence Hall National Historical Park (U.S. World Heritage) should be removed from this list. It is not a live web link.

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

Independence Hall is located within the boundaries of Independence National Historical Park. The entire park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district.

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Statement of Significance

The Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1776 in this fine 18th century building in Philadelphia, to be followed in 1787 by the framing of the Constitution of the United States of America. Although conceived in a national framework and hence of fundamental importance to American history, the universal principles of freedom and democracy set forth in these documents were to have a profound impact on lawmakers and political thinkers around the world. They became the models for similar charters of other nations, and may justly be considered to have heralded the modern era of government.

Criterion (vi) The universal principles of the right to revolution and self-government as expressed in the U.S. Declaration of Independence (1776) and Constitution (1787), which were debated, adopted, and signed in Independence Hall, have profoundly influenced lawmakers and politicians around the world. The fundamental concepts, format, and even substantive elements of the two documents have influenced governmental charters in many nations and even the United Nations Charter.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(vi)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact					Origin	
3.1	Buildings and Development							
3.1.1	Housing							
3.1.2	Commercial development							
3.1.4	Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure							
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities							
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure							
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure							
3.2.5	Underground transport infrastructure							
3.4	Pollution							
3.4.4	Air pollution							
3.4.6	Input of excess energy							
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric							
3.7.1	Wind							
3.7.2	Relative humidity							
3.7.3	Temperature							
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage							
3.8.1	Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses							
3.8.2	Society's valuing of heritage							
3.8.5	Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community							
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation							
3.9	Other human activities							
3.9.2	Deliberate destruction of heritage							
3.9.5	Terrorism							
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events							
3.10.1	Storms							
3.10.2	Flooding							
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events							
3.11.2	Earthquake							
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)							
3.13	Management and institutional factors							
3.13.3	Management activities							
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside		

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend	
3.4	Pollution					
3.4.4	Air pollution	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	no capacity and / or resources	static
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	widespread	on-going	minor	high capacity	increasing

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

Over the past 10 years, commercial properties have been converted to residential, increasing the population density of the area. Also more restaurants and bars in the area have combined with more residents to make the surrounding neighborhood crowded and active into the early morning hours. Opportunities for potential negative effects have increased. The park has increased security measures to accommodate this change and to provide the highest level of protection to the World Heritage site.

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is no buffer zone, and it is not needed

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The property had no buffer zone at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by the management authority but **are not known by local residents / communities / landowners**.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

Although the site does not have a formal buffer zone, the low scale and open setting of the national historical park that surrounds Independence Square effectively provides equivalent protection.

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

Independence Hall is legally owned by the City of Philadelphia [Broad and Market Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107 USA]. The building became part of Independence National

Historical Park which was created by Public Law 798, 80th U.S. congress, approved on June 28, 1948. The National Park Service, a federal agency, is the steward of the building according to the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Secretary of the Interior and the City of Philadelphia dated July 14, 1950. As part of Independence National Historical Park, Independence Hall receives the highest level of conservation protection afforded by federal law in the United States.

Public Law 795, 80th U.S. Congress, approved on June 28, 1948, created the Park. In furtherance of particular terms of the act, the Secretary of the Interior entered into a cooperative agreement with the City of Philadelphia on July 14, 1950, providing for administration and preservation of Independence Hall as a unit of the park. Specifically, the agreement assured "access at all reasonable times to all public portions of the property", and the "no changes or alterations should be made in...its buildings and grounds ... except by mutual agreement between the Secretary of the Interior and the [City of Philadelphia]" The National Park Service assumed custody of Independence Hall on January 1, 1951. The building is in the charge of park authorities and is open to the public every day of the year.

Regulation:

Antiquities Act, 1906, 34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431-433.

National Park Service Organic Act, 1916, 16 U.S.C.1.

Historic Sites Act, as amended, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461-467).

Establishment of the park: Public law 795, 80th Congress, June 28, 1948.

Stewardship of city property: Memorandum of Agreement, Secretary of the

Interior and City of Philadelphia, July 14, 1950.

National Park Service Management Policies.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The property had **no buffer zone at the time of inscription** on the World Heritage List

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **excellent** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The National Park Service is responsible for the stewardship and daily operations of Independence Hall by a cooperative agreement with the City of Philadelphia (dated July 14, 1950) which includes provisions for communication and coordination of actions of the federal and municipal entities. The City of Philadelphia retains ownership of the building and its site. The Superintendent of Independence National Historical Park reports to a Regional Director who reports to the Director of the National Park Service. The Director of the National Park Service reports to the Secretary of the Interior. Independence National Historical Park has a General Management Plan (Environmental Impact Statement) that was executed in 1998. The WHS is an important part of this plan. The plan encompasses the entire park. It notes that Independence Hall was under rehabilitation at the time of publication. That project is now complete. The plan also notes the park's intention to install exhibits of the park's copies of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution in the west wing of Independence Hall. This exhibit is now in place. The east wing will continue to be used as a staging area for tours of Independence Hall. The General Management Plan is posted on www.nps.gov/inde/. Click on the Facts and Documents section of the welcome page. Independence National Historical Park consists of just under 45 acres (18 hectares) of land; Independence Square occupies approximately 5 of those acres (2 hectares).

Comment

Since our last periodic report, the park has added Washington Square to its stewardship. The park's total area is now 20.84 hectares.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

The park can provide copies of the documents listed in 4.3.1 if desired. This is the link to the park's management documents: <http://www.nps.gov/inde/parkmgmt/index.htm>

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is **excellent coordination** between all bodies / levels involved in the management of the property

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **many activities** are being implemented

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Good
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Good
Landowners	Good
Visitors	Good
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Good
Industry	Not applicable

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities have **some input** into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Indigenous peoples have **some input** into discussions relating to management but no direct role

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

The national park consults with 3 federally-recognized tribes, the Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe of Indians and the Stockbridge Muncie Community who consider the area within the World Heritage boundaries as their ancestral homeland. There are no industrial properties near the WH site.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

There have been no significant changes in the legal status and/or contractual/traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report.

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	
Governmental (National / Federal)	100%

Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	
Other grants	

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Comment

Independence National Historical Park receives no assistance from the World Heritage Fund.

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is a **major flow** of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the World Heritage property

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

In 2011, Independence Park completed a multi-year, \$4 million project to rehabilitate the tower of Independence Hall. This was the first significant restoration of the tower since it was constructed by architect William Strickland in 1828. The project extended the life of the building and won several awards. An educational component of the work included an exhibit and demonstration of wood cladding construction techniques.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	83%
Part-time	17%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	83%
Seasonal	17%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	40%
Volunteer	60%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Fair
Promotion	Good
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Fair
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Medium
Promotion	High
Community outreach	Medium
Interpretation	Medium
Education	Medium
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	High
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.4.13.2 and 4.4.13.10 responses reflect the City of Philadelphia's promotion of the site through its Greater Philadelphia Tourism and Marketing Corporation. Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell form the centerpiece of their efforts. 4.4.15.4 Response is framed within the National Park Service management system. The Service has a program in place for developing technical skills and this information is transferred to field staff in parks.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared with local participants and some national agencies**

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

John Milner Associates, Inc., "Traditional Use Study, Independence Square, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania," (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December, 2004). Keast and Hood, Co., "Independence Hall Tower Rehabilitation: Historic Structure Report and Preservation Plan," vols. 1 and 2 (2009). Web links for these studies are unavailable.

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

There is always a need for more studies about Independence Hall's structural history and the significant historical events that occurred there.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **one location and easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Average
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Average
Local Indigenous peoples	Average
Local landowners	Average
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Average

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **planned and effective** education and awareness programme that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Adequate
Site museum	Excellent
Information booths	Not needed
Guided tours	Excellent
Trails / routes	Adequate
Information materials	Excellent
Transportation facilities	Not needed
Other	Not needed

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

Interpretation in the building focuses on the founding of American government. Not every tour emphasizes the influence of America's founding documents on the emergence of modern democracies throughout the world or their influence on the United Nations Charter. However, the program stresses the universal right to revolution and self-governance.

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Decreasing
Two years ago	Decreasing
Three years ago	Decreasing
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Static

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

The "Report on Site Review of Interpretive Programs by The Organization of American Historians" (2005) and the "Long-Range Interpretive Plan for Independence National Historical Park" (2006) which emerged from it provide excellent

guidance on both interpretive themes and operations management.

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed** and does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **limited co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

No fees are collected

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

NPS uses free timed tickets for admission to Independence Hall in order to manage visitor flow. These tickets also provide one source for visitation statistics. The tourism industry would prefer to see more visitors admitted to the building because their interest is in benefits of tourism to the local economy.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient and key indicators have been defined but **monitoring the status of indicators could be improved**

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities	Average
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Average
NGOs	Not applicable
Industry	Not applicable
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

No relevant Committee recommendations to implement

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

N/A

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

Park staff monitors the condition of the property on a daily basis. The professional staff carries out routine inspections.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment	
3.4	Pollution						
3.4.4	Air pollution	Criterion 6. Exterior stone on Independence Hall exhibits effects degradation by pollution from acid rain.	Federal pollution laws have slowed but not halted the effects of air pollution on the building. Because the stone is essential to the building's integrity, we do not consider replacing it. Minor repairing and pinning.	We work with NPS scientists and the University to develop a monitoring program the effects of pollution over time on this particular marble.	This project is on-going.	NPS, University of Pennsylvania	INDE is hopeful that improved emissions regulation will contribute to the longevity of the structure.
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	Criterion 6. Increasing pressures of tourism carry potential for degradation of exterior and interior of the structure.	The park issues free, timed tickets to control the number of visitors who see the building during our highest months of visitation, April through November. Occasionally, we open the building at the end of the day to unticketed visitors.	Interpretive staff monitor visitation throughout the year and seasonally adjust the ticketing plan. Resources management staff monitors the structure for signs of visitor-caused wear.	Independence Hall is open to the public every day but Dec. 25. Controlled visitation is in effect indefinitely.	National Park Service	INDE strives to have good relationships with the local tourism industry but the number of visitors that we can accommodate is a source of tension. We strive to explain our conservation concerns.

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

4.1 Boundaries and Buffer Zones						
	Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment		
4.1.4	The boundaries of the World Heritage property are not known by local residents / communities / landowners	INDE strives to inform the local communities about the property's WH status through mention i our press releases, and ephemeral publications. Our Public Affairs Officer notes it as a talking point when speaking with the press.	Continuous effort.	National Park Service	The NPS notes the World Heritage status of its parks in announcements, brochures and other ephemeral publications.	

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

Independence Hall ranks the highest of all properties in Independence Park for asset preservation. Staff works diligently to identify needs for its continued preservation and to apply for funds through the NPS system.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Very positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Very positive
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Very positive
International cooperation	Very positive
Political support for conservation	Very positive
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	Not applicable
Institutional coordination	No impact
Security	No impact
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

Independence Hall's World Heritage status helps the park receive NPS project funding. Most significant was \$4 million received in 2010 to rehabilitate the tower. We work hard to maintain the OUV for its selection and to convey its status to an average of 686,676 visitors per year. This number represents total visitation from 2008 through October, 2012.

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

More ease of transition among pages would be welcome.

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Very good
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	3 - array 1 4 2 4 array 1 Rating on a 5 point scale 2 Very poor 3 Poor 4 Fair 5 Good 6 Very good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
Management effectiveness

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Satisfactory
State Party	Excellent
Site Managers	Not Applicable
Advisory Bodies	Not Applicable

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

Automatically generated in online version

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

Question 6.6: We had not help from the advisory body in completing this periodic report. We did not expect or request

any help from them. It is productive to perform this exercise for both the stewards of the site as well as for the World Heritage organization.