

**Comprehensive Preservation and Management
Plan for the World Cultural Heritage,
“*Gusuku* Sites and Related Properties
of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”**

March 2013

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education

**Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan
for the World Cultural Heritage,
“Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”**

CONTENTS

Chapter 1 Objective and Function of this Plan	1
1. Background and Objective of this Plan	2
2. Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan	3
3. Function of this Plan	9
4. How this Plan was Developed	10
Chapter 2 Overview and Existing State of the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”	15
1. Basic Facts Related to World Heritage Inscription	16
2. Existing State of the Property	28
3. Summary of the Existing State of the Property and Perspectives for the Development of this Plan.....	41
Chapter 3 Vision and Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management	43
1. Vision for Comprehensive Preservation and Management	44
2. Scope of Comprehensive Preservation and Management	45
3. Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management	46
Chapter 4 Preservation and Management of the Property	51
1. Principles.....	52
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	53
Chapter 5 Conservation of the Buffer Zone	59
1. Principles.....	60
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	61
Chapter 6 Conservation of Landscapes of the Surrounding Area	75
1. Principles.....	76
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	77
Chapter 7 Safeguarding of Historical Cultural Resources Associated with the Property	81
1. Principles.....	82
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	83
Chapter 8 Infrastructure, Interpretation and Utilization	87
1. Principles.....	88
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	89
Chapter 9 Monitoring	99
1. Principles.....	100
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	101

Chapter 10 Organization for Comprehensive Preservation and Management	107
1. Principles.....	108
2. Direction of Action (Guidance).....	109
Chapter 11 Revision of the Plan	113
Action Plan	115

Chapter 1

Objective and Function of this Plan

1. Background and Objective

The recent situations encompassing the UNESCO World Heritage has been indicating the need for and importance of comprehensive preservation, management, and utilization of the property, buffer zone etc. even already in the nomination stage in order to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value. In Japan, the development of a “Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan” is now a requirement for new nominations, although at the time of the nomination of this particular property it was not a requirement. The aforementioned tendency is particularly evident in the case of serial cultural properties whose component parts are in different locations and of varied characteristics.

The World Heritage “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (referred to as the “this property” hereinafter) was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000. Okinawa Prefecture has since been taking the initiative in conserving each of its component parts at the local government level, for example by developing the “Basic Guidelines for Preservation, Management, and Utilization of the Component Parts of the World Heritage” in 2002 and clarifying its basic policies for the preservation and management of this property. Since ten years have passed since its inscription on the World Heritage List, with various changes taking place including the way this property is used and the surrounding social conditions, new approach for the preservation and management of this property is required to respond to such changes in order to ensure the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value.

Under the above-mentioned circumstances, the “Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Cultural Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”” (hereafter to be referred to as the “plan”) has been developed to show basic policies for the comprehensive preservation and management of the “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” in the coming years, as well as measures and initiatives concerning various items related to the preservation, maintenance, interpretation, and utilization. This plan also aims to pass the Outstanding Universal Value of this property on to future generations and explore ways to address the present issues concerning the conservation of the component parts of the World Heritage in Okinawa, which have arisen over the past ten years after inscription and deal with tourism and other social services in consideration of today's global trends and experience of World Heritage conservation in general. This plan has been developed in consideration of the latest developments in research and review on World Heritage and sustainable tourism promoted by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre^{*1} and the initiatives on the “formation of sustainable tourist sites” promoted by Okinawa Prefecture with the participation of local communities and other stakeholders.

^{*1} The World Heritage Committee requested the World Heritage Centre as its Secretariat to draft a new comprehensive program regarding the World Heritage and sustainable tourism in the 34th session (Brasilia, 2010). As a result, the Secretariat presented the “World Heritage Tourism Programme” in the 36th session (Saint Petersburg, 2012), which was adopted by the World Heritage Committee.

2. Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan

The content of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan, shown in the guideline issued by the Agency for Cultural Affairs in March 2008, titled “Concerning the Preparation of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the Nomination of a Cultural Heritage for Inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List (interim report)” (only available in Japanese), is shown below. This document is a report of the research conducted by the Agency for Cultural Affairs for the purpose of providing guidance for the preparation of a comprehensive plan for preservation and management of a cultural heritage to be nominated for World Heritage inscription.

[What is the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan]

1. “Management Plan for a World Heritage property” required for World Heritage inscription

In the “Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention” (2005 version is the latest version at the time of the preparation of this guideline; hereafter referred to as the “Operational Guidelines”), the UNESCO World Heritage Committee sets out requirements for nomination for inscription on the World Heritage List, including the preparation of the management plan for the World Heritage property, in which the content of preservation and management is clarified in writing for the purpose of preserving and managing the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property properly.

2. Plan for an integrated preservation and management of the nominated property consisting of diverse component parts

In the recent nominations of cultural heritage from Japan for World Heritage inscription, it has become usual to nominate several cultural properties as one whole, combining national treasures, important cultural properties, special historic sites, special places of scenic beauty, special natural monuments, historic sites, places of scenic beauty, natural monuments, and/or important cultural landscapes, and/or important preservation districts for groups of historic buildings in one context. In order to ensure proper preservation and management of the nominated property as one whole in one context, instead of addressing varied component parts individually, it is necessary to clarify the relations among multiple component parts and set out policies and measures for the preservation and management of the whole property, in addition to individual management plans that have been developed for individual component parts (“preservation and utilization plans” in the case of national treasures and important cultural properties, “preservation and management plans” in the case of historic sites, places of scenic beauty, and natural monuments, and “preservation plans” in the case of important cultural landscapes and important preservation districts for groups of historic buildings”; hereafter referred to as “Preservation and Management Plan etc.”).

As is stated above, in addition to the individual Preservation and Management Plan etc. for different types of component part constituting the nominated property, a comprehensive plan for preservation and management encompassing the diverse constituent elements therein has become necessary. In the recent nominations of cultural heritage for World Heritage inscription, Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plans have been prepared in the manner summarized below.

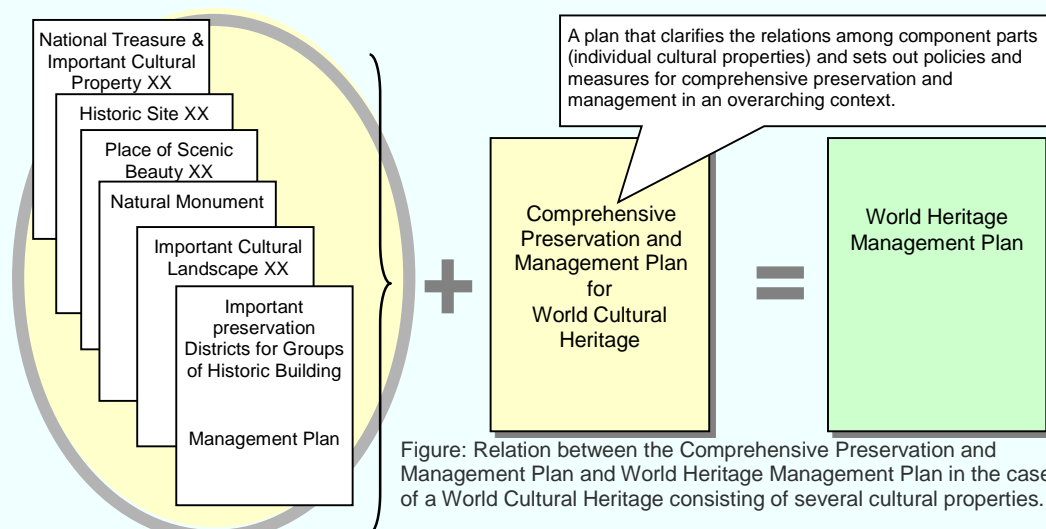


Figure: Relation between the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan and World Heritage Management Plan in the case of a World Cultural Heritage consisting of several cultural properties.

<Scope of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan>

In the past nominations of cultural heritage from Japan for World Heritage inscription, it has been a rule to select cultural properties designated by the national government under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties as component parts of the nominated property. In addition, with regard to the surrounding environment of the component parts, harmonious protection measures have been put in place as an integral area that complements the Outstanding Universal Value of the property in coordination with individual cultural properties that are the component parts of the property by means of control measures based on the Natural Parks Law, Forest Law, and other laws and regulations, including the scenic zone based on the ordinances of local governments.

Since the World Heritage nomination of cultural heritage consisting of diverse component parts is likely to increase in the future, it is becoming the more important how to realize the integrated preservation and management that ensures the balance between the nominated property composed of a group of component parts and the surrounding environment.

In light of the above-mentioned circumstances, it is important to ensure full coordination with many laws and regulations pertaining to the conservation of the surrounding environment of the nominated property in the preparation of a Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for a World Heritage property, so that the nominated property and the surrounding environment will be properly preserved and managed in an integrated manner.

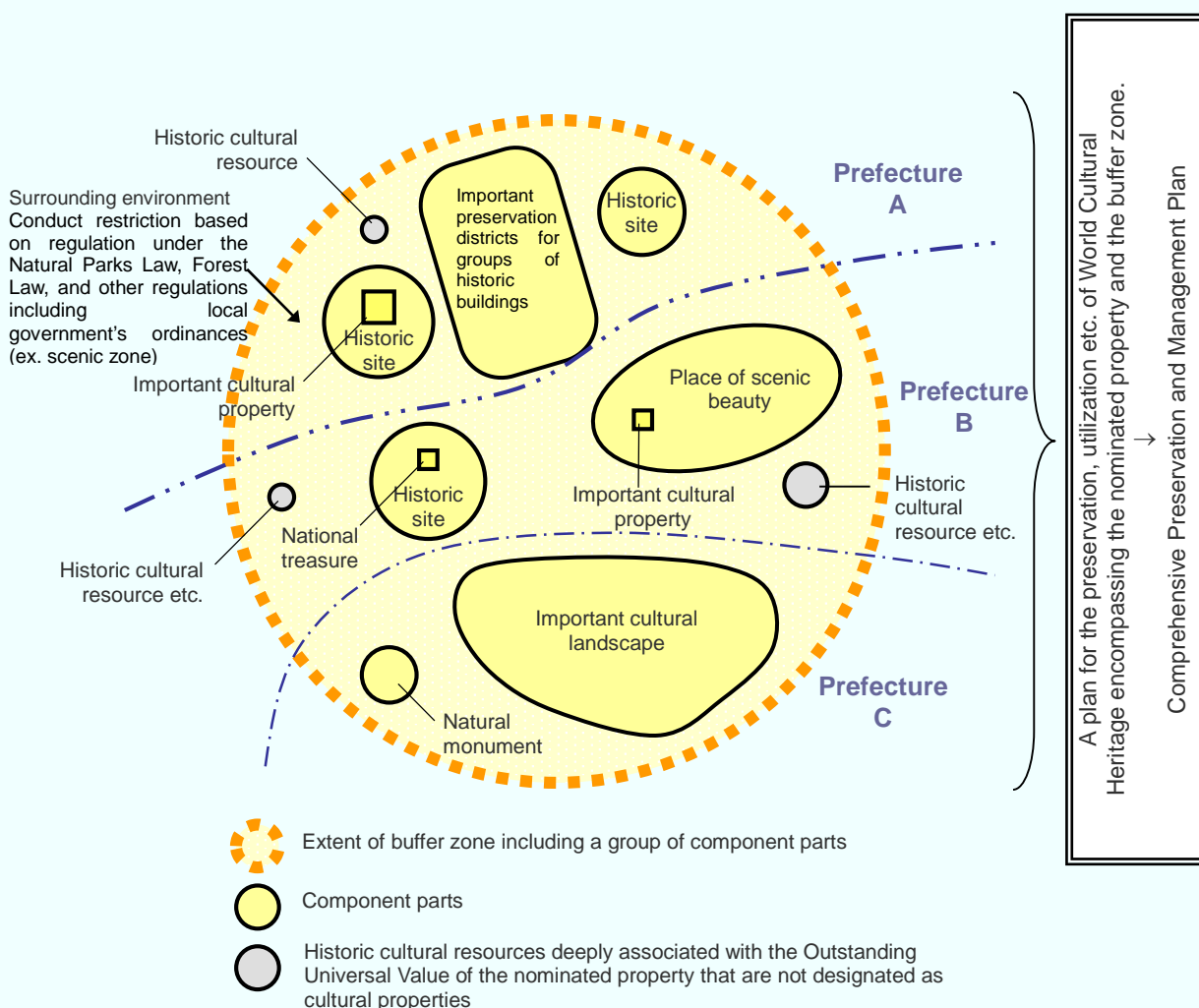


Figure: Conceptual diagram showing the scope of the comprehensive preservation and management plan

[Need for a Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan]

1. Need for integrated preservation and management of the value of the nominated property composed of diverse component parts

This section first explains the difference between the categories of cultural heritage under the World Heritage Convention and those of cultural properties in Japan. Then, the overview of the recent developments in World Heritage nomination is given as the background behind the need for the preparation of a Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan, together with explanation about the fact that comprehensive preservation and management is becoming an extremely important element in the evaluation of nominations.

(1) Categories of cultural heritage under the World Heritage Convention and cultural properties under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

Under the World Heritage Convention, cultural heritage is defined under the following three categories. In each case, movable heritage or immovable heritage which are likely to become movable is not considered for World Heritage inscription.

[1] Monuments

Architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of history, art or science.

[2] Groups of buildings

Groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of history, art or science;

[3] Sites

Works of man or the combined works of nature and of man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of Outstanding Universal Value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological points of view.

(2) Developments in the recent World Heritage nomination

Since the first inscription on the World Heritage List was made in 1978, the number of inscribed properties has been increasing steadily. However, on the other hand, imbalances have become apparent in the World Heritage List. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee took note with concern of such tendency as a threat against the credibility of the World Heritage List reflecting the world's cultural and natural diversity of Outstanding Universal Value and discussed corrective measures, resulting in the adoption of the "Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List" in 1994 (hereafter referred to as "Global Strategy") (Paragraphs 54-61 of the Operational Guidelines).

In the recent evaluations of World Heritage nominations, the following trends emerged in line with the policies of the Global Strategy.

[1] Reduction in the number of new inscriptions

[2] Increasing attention to cultural landscapes

[3] Nominations of specific types of properties

(3) Need for a comprehensive preservation and management plan based on recent developments

Recent World Heritage nominations show a tendency of diversification in the justification of Outstanding Universal Value, including not only a single property but also the various component parts that are united as one whole in the common natural, historical, and/or cultural context.

With regard to the preservation and management of individual component parts, it is possible to ensure the transmission of their values to future generations by means of individual management plans of respective cultural property. However, when it comes to the identification of relations among individual component parts and the appropriate preservation and management of the said relations, individual preservation and management plans alone are not necessarily sufficient.

Therefore, in the case of the nominated property consisting of diverse component parts, it is necessary to clarify the relations among individual component parts and to set forth policies for inter-coordination of preservation and management among component parts and measures for integrated preservation of the whole, including the buffer zone.

In the case of "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range," which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2004, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee made the following three recommendations and requests in its decision on inscription.

- The World Heritage Committee
- i. Recommends the State Party undertake an inventory of the key elements of the site over the next five years in order to inform management. This should include an analysis of the wooded mountain landscape;
 - ii. Further recommends the State Party give consideration to setting up a coordinating body to oversee the management of the site and perhaps appoint an overall coordinator;
 - iii. Requests the authorities to develop a more detailed management plan and medium-term strategy to address the sustainable management of both the natural and cultural aspects of the site. Such a plan might consider the appropriate placement of overhead wires and visitor facilities. This plan should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre by 1 February 2006 for examination by the Committee at its 30th session in 2006.

It is highly likely that many future nominations from Japan will consist of diverse component parts that are combinations of cultural properties, such as national treasures, important cultural properties, special historic sites, special places of scenic beauty, special natural monuments, special historic sites, places of scenic beauty, natural monuments, important cultural landscapes, and important preservation districts for groups of historic buildings.

In order to ensure the appropriate protection of such nominated property consisting of diverse component parts, a Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan, which not only addresses the preservation and management of individual component parts but also sets out the policies and measures for the integrated protection of the whole nominated property, taking into account the identified interrelations among the component parts, is necessary for World Heritage nomination.

2. Need for comprehensive preservation and management covering not only the nominated property but also the buffer zone

Generally regarding the preservation and management of individual component parts, policies for ensuring the transmission of value to future generations and measures for preservation are set out in individual preservation and management plans. However, the policies and measures for the overall conservation of the buffer zone that exists between individual component parts are basically beyond the scope of these plans.

This section focuses on the appropriate size of the buffer zone required in the Operational Guidelines and measures to respond to the increase of tourists as a factor that could affect the nominated property particularly from the perspective of the need for the preparation of a Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan.

(1) Appropriate size of the buffer zone

The Operational Guidelines (Paragraphs 103 to 107) defines the buffer zone as “an area surrounding the nominated property which has complementary legal and/or customary restrictions placed on its use and development to give an added layer of protection to the property” for “the purposes of effective protection of the nominated property”. It is extremely important in ensuring the protection of authenticity and integrity of the nominated property.

The buffer zone needs to be delineated not only to protect the immediate setting surrounding the individual component parts but also from the perspective of protecting the property consisting of several component parts as one whole. At the same time, there is a particularly strong need to have coordination with city planning and other land use control measures; it is necessary to determine the appropriate area in full consideration of the ideal relations between the property and the buffer zone as well as the roles that the buffer zone should play.

(2) Need for a comprehensive preservation and management plan for the nominated property and the buffer zone

In the case of the nominated property consisting of a group of diverse component parts, the surrounding environment lying between the individual component parts could play extremely important roles in safeguarding inter-spatial relations between the component parts. It is therefore important to define such surrounding environment as the buffer zone, ensuring the conservation as integral environment in unity with the nominated property.

Because it is difficult to set out policies for the delineation of an appropriate area of the buffer zone to protect the nominated property from various negative impacts as well as measures to respond to the increase of tourists in the individual preservation and management plans for cultural properties, they should be addressed in the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan, which encompasses the nominated property and its buffer zone.

3. Need for guidance to enable multiple stakeholders including owners, local governments, and other organizations, to implement preservation and management with common understanding

In the case of the nominated property consisting of diverse component parts, owners, managers, and custodial bodies of individual cultural properties are expected to be involved in the preservation and management of the whole property, which requires all of these stakeholders to share the same understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property and to continue preservation and management of the property in unity and in accordance with unified policies.

Also in this respect, it is necessary to have common guidance for the purpose of continuing efficient and effective preservation and management, based on the clear division of roles among stakeholders who are involved in the preservation and management of the property. It is this guidance that is provided by the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for World Heritage nomination.

[Desirable Structure of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan]

Based on the structure of the past Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plans that were developed for World Cultural Heritage properties in Japan and also in consideration of requirements of the World Heritage Convention and the Operational Guidelines (including matters pointed out by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and ICOMOS to the past nominations) as well as the analyses of the recent developments in World Cultural Heritage nominations and examples of other countries, the indicative structure of the desirable Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan has been worked out.

(Refer to the table on the following page.)

Table: Indicative structure and content of the desirable Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan

Content		Description
Chapter 1 Purpose and Background		
1	Purpose	Preservation of the integrity of the nominated property in unity with the buffer zone. The development of a comprehensive plan concerning management.
2	Background of the development of the plan	History and background of related discussion and adoption (history of the establishment and meetings of a committee, participation of local communities etc.) * When revised, the history and background of revisions in addition to the above.
3	Administrative status of the plan	Explanation about relation and coordination with other administrative plans, including city planning. Time schedule of the implementation of the plan.
Chapter 2 Overview of the Composition of the Property and the State of Preservation and Management (Nominated Property and Buffer Zone)		
1	List of component parts	An inventory of component parts and their constituent elements. Their relation with and relevance to World Heritage criteria.
2	Extent of the property and the buffer zone	The extent of the property and the buffer zone. The rationale for their delineation. * When revised, clarification about any modification ever to the boundaries of the buffer zone.
3	Description of component parts and state of preservation and management	Basic information about the state of conservation and management of the whole property (in consideration of information to be reported to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre in the periodic reporting process. Quantitative data should be provided whenever possible). * When revised, the basic information provided in the previous version should be updated.
Chapter 3 Goals and Basic Policies for Preservation and Management (Nominated Property and Buffer Zone)		
1	Clarification of the Outstanding Universal Value	Clear statement of the Outstanding Universal Value as World Heritage. * When revised, clear statement whether or not it is necessary to modify preservation and management goals and/or priority issues to be addressed, in relation to the state of conservation of the OUV of the property, in consideration of any impacts, if any, due to the increase of tourists etc. after World Heritage inscription.
2	Basic policies of the preservation and management plan	Clearly-set goals for preservation, management, maintenance, interpretation, utilization, etc. of the entire property (e.g., relations between individual component parts, common issues confronting the component parts of the same type) to ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value. Basic policies for preservation and management in order to achieve goals. *When revised, revision of goals in consideration of the issues at the time of revision (re-prioritization).
Chapter 4 Preservation and Management (Nominated Property)		
1	Elements that constitute the component parts of the property	Identification of various elements that consist the property (the nominated property – component parts – elements).
2	Measures for preservation and management	Summary with explanation of regulations and control measures within the property with a particular focus on matters common to the individual component parts. Description of management measures (including maintenance) from the perspective of preserving the Outstanding Universal Value and its authenticity and integrity and ensuring transmission to future generations. To be specific, the permission standards for development activities etc. under the domestic laws, measures to coordinate (control) use and tourism expected to increase after World Heritage inscription, environmental consideration to address global environmental pressures including climate change, policies about how to handle changes of natural elements such as plants, risk preparedness for fire and other disasters.
Chapter 5 Integrated Conservation of the Surrounding Environment (Buffer Zone)		
1	Elements that constitute the surrounding environment of the property	Identification of various elements that consist the surrounding environment (buffer zone) of the property
2	Measures for integrated conservation of the surrounding environment	Summary with explanation of regulations and control measures within the buffer zone, with a particular focus, when the buffer zone is separated for different component parts, on those commonly applied throughout the buffer zone together with logic and measures for conservation. Logic and measures to manage the surrounding environment (setting) that produces important, associative atmosphere, although not part of the Outstanding Universal Value of property, and to maintain the integrity of the property and the continuity between a series of component parts.
3	Harmony with the life of people living in the surrounding area	Measures to minimize impacts on, and build harmonious relation with, the lives of residents in the surrounding area.
Chapter 6 Projects and Measures for Infrastructure, Interpretation, and Utilization (Nominated Property and Buffer Zone)		
1	Basic policies	Policies for development and implementation of projects for preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value, interpretation of the OUV, utilization of the site, and/or reception of visitors.
2	Projects and measures for maintenance	Plans of projects and measures for maintenance purposes, installation of signboards and other facilities for interpretation and utilization.
3	Projects and measures for interpretation and utilization	Plan of projects and measures pertaining to programs for explanation, utilization, education, interpretation, etc. (including coordination among multiple stakeholders).
Chapter 7 Establishment and Operation of the System for Implementation (Nominated Property and Buffer Zone)		
1	Establishment of the system for preservation and management and division of roles	Clarification of division of roles and responsibilities and explanation about how the complex preservation and management mechanism functions, involving many stakeholders such as the national government, the prefectural government(s), and municipal government(s).
2	Coordination and collaboration between local governments and local communities etc.	Explanation about how consensus is built among stakeholders including local communities about preservation, management, maintenance, and utilization.
3	Mechanism for participation of local communities	Mechanism to promote active participation of local communities, to provide assistance to the activities of local communities, etc.
4	Periodical review for sustainable operation	Organization for sustainable operation. Plan of periodical review and revision (indicative schedule).
Supplementary Chapter		
	(Action plan (draft))	Annual work plan, short-term, medium-term and long-term plans, prioritization, budget scale, and budgeting procedures to the extent possible. * When revised, the previous version should be updated.

3. Function of this Plan

As stated in “1. Background and Objective of this plan”, this plan sets out the vision and basic policies for the comprehensive preservation and management of the World Heritage, “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*” and also principles and guidance concerning the preservation and management of the property, including maintenance, interpretation, utilization, organization, and other specific items related to comprehensive preservation and management. It is intended to provide guidance for Okinawa Prefecture, local governments, citizens, and other various stakeholders who engage in preservation and management of this property when they explore and promote concrete actions in the future.

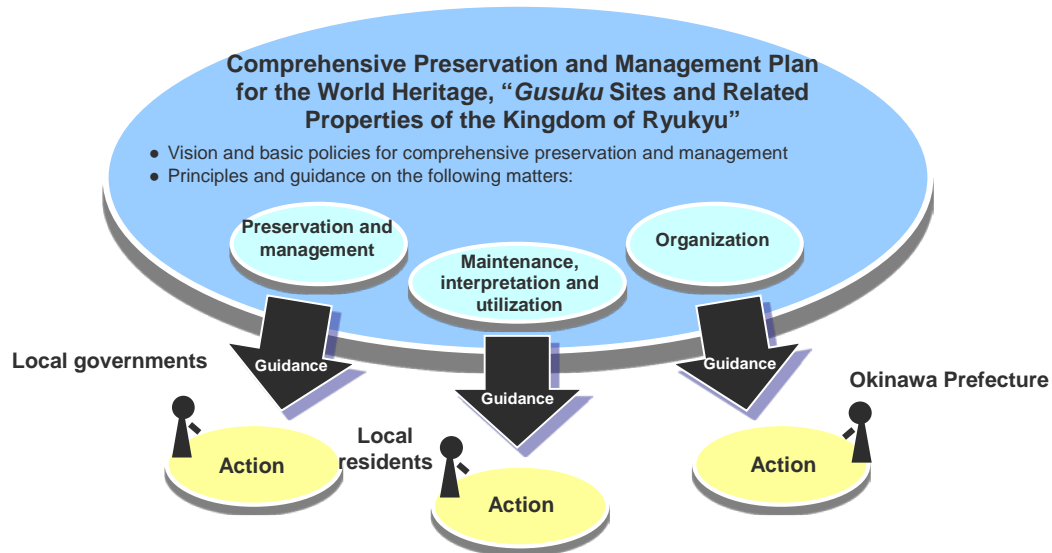


Figure 1-1: Function of this plan (schematic diagram)

As the primary role of this plan is to provide overarching guidance, the specific policies and measures concerning the preservation and utilization of individual component parts are set forth in individual preservation and management plans to be developed for each of the component parts (hereafter referred to as the “individual preservation and management plans”). These plans will form part of the aforementioned “Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage” (Management Plan) in combination with this comprehensive preservation and management plan.

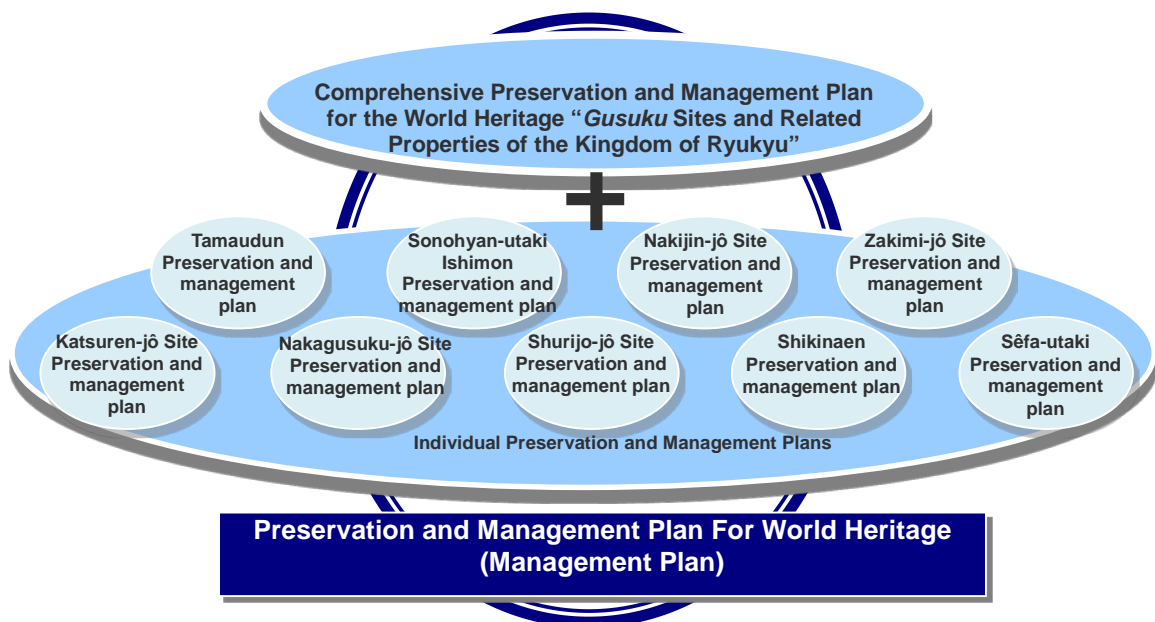


Figure 1-2: Relations of this plan and individual preservation and management plans (schematic diagram)

4. How this Plan was Developed

For the development of this plan, the "Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage. "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" (hereafter referred to as the "Committee") was established. The Committee reviewed the drafts of this plan for more than two years. The history of discussion and summaries of the committee meetings are shown below:

(1) History of the development of the management plan

The flow chart below shows the past discussions for the development of this plan.

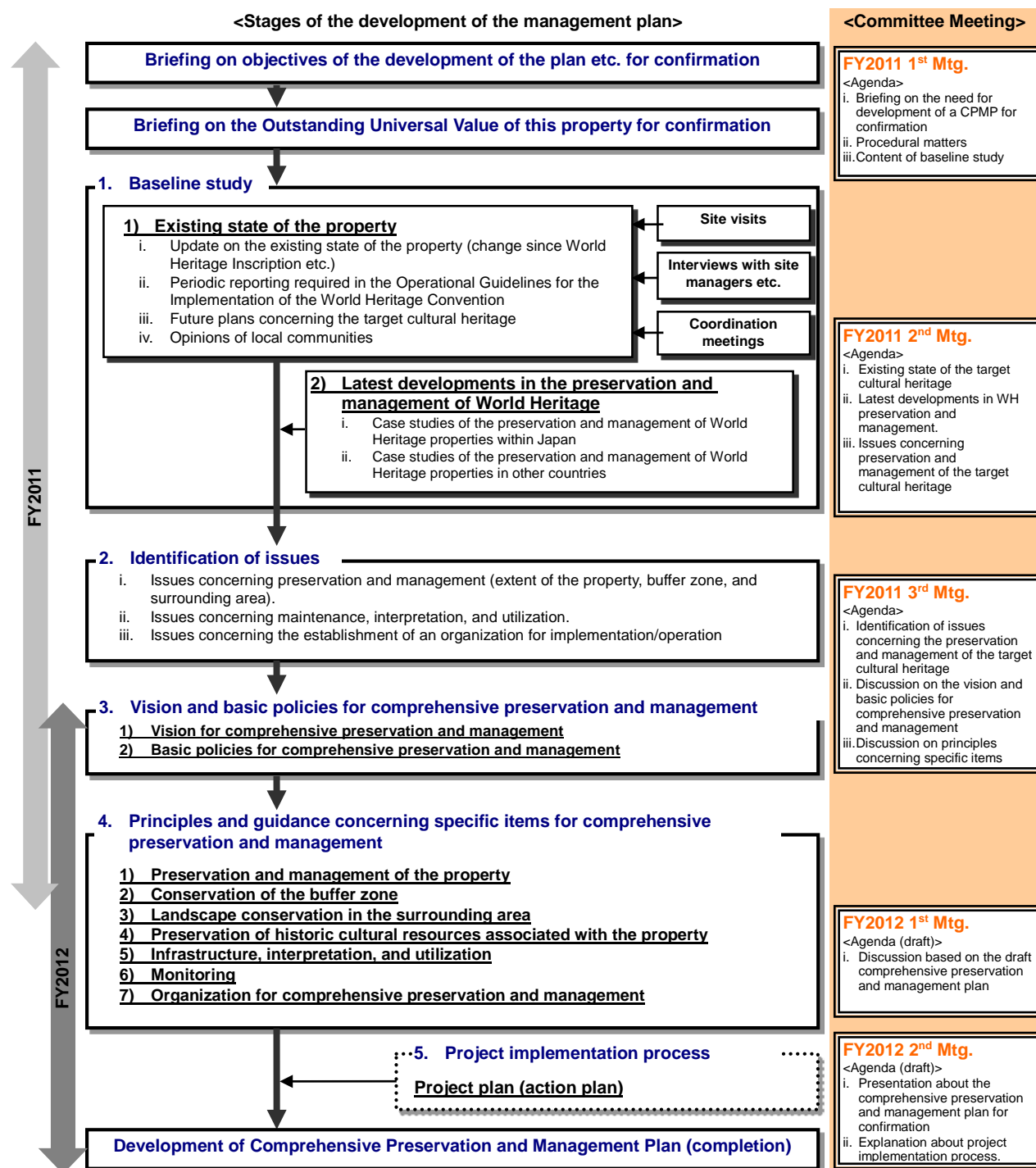


Figure 1-3: Flow chart showing the history of the development

(2) Committee for the development of the management plan

The TOR concerning the appointment of the committee members, the rules and procedures for the committee meetings, the list of committee members, and the summaries of the meetings are provided below.

[1] Rules for the establishment of the committee

The Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*”, was set up according to the TOR concerning the appointment of the committee members shown below.

31 March 2011

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education Directive No. 1

The Terms of Reference Concerning the Appointment of the Members of the Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan

(Establishment)

Article 1

The members of the Committee for the Development of Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan (hereafter referred to as “Members”) are appointed for the purpose of collecting opinions widely for the development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan that sets forth specific measures for integrated protection and utilization of the component parts of the property in order to maintain and enhance the Outstanding Universal Value of “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*”, inscribed on the World Heritage List as specified in Article 11 (2) of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972 (1992 Convention No. 7).

(Status)

Article 2

The official status of Members shall be the position of non-permanent specialists, as stipulated in Item 3, Paragraph 3, Article 3 of the Local Public Service Law (1950 Law No. 261).

(Duties)

Article 3

Members shall examine, discuss, and consult on the following matters and report the results to the Superintendent of the Board of Education:

- (1) Matters concerning various factors affecting the component parts, the existing state of the component parts and environmental changes surrounding the component parts from the time of inscription up to date.
- (2) Matters concerning projects that may damage the Outstanding Universal Value of “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*”.
- (3) Matters concerning the recent developments in the World Heritage Management Plans and measures for protection and utilization in other countries.

(Commission)

Article 4

The Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education (hereafter referred to as the “Board of Education”) shall commission persons with academic experience in the field of protection and utilization of cultural properties as Members.

(Remunerations etc.)

Article 5

Remunerations and reimbursement of expenses shall be made to the Members in accordance with the provisions for remuneration and expenses of non-permanent Special Position of Okinawa Prefecture (No. 111, 1972 Okinawa Prefecture Regulations).

(Services)

Article 6

1. Members shall obey laws, ordinances, rules, etc. in performing their duties.
2. Members shall not conduct any act that may impair the reputation of their own positions or dishonor the other officers of the prefectural government.
3. Members may not leak or disclose any secrets that have been acquired in the course of their services. The same shall apply after retirement from their positions.

(Dismissal)

Article 7

When a Member falls under any of the following, the Board of Education may dismiss such Member any time before the end of the commissioned period.

- (1) Negligence of duties stipulated in Article 3.
- (2) Violation of the provisions of the preceding Article.
- (3) Act of conduct deemed inappropriate as a Member.

(Continued to the next page)

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- (4) No longer able to perform duties due to mental or physical disorder or for other reasons.
- (5) Commissioned duties are no longer required.

Article 8 Supplementary rules

In addition to the provisions of this Directive, the Superintendent of the Board of Education may separately set forth matters required for Members.

Supplementary Provisions

(effective date)

- 1. The Directive shall come into force from 1 April 2011

(loss of effect)

- 2. The Directive shall lose its effect as of 31 March 2013.

[2] Rules and procedures for the organization of committee meetings

The rules and procedures for the "Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" are provided below.

(Resolved by Superintendent of the BoE as on 30 March 2011)
Revision (Resolved by Superintendent of the BoE as on 10 June 2011)

The rules and procedures for the organization of the meetings of the "Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu".

(Objective)

Article 1 Necessary matters for the organization of the meetings of the Committee are hereby set forth in order to examine, discuss, and consult on matters, as stipulated in Article 3 of the TOR for the Appointment of Members for the Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan.

(Members)

Article 2 The meetings shall consist of five members.

(Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson)

Article 3 One chairperson and one vice-chairperson shall be elected from among the members.

- 2. The chairperson shall preside over the proceedings.
- 3. The vice-chairperson shall assist the chairperson and act on behalf of the chairperson in the event of an accident or absence of the chairperson.

(Meetings)

Article 4

- 1. Meetings shall be convened by the chairperson.
- 2. The officials of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, local governments where World Heritage properties are located, relevant organizations, etc. may participate in meetings as observers.

(Secretariat)

Article 5 The Cultural Properties Division of the Education Bureau shall serve as the secretariat for the organization of meetings and take care of administrative matters.

(Supplementary rules)

Article 6 In addition to the provisions above, the Superintendent of the Board of Education may separately set out matters necessary for the organization of meetings.

Supplementary Provisions

- 1. The rules and procedures shall come into force on 1 April 2011.
- 2. The rules and procedures shall lose its effect after 31 March 2013.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 1, Article 4, the first meeting shall be convened by the Superintendent of the Board of Education.

Supplementary Provision

The rules and procedures shall come into force on 10 June 2011.

[3] Committee members

Members, observers, etc. of the Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*” are shown below.

At the first meeting, Professor Masamitsu HANAI and Professor Nobuko INABA were elected as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, respectively.

Table 1-1: List of committee members, observers, etc.

(Titles omitted)

Category	Name	Expertise	Affiliation etc.
Member	Nobuko INABA	Theory of heritage & architecture history	Professor, University of Tsukuba Graduate School
	Yasuyoshi OKADA	Cultural heritage	Director, Institute for Cultural Studies of Ancient Iraq, Kokushikan University
	Shiichi TOMA	Archaeology	Director of <i>Gusuku</i> Research Center Former Curator of Okinawa Prefectural Museum
	Masamitsu HANAI	Conservation ecology	Chairperson, Okinawa Ecotourism Promotion Council
	Toru MASUBUCHI	History of ancient Japan	Professor, Kyoto Tachibana University
Observer	Agency for Cultural Affairs (the Office for World Cultural Heritage of the Monuments and Sites Division of the Cultural Properties Department) Okinawa Prefecture (Department of Culture, Tourism and Sports) Nakijin Village (Board of Education, General Affairs Section, Construction Section and Economic Affairs Section) Yomitan Village (Board of Education, Economy and Construction Department) Uruma City (Board of Education, City Planning Section, Commerce, Industry and Tourism Section) Nakagusuku Village (Board of Education, City Construction Section and Industrial Site and Tourism Promotion Section) Kitanakagusuku Village (Board of Education, Construction Section, Industry Promotion Section) Naha City (Board of Education, Urban Planning Department, Economy and Tourism Department) Nanjo City (Board of Education, Urban Construction Section, Tourism and Culture Promotion Section)		
Secretariat	Okinawa Prefecture (Cultural Properties Division of the Education Bureau) PREC Institute Inc.		



Photo 1-1: FY2011 1st Meeting



Photo 1-2: FY2012 2nd Meeting

[4] Summary of committee meetings

The Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" was organized five times in total between FY2011 and FY2012 (three times in FY2011 and twice in FY2012). The summaries of the meetings are shown in the table below.

Table 1-2: Summaries of the committee meetings

FY	No.	Date	Place	Agenda
FY2011	1 st Mtg.	Wednesday, 13 July 2011	F4, Conference Room Okinawa Prefecture South Government Building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Overview of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan 2 Procedural matters 3 Content of baseline study
	2 nd Mtg.	Wednesday, 21 December 2011	F4, Conference Room Okinawa Prefecture South Government Building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Existing state of "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" 2 Latest developments in World Heritage preservation and management 3 Issues concerning the preservation and management of "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" and their handling in the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan
	3 rd Mtg.	Monday, 12 March 2012	F4, Conference Room Okinawa Prefecture South Government Building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Objective and function of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" 2 Structure of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" 3 Vision and basic policies for comprehensive preservation and management 4 Principles concerning specific items concerning comprehensive preservation and management
FY2012	1 st Mtg.	Wednesday, 25 July 2012	F4, Conference Room Okinawa Prefecture South Government Building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Structure of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan 2 Content of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Chapter 4 (Preservation and Management of the Property) 2) Chapter 5 (Conservation of the Buffer Zone) 3) Chapter 6 (Conservation of Landscapes of the Surrounding Area) 4) Chapter 7 (Infrastructure, Interpretation and Utilization) 5) Chapter 8 (Monitoring) 6) Others
	2 nd Mtg.	Friday, 15 February 2013	F4, Conference Room Okinawa Prefecture South Government Building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Modification based on the opinions at FY2012 1st committee meeting 2 Contents of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Chapter 10 (Organization for Comprehensive Preservation and Management) 2) Chapter 11 (Revision of the Plan) 3) Supplementary chapter (Action Plan) 3 Plan in general

Chapter 2

**Overview and Existing State of the World Heritage,
“*Gusuku* Sites and Related Properties of the
Kingdom of Ryukyu”**

1. Basic Facts Related to World Heritage Inscription

The basic facts of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”, inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000, are summarized below.

(1) List of the component parts

This property consists of nine component parts, all of which are covered by this management plan.

Table2-1 : Component parts of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”

Name of component part	Category under the World Heritage Convention	Location	Owner of property
1-A Tamaudun	Monument	Naha City	Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture
1-B Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Monument	Naha City	Naha City
2-A Nakijin-jô site	Site	Nakijin Village	Nakijin Village
2-B Zakimi-jô site	Site	Yomitan Village	Yomitan Village
2-C Katsuren-jô site	Site	Uruma City	Uruma City
2-D Nakagusuku-jô site	Site	Kitanakagusuku Village Nakagusuku Village	Kitanakagusuku Village Nakagusuku Village
2-E Shuri-jô site	Site	Naha City	Okinawa Prefecture, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
2-F Shikinaen	Site (including cultural landscape)	Naha City	Naha City
2-G Shikinaen	Site (including cultural landscape)	Nanjo City	Nanjo City

※The number in the numeric-alphabetical code of each component part corresponds to the category under the World Heritage Convention, as included in the nomination dossier. 1 corresponds to monuments and 2 corresponds to sites.

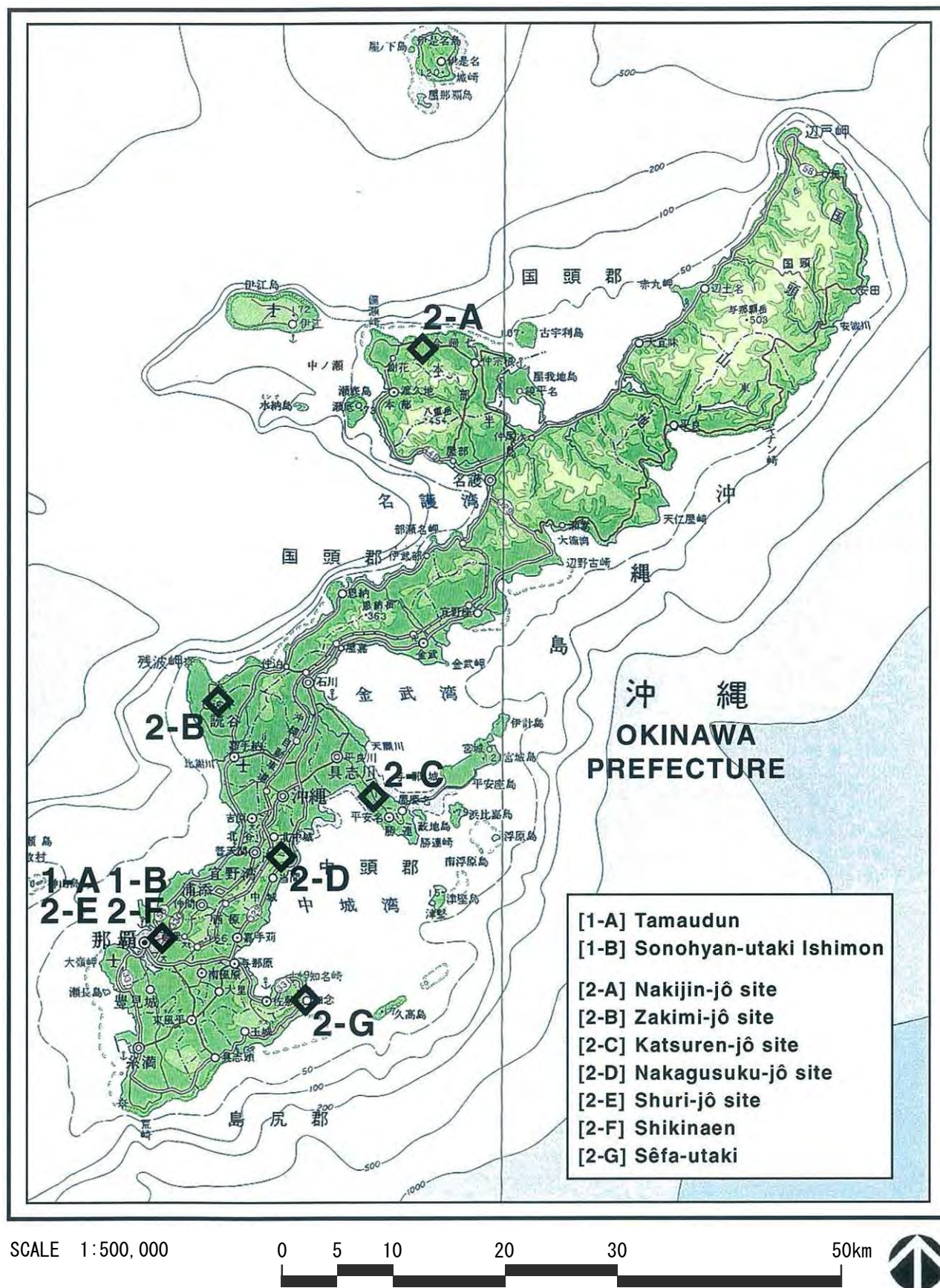


Figure 2-1: Location of the component parts that are covered by this management plan
Excerpt from the nomination dossier for inscription on the World Heritage List of "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu"

(2) Description of the property

The descriptions of the component parts of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” in the nomination dossier (submitted in June 1999) are quoted below.

1) Monuments

1-A. Tamaudun (Tamaudun Royal Mausoleum)

Tamaudun is a royal mausoleum dedicated to the kings of the second Shō Dynasty of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The mausoleum is known to have been constructed by the third king of the dynasty Shō Shin (r 1477-1526) as a symbol to show the power of the central royal government throughout the kingdom. Ryukyuan people share such strong respect for the founders of their clans that it is a common religious practice to worship the tombs of their ancestors as the shrines of guardian deities. It can be rightly said that Tamaudun was intended to take advantage of this religious mentality of the Ryukyuan people in favor of the king's sovereignty over the Ryukyu Islands.

According to the inscription on the stela in the central court, the mausoleum was constructed in approximately 1501. The tomb is carved out of naturally-occurring limestone bedrock and covered with a gabled roof of pan-tiles. Tamaudun is characterized by its stone walls of coral limestone blocks, enclosing the burial chamber and the mausoleum grounds and also separating the outer tomb court from the inner tomb court.

The burial chamber is divided into the central chamber, the eastern chamber and the western chamber, each with a stone gate at the center. The central chamber was used to store the remains of deceased royal members temporarily before the bones were washed for purification; the eastern chamber was exclusively for the washed remains of kings and queens whereas the western chamber was used to enshrine the washed remains of other royal members. The stone wall in front of the tomb is equipped with balustrades, which are decorated with carvings of lions and lotuses, and three stone sculptures in the shape of lions seated on pedestals of a height of 1m are placed at the center and on both sides of the burial chamber.

The first gate of the royal mausoleum, in the surrounding stone wall, is a south-facing arched gateway with double wooden doors. The other gate, called *Chūmon*, in the separation wall is also an arched gateway, topped with stone carved in imitation of a hip-and-gable style roof. The two gateways are characteristically narrow in width and the axes are deliberately offset from each other. The floor of the inner court is impressively bedded with fragments of forked coral. All of these features of the mausoleum's composition and design are closely associated with Ryukyuan religious beliefs, especially the concepts of exorcism and purification.

Tamaudun suffered partial destruction during World War II; however, the first gate and the stone walls around the mausoleum and in the inner court were given adequate first-aid repair in 1962 and by 1977 most of the damaged parts had been completed with repair. In preparation for the repair work, photographs taken around 1941 and surviving structural members and parts were collected as sources of information about the original state of the remains; the repair work was conducted reusing the remaining original structural members whenever possible; even when there was no alternative but to introduce new parts, the same kind of material, i.e. coral limestone, was used.

Tamaudun is a rare example representing the unique architectural style of stone monuments developed in the Ryukyu Islands in the early 16th century.



Photo 2-1: Tamaudun (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

1-B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (Stone Gate of the Sonohyan Shrine)

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon is a stone gate erected in 1519 by Shō Shin (r 1477-1526), the third king of the Ryukyuan Shō Dynasty. The area behind the gate was revered as a sacred forest, or *Sonohyan-utaki* proper, by the people of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The forest received much attention from the government of the Ryukyu Kingdom as a guardian shrine of the nation, to which prayers were offered for the peace and security of the kingdom and to which annual rituals were dedicated. In addition, the king made it a custom to offer a prayer for protection when he was to leave Shuri-jō for a tour around the kingdom; the highest priestess, *Kikoeōgimi*, did the same before she left

Shuri-jô for Sêfa-utaki to practice the rite of *Oaraori*.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon represents the unique style of stone architecture that developed on the Ryukyu Islands out of a combination of Japanese architectural style and Chinese architectural style: detailed decorative designs usually used for wooden structures are painstakingly reproduced in stone using exquisite carving techniques on rafters, cusped gables, flame-shaped pendants and ridge decorations. Coral limestone is used for the main structural members and the roof, whereas fine-grained sandstone is used for ridge stones and parts of the ornamental precious jewel sets. Among these stone structures the doors of the gate are exceptional, made from wood.

Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon suffered damage in World War II but has been repaired through conservation repair work done in 1956-1957 -- in which the remaining parts and materials were preserved or reused -- and through major repair work done in 1981-1986 in which structural members were dismantled for thorough repair.

The sacred forest behind the gate, or *Sonohyan-utaki*, which had been the main subject of worship, was reduced in scale due to the need of land for a school site in the postwar period. As a result, the forest no longer expresses the same magnificence that it had back during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom. In contrast, the gate leading to the forest, the Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon, has assumed the role as the main subject of worship, receiving increased attention from many devout people.



Photo 2-2: Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

2) Sites

2-A. Nakijin-jô Site (Nakijin Castle Remains)

Before the Ryukyu Kingdom ruled the Ryukyu Islands, the three kingdoms of Hokuzan, Chûzan and Nanzan divided the control of Ryukyu. Nakijin-jô was founded as the castle of the king of Hokuzan, and after Hokuzan was conquered by Chûzan in 1416 the castle was used by the governor deployed by the royal government of the Ryukyu Kingdom as the local government office for the Hokuzan district. Archeological excavation of the site has revealed large quantities of Chinese ceramic ware, indicating that the king of Hokuzan enjoyed prosperous trade with China. Other excavated artifacts also show that the construction of Nakijin-jô started in the late 13th century and reached completion between the early 14th century and the beginning of the 15th century.



Photo 2-3: Nakijin-jô Site (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

The location of the castle, an isolated hill surrounded by a river on the east, a valley on the west and a steep cliff on the south, gave Nakijin-jô a great deal of strategic advantage. Although parts of the six enclosures that comprise the castle compound suffered some degree of deterioration -- e.g. collapsed stone walls or replacement with new materials in the post-war repair work -- most parts remain in a rather good condition of preservation; overall the castle remains much as it was during the reign of the three kingdoms.

The castle walls surrounding Nakijin-jô extend approximately 1,500 m in total length and they are arranged in the form of elegant arcs, instead of in linear formation, in better harmony with the curvature of the natural terrain. An excellent sense of workmanship is also evident in the design of the castle walls around *Ôsumikaku*, an enclosure used by the soldiers as a parade ground, located to the east of the main gate. The castle walls were made by piling blocks of hard limestone at an acute inclination to a height of 6 to 10 m. A wall measures 2 or 3 m in thickness at the upper part. The walls are equipped at the top with parapets, 50 cm wide and 70 cm high, which were used when defending the castle.

The existing main gate, called *Heirômon*, is a 1962 reconstruction. Throughout the reconstruction work, due attention was paid to protection of the remains by placing on the construction site a buffering layer of soil so that the gate's foundation would not impact the archeological ground itself; rectangular slits were made in the castle walls at both sides of the gate

as part of the restoration, based on research about the original state of the wall. Those slits were assumed to have been designed as arrow slits for defense by gate guards who used the wall as a watchtower.

The existing straight stone stairway between the main gate to a large courtyard in the first enclosure was added to the site in 1960; the remains of the original front approach to the enclosure are preserved beneath the new stairway and along the walls of the *Kâzafukaku*, located to the east of the stairway.

The first enclosure is located on the highest level in the castle site. Its flat floor was produced by painstakingly cutting the protruding parts of the bedrock and filling in the ground cavities with transported soil. The area contains the state hall, a shrine dedicated to a god of fire and a stone slab monument on which the history of Hokuzan including the story of the governor from the Ryukyu Kingdom are inscribed.

In front of the state hall were the northern hall and the southern hall, which together with a courtyard between them formed one large ritual stage. At the back of the state hall was the *Uuchibaru*, the residential quarters for priestesses, only the base stones of which remain to the present. At the *Shigemajôkaku*, located one step lower down to the southeast of the first enclosure, remain the sites of soldiers' residences with a gate called *Shigemamon*.

At the Nakijin-jô site remains a *Soitsugi-no-utaki* shrine dedicated to *Kanahiyabu*, the castle's guardian deity closely associated with the founding of the Ryukyu Islands. This shrine is one of the most important worship places together with two other sacred sites, i.e. the sacred dry well called *Karaukâ* and the site of the ritual stage called *Kamiasagi*.

2-B. Zakimi-jô Site (Zakimi Castle Remains)

Zakimi-jô was a castle constructed in the early 15th century by an influential chieftain of the time named Gosamaru. After the Ryukyu Kingdom (Chûzan) conquered Hokuzan, the royal government erected this castle for the purpose of keeping a close watch over the remaining Hokuzan supporters, who had withdrawn and stayed in the west coast area of Okinawa Island. In this way, Zakimi-jô played a strategically significant role in securely consolidating the sovereignty of the Ryukyu Kingdom in its early stages of foundation.



Photo 2-4: Zakimi-jô Site (excerpt from the Nomination Document)

The location of the castle was tactically planned and decided, from the viewpoint of ease of defense, at a site on a hill where a clear view of Shuri-jô was obtained in favor of smooth and prompt communication with the king at Shuri-jô. Zakimi-jô has two enclosures surrounded by winding walls of piled coral limestone blocks. The extant gate of the second enclosure is one of the oldest arched gates remaining on the island of Okinawa. Constructed with large-size stone blocks, the gate served as a robust barrier against the enemy. In addition, its structure made it easy to flank the enemy around the gate, giving advantage to the defending side. The first enclosure contains a trace of a building foundation, which is currently covered with mound of soil for preservation.

At the Zakimi-jô site remains a sacred place dedicated to *Kobazukasa*, *Manezukasa* and *Jônai Hinukan*, guardian deities revered by local chieftains, who wished for political stability and continuance of their influence through divine providence. It is still today an active place of worship, attracting many devout people.

The castle walls and the arched gates in the site collapsed partially during World War II and suffered further damage in the post-war period when military bases of the United States of America were constructed. As a result of restoration work conducted from 1974 to 1983, the site was restored to the present condition, though the building site at the first enclosure and parapets of the castle walls were left untreated for lack of reliable information about their original state.

2-C. Katsuren-jô Site (Katsuren Castle Remains)

Katsuren-jô was the castle of Amawari, a feudal lord who resisted to the last against the king of the Ryukyu Kingdom, whose influence was prevailing over the entire Ryukyus. Lord Amawari won a 1458 war against Gosamaru, a senior vassal of the Ryukyu Kingdom, at Nakagusuku-jô and took over the castle, but his ambition for the throne was to be thwarted when he suffered a crushing defeat in attacking Shuri-jô. The defeat of Lord Amawari led to further consolidation and

centralization of power at the royal government of Chûzan, or the Ryukyu Kingdom, at Shuri-jô.

The large amount of artifacts excavated at the Katsuren-jô site indicates that Awamari and other lords of Katsuren-jô actively traded with countries outside the Ryukyu Islands. These artifacts provide precious sources of information about the facts of Katsuren-jô, such as the construction date of the castle, which is estimated to have been in the 12th or 13th century.

The castle site contains an isolated steep hill with a panoramic view of the surrounding land in all directions. The benefits of the location, i.e. ease of detecting the enemy in the distance and access to an excellent port to the south, made the castle the more formidable. Katsuren-jô is composed of four enclosures which are separated from each other by walls of coral limestone blocks. The composition of the castle walls is characterized by curvature and a rhythmic flow of lines produced by the series of walls. The first enclosure, located at the highest level of the site, had an arched gate in the castle wall. Excavations of the second enclosure have revealed the site of a shrine spanning 14.5 m wide from east to west and 17m wide from north to south, which is now covered with a soil mound for preservation. At the third enclosure the trace of a four-pillared wooden gate called *Shikyakumon* has been excavated as well as piles of stone blocks, presumably remains of repeatedly reconstructed or remodeled castle walls. The fourth enclosure has two gates, *Nishiharauijô* on the northeast side and *Haebaruuijô* on the southwest side, and there remain five wells and several base stones, presumably part of a former building.

At the Katsuren-jô site remain places of worship for *Kobazukasa* and *Jônai Hinukan*, guardian deities revered by local chieftains, who wished for political stability and continuance of their influence through divine providence. The shrine of *Kobazukasa*, a round stone column placed at the center of the first enclosure, is still today the subject of worship for a large number of devout people. Near a cave in the second enclosure remains a shrine dedicated to a god of fire. Another important sacred place is a ritual stage called *Tunumutu* at the third enclosure, where ten stone stools are placed in the form of the letter "L". These stools are known to have been used by officially registered local priestesses called *Noro* on occasions of ritual prayer offerings.

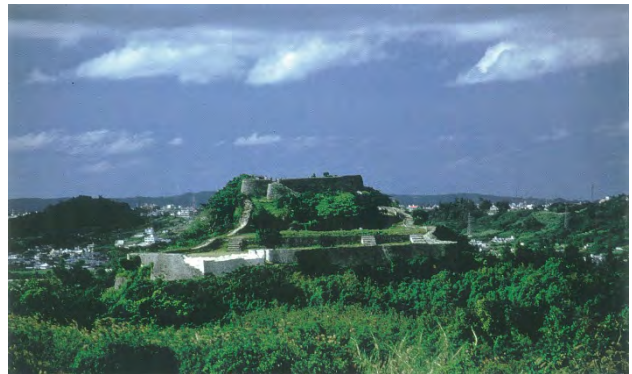


Photo 2-5: Katsuren-jô Site (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

2-D. Nakagusuku-jô Site (Nakagusuku Castle Remains)

Nakagusuku-jô was the castle to which Lord Gosamaru was deployed from Zakimi-jô on the king's order to check the invasion of Lord Amawari at Katsuren-jô, who was aspiring to the throne of the kingdom. In the middle of the most turbulent period of Ryukyuan history, the castle played a strategically important role and witnessed the last wars the Ryukyu Kingdom fought to acquire dominant power in Ryukyu.

Judging from the artifacts excavated at the site, it is estimated that the castle was constructed in the late 14th century; it has also been confirmed that the third enclosure and the northern enclosure were added by Lord Gosamaru in the mid-15th century, introducing the best available techniques of castle construction at that time.



Photo 2-6: Nakagusuku-jô Site (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

The Nakagusuku-jô site contains six enclosures. They are arranged from the northeast to the southwest in a row: the northern enclosure, the third enclosure, the second enclosure and, on the highest level at the center of the site, the first enclosure -- from which extend the southern enclosure to the southwest and the western enclosure to the northwest.

The castle walls are made out of stacked stone blocks which were hewn out of coral limestone, piled on naturally occurring bedrock and arranged elegantly to give a rhythmic flow to the wall lines. Excellent workmanship was exercised in the design of the projecting corners, which are smoothly connected using blocks larger than the ordinary wall blocks to give a seamless rounded form. They are decorated with uniquely designed ornamental stonework in some places. The height of the wall

is over 10 m at the highest part. Different methods of wall construction were applied to different enclosures: *Nunozumi*, in which stone blocks are stacked in a horizontal alignment, was used for the walls of the first enclosure and the second enclosure, while *Aikatazumi*, in which blocks are stacked hexagonally or randomly, are used for the walls of the third enclosure. The inconsistency in the construction method is construed as indicating that the castle underwent several phases of extension after its original foundation. The wall of the southern enclosure has three arrow slits and the wall of the western enclosure has one arrow slit.

The main castle gate of Nakagusuku-jô was presumably a turret gate, as remaining parts of the castle wall indicate. On the other hand, the gates of the first enclosure, the second enclosure and the northern enclosure were built-in arched gates. On elevated flat ground at the far end of the first enclosure remain the traces of an office building of the guard post known as *Magiribanjo*, which was later used as the office of the municipal government of Nakagusuku Village. It is known that the building was not there before 1611 and had already been constructed when World War II broke out. In the first enclosure the remains of a well surrounded by walls of stacked stone blocks are found and another well has been found in the western enclosure.

In 1853, Commodore Perry of the United States of America visited the Ryukyu Islands on his expedition to the Japanese mainland. He sent his men for surveillance of the island, on which they found and studied the Nakagusuku-jô site with intellectual ardor, impressed by the high standard of castle construction techniques employed in the castle. Their paintings and scale drawings of the castle site remain to this date, providing precious information about the condition of the site at that time.

Several sacred places and places of worship have been found in the southern enclosure, the second enclosure and the western enclosure etc. Among them are Kudaka Island, a sacred space enclosed by stone walls, a long-revered place of worship for Shuri-jô and *Amagoi-no-utaki*, a ritual site for praying for rain. Still today many people visit these spots in pilgrimage.

2-E. Shuri-jô Site (Shuri Castle Remains)

Shuri-jô was the castle of the king of the Chûzan Kingdom, which eventually became the Ryukyu Kingdom, unifying the Ryukyu Islands in 1429. The castle continued to flourish as the center of the Ryukyus in terms of politics, diplomacy and culture until 1879. Past excavation efforts revealed that Shuri-jô was constructed in the middle or end of the 14th century. The castle is located on a hill overlooking the town of Shuri and the major port of the Ryukyu Kingdom, Naha Port; the castle site is separated into inner and outer enclosures in harmony with the natural landform of its location. The inner enclosure



Photo 2-7: Shuri-jô Site (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

was constructed in the early 15th century by Shô Hashi (r 1422 -1439), the second king of the first Shô Dynasty Ryukyu Kingdom. The outer enclosure and the surrounding area were added when the castle was enlarged in the reigns of Shô Shin (r 1477-1526) and Shô Sei (r 1527 -1555) of the second Shô Dynasty. The castle walls of *Aikatazumi* (random stacking style) coral limestone blocks extend 1,080 m in total length. The walls measure from 6 to 15 m in height and approximately 3 m in thickness. Watchtowers were annexed at the eastern and the western ends of the wall, the *Higashi-no-azana* and *Nishi-no-azana*, respectively. The remains of these towers can be seen still today.

Shuri-jô had several castle gates including arched gates with hipped-roof wooden turrets, called *Kankaimon*, *Keiseimon* and *Kyûkeimon*. On both sides of the *Kankaimon* a pair of stone lion sculptures were placed, whereas at the sides of the *Keiseimon* were placed stone monuments on which the story of Shuri-jô's foundation was inscribed, in Japanese and Chinese. In addition, Shuri-jô had multi-storied castle gates called *Zuiseimon* and *Rôkokumon*. On both sides of the stone steps leading to the *Zuiseimon* seven stelae featuring investiture envoys' handwritings and the *Ryûhi* fountain known to have been the source of water for people in the castle. By the side of the *Rôkokumon*, it is known, there used to be a sundial.

The state hall of the castle, called *Seiden*, was a three-storied palatial building with a hip-and-gable roof, facing toward the southwest. Decoration of the hall represents unique Ryukyuan features, which are most evidently exemplified by the front eaves of Chinese-style gables. The state

hall repeatedly burned down until it was reconstructed in 1715 and designated as a National Treasure. Although the hall had been conserved under legal protection for a while, a war-caused fire reduced it to ashes once again in World War II. Recently from 1989 to 1992 the Ministry of Construction and the Okinawa Development Agency conducted the restoration work of the hall in cooperation with the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. Prior to this project not only were records of the past condition such as photographs and scale drawings of the hall which had been made at the time of National Treasure designation collected and analyzed but also excavations were carried out for detailed investigation so as to realize a high degree of accuracy in the restoration. As a result of the newly-conducted excavations, the underground remains of the state hall turned out to be in a fairly good state of preservation and there was evidence of four phases of reconstruction on the foundation platform for purposes of enlargement or remodeling. Under the stall hall that was restored above-ground lie the strictly protected underground remains.

Before it was burned down in World War II the state hall was on an elevated foundation platform with stone balustrades in the front and along the sides of the front stone steps. In addition, a pair of *Ryûchû*, pillars carved in the shape of a dragon, were installed at both sides of the front steps. The center of the front eave and the ends of the main ridge were decorated with large sculptures of dragonheads called *Ryûtô*. The main pillars and the connecting boards at the joints were ornamented with multicolored carvings of dragons accompanied with strings of clouds. Though the state hall was a three-storied structure, only the first floor and the second floor were used. The simple and subtle atmosphere of the first floor makes a striking contrast with the second floor, which is exuberantly ornamented with splendid colorful decorations and exquisitely crafted designs and patterns. The splendor of the second floor culminates in the king's throne called *Usasuka*. In front of the throne at the eave of the second floor was an audience space. The first floor and the second floor were both separated by a lengthy corridor into a front section and a back section. The front section was used as the office of the royal government, while the back section was used as a waiting room. These features and functions of the state hall -- in terms of both design and structure -- have been faithfully reproduced.

The state hall was surrounded by a state court called *Unâ* in front with the *Hokuden* (northern hall) and the *Nanden* (southern hall) at its sides. The court served as the stage for important rituals on the kingdom level, such as investiture ceremonies. The Chinese-style northern hall was the office of an administrative bureau with the function of a guesthouse while investiture envoys from China were visiting the Ryukyu Kingdom. In contrast, the southern hall was Japanese-style architecture used when entertaining the mission from the Japanese mainland, or, to be specific, from the domain of Satsuma. Restoration works of the two halls were conducted from 1989 to 1992 and now the reconstructed halls serve tourists and other visitors as exhibition halls or souvenir shops.

At the back of the state hall was the *Uuchibaru*, the residential quarters for the royal members. Sacred places called *Kyônouchi* and *Shurimori* in the Shuri-jô site were used as places of worship where prayers were offered to guardian deities for protection of the Ryukyu Kingdom.

2-F. Shikinaen

Shikinaen was a royal garden villa which is said to have been constructed in 1799. The garden was used by the royal members not only for recreational purposes but also for diplomatic affairs such as when they hosted reception parties for investiture envoys from the emperor of China.

The plan of the garden shows the influence of Japanese gardens from the 17th to 18th centuries whereas Chinese influences are also evident in some garden facilities. But, when viewed in the whole



Photo 2-8: Shikinaen (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

perspective, the garden is distinctively Ryukyuan in design and composition, the style of garden in which a pond plays the central part in terms of concept and composition. Facilities -- passageways, pavilions, artificial hills and flower gardens -- are arranged around the pond, which itself is accented with two small islands and Chinese-style arched bridges. Boating was one of the recreational activities enjoyed in the garden. A hexagonal pavilion fashioned after a Chinese architectural style is erected on one of the small pond islands. Other pavilions are one-storied wooden structures roofed

with red tiles, which was a privilege only allowed to the upper class of the Ryukyu Kingdom, but at the same time these pavilions show some characteristic features of Ryukyuan folk residences in the eave design. The garden contained an archery field, as was usually the case with residences for feudal lords of Edo Period Japan. Passageways around the pond are intentionally given vertical variation to emphasize the ups and downs of the terrain with the effect that a rhythmical change of views can be enjoyed as visitors proceed along the paths. The pond is filled with fresh water from a nearby spring known as Ikutokusen, secluded with hedges of coral limestone. At the top of the hedges are two stone slabs on which handwritings of two investiture envoys, Zhao Wenka and Lín Hóngnián, are inscribed in commemoration. In the southernmost area of the pond is installed a piece of stone equipment used to drain the water of the pond out of the garden.

World War II caused severe damage to Shikinaen, damaging garden pavilions, shoreline revetments and arched bridges. Large-scale restoration work was carried out from 1975 to 1996. As a result, the garden facilities including the hexagonal pavilion and the arched bridges have been restored with a high degree of precision on the strength of photographs taken in the pre-war period together with newly-conducted investigative excavations.

Being a rare example of the Ryukyuan garden landscape, with a style which had developed quite uniquely and which had established a distinctive status in Japanese garden culture, Shikinaen is nominated as a designed cultural landscape, as described in Paragraph 39 (i) of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1999).

2-G. Sêfa-utaki

Shô Shin (r 1477-1526), the third king of the second Shô Dynasty, is known as a reformer of the religious system. He broke away from the traditional religious system of ancestor worship and nature worship that had developed locally, then re-organized it into a centralized system at the top of which he placed a new rank of priestess entitled Kikoeôgimi; he selected a woman from a closely-related royal family and assigned the title and its accompanying power to her. Sêfa-utaki was one of the most sacred places, closely associated with the highest priestess Kikoeôgimi, and it greatly contributed to supporting the centralized sovereignty of the Ryukyu Kingdom from the religious side.

The exact date of the foundation of Sêfa-utaki is not clear, but the official chronicle of the Ryukyu Kingdom, titled Chûzan Seikan, says that it was one of the ritual stages created by Amamiku, the god who founded Ryukyu. In the early 15th century Sêfa-utaki had already established itself as an indispensable sanctuary in the Ryukyu Kingdom: the Ryukyuan king made pilgrimages to Sêfa-utaki and the ritual of Oaraori was performed by the Kikoeôgimi highest priestess. Lush sub-tropical forests and rocks in various picturesque shapes produce an awe-inspiring, forbidding atmosphere around Sêfa-utaki.

There are several places of worship at Sêfa-utaki, among which Uhugûi, Yuinchi, Sangûi and Ujouguchi are famous. The first three of these are closely related and are connected by stone-paved passageways. It is known that, originally, Sêfa-utaki was closed to males, although today the sacred place is open to many people regardless of gender. In August of the lunar calendar, the sacred place becomes alive with people who perform the traditional ritual of Agarimâi, also known as Agariumâi, in which they make pilgrimage in a procession in a spiritual pursuit following their ancestors' footsteps.

Being an outstanding example representing a unique form of religious activities based upon the Ryukyuan concept of nature, Sêfa-utaki meets the standards for a cultural landscape, as described in Paragraph 39 (iii) of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1999).



Photo 2-9 :Sêfa-utaki (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

(3) Outstanding Universal Value of the property

The value of "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu", stated in the nomination dossier (submitted in June 1999), is quoted below.

[1] Statement of Significance (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

From the 12th to the 16th centuries, local chieftains known as *Aji* divided Ryukyu into several small domains and contended against one another. Those local chieftains constructed castles called *Gusuku* as their residences and strategic bases for the defense of their domains. Originally in the 10th to 12th centuries, the term *Gusuku* meant hamlets of farmers, who enclosed their villages with plain stone walls for self-defense purposes. Later as some of these groups gained more strength to become local powers, *Gusukus* became accordingly more stately and solid in a way suitable for the residence of the head of a village. It was not long after that large-scale castles surrounded by firmly stacked stone walls appeared as the residences of *Aji* and came to be referred to by the name of *Gusuku*. This period was a time of great change for Ryukyuan society in terms of industry, economics and politics. Industrially, agricultural production increased in great measure thanks to improved agricultural tools and equipment; economically, ardent transit trades with Sung Dynasty China, mainland Japan, the Korean peninsula and Southeast Asia brought long-term economic prosperity to Ryukyu. Politically, it was a time when numerous local powers were gradually united and integrated into three kingdoms, i.e. Hokuzan, Chûzan and Nanzan, which would eventually be unified into the Kingdom of Ryukyu.

The Ryukyu Islands are now an administrative unit of Japan under the name of Okinawa Prefecture and classified into the same cultural area as mainland Japan from the anthropological, linguistical and archeological points of view. However, being part of a chain of islands located in the southernmost region of Japan, Ryukyu's historical development followed quite a unique course, culminating in its emergence as an independent kingdom of its own. The location was also advantageous in terms of overseas trade with China, the Korean peninsula and Southeast Asia, which brought wealth and prosperity to the Ryukyus. After Ryukyu was conquered by the Tokugawa Shogunate and the Satsuma domain of mainland Japan in 1609, the Kingdom of Ryukyu was placed under the lordship system of Japan until abolished by the Meiji government of mainland Japan and incorporated into the centralized prefectural system as Okinawa Prefecture eventually in 1879. After World War II, in which Okinawa suffered severe damage and in which many lives were lost, Okinawa was under the control of the government of the United States of America for 26 years until it was returned to the government of Japan in 1972.

All through these periods of change, over 300 *Gusuku* sites and related archeological remains have survived to the present day on the Ryukyu Islands.

Among them, the five *Gusuku* sites and two other monuments and two cultural landscapes included in the nominated property are especially outstanding with a vividness which illustrates the distinctive characteristics of Ryukyuan geography and history and the unique development of the political, economic and cultural aspects of the region.

[2] Comparative analysis (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

There are no other regions of Japan that had achieved political, economic and cultural development of a high standard as uniquely as the region characterized by the nominated property, where even an independent kingdom prospered on its own in pre-medieval Japan. Even today the monuments and archeological sites continue to represent the typical cultural characteristics of the region, quite distinctive in such a heavily industrialized nation as Japan. As there are hardly any other such examples, it is not possible to make a direct comparison with similar properties elsewhere in the world.

[3] Authenticity (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

Each of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property clearly shows outstanding value as cultural heritage in terms of design, material, workmanship and setting -- thanks to appropriate maintenance and management by the property owners and also by the national and local governments.

In particular, as part of repair works undertaken under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, advance investigations, including excavations and environmental impact research, are carefully prepared and carried out on the history of the archeological sites. On the basis of these results a conservation committee composed of the owners, experienced experts and administrative representatives discusses and decides the principles of repair works and provides guidance as required. For any alterations to the existing condition which are proposed for restoration or other purposes, the permission of the national government is required based on detailed examination by the Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties, which includes many members of ICOMOS Japan.

The techniques in the repair work applicable to both wooden and stone structures have been established and refined through experience gained from conservation projects which have been

undertaken in the modern age. In this respect, the authenticity of the nominated property as a cultural property is assured as follows.

i) Authenticity of Design and Material

Stone monuments and stone structures which remain at Tamaudun, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and Shikinaen have maintained most of their original condition in terms of structure, design and materials, although some parts were replaced with new materials after being damaged in World War II. Restoration of lost parts is rendered as accurately and precisely as possible through detailed analysis of data recorded in photographs and scale drawings of the cultural assets. In addition, the remaining structural members and their fragments are used for reference analysis through anastylosis methodology. In this way the composition, the structure, relief decorations and materials of most parts have been maintained in their original condition without compromise to their historical value. Accordingly, the authenticity of design and material of these monuments and structures is guaranteed.

On the other hand, *Gusuku* sites, which suffered severe damage during World War II, have undergone a series of restoration efforts aimed at re-creating the magnificent atmosphere of the *Gusuku* Period. To that end the castle walls of the *Gusuku* sites have been restored observing the following principles: to record the state of the cultural assets before and after the operation in drawings precisely scaled by means of photogrammetry or other technologies; to incorporate the latest knowledge of materials, skills and architectural technologies obtained through studies by scientists and restoration engineers of stone walls and to review literature on similar restoration attempts for reference; to reuse the remaining parts of the original structural members whenever possible; to mark the restored parts clearly to distinguish them from the original.

Furthermore any alteration to the existing condition is prohibited without advance permission from the national government, which is issued only after the adequacy of the proposed alteration is discussed and scrutinized by the Council for the Protection of Cultural Affairs. In this system there is not likely to be any compromise in terms of the authenticity of design and material.

At *Gusuku* sites included in the nominated property, not only above-ground stone remains but also underground remains are preserved in good condition, guaranteeing the high historical / archeological value of the property, as a result of implementation of preservation methods suitable for fragile materials, i.e. soil and wood.

ii) Authenticity of Workmanship

The technique for constructing and conserving stone-stacked structures has been established and transmitted for generations through repeated repair works conducted on the stone castle walls of modern Japan including Ryukyu. In short, regular dismantlement techniques have been developed and refined: stone structures are dismantled to repair or replace unstable members whose structural strength has been weakened through weathering and aging; even restoration of missing parts are attempted when necessary. In recognition of the importance of maintaining peculiar techniques and architectural styles accumulated in stone structures through repetition of dismantlement and reconstruction, each step of repair work is carefully conducted. The authenticity of workmanship has thereby been successfully maintained.

iii) Authenticity of Setting

None of the components of the nominated property have been moved from their original locations; traces of buildings discovered through archeological excavations have also been preserved as sources of precious historical information indicating the original composition or arrangement of those now-lost structures in the castle sites and others. At the same time, ceaseless efforts have been made to mitigate war-caused damage to the natural and cultural setting of the region, which is the spiritual home to the people of Okinawa Prefecture.

In addition, technological attempts to preserve the value of underground remains more effectively are made at each of the *Gusuku* sites and other archeological remains. Installation of full-scale replicas for visual representation and other symbolic approaches to promoting archeological remains are extended applications of these technologies.

At the Shuri-jō site, for instance, the state hall, which was lost during the war as a National Treasure (designated under the National Treasures Preservation Law of pre-war Japan), has been reproduced precisely at the original location based upon scale drawings and photographs of the hall, cross-checked with the results of investigative excavations. This restoration is a result of the devoted efforts of the national government of Japan, which decidedly tackled the project in the belief that to rebuild the state hall of Shuri-jō -- i.e. to produce an exact full-scale replica -- was a flagship project necessary for Okinawa Prefecture to recover from the aftermath of great hardship it had

suffered during World War II.

Also in the case of Shikinaen, which suffered severe damage during World War II, preservation of the underground remains of the royal villa (a Place of Scenic Beauty under the Law for the Preservation of Historic Sites and Places of Scenic Beauty of pre-war Japan) is being carried out in combination with accurate restoration repair work of its garden area, including full-scale replica presentation of garden facilities at the original locations on the basis of pre-war photographs cross-checked with the results of investigative excavations.

In this way the authenticity of the setting has been preserved on a high level while promotion of the property through full-scale replicas of architectural structures or rebuilt structures is pursued with a high degree of accuracy and precision in relation to the authenticity of the setting.

[4] Criteria under which inscription is proposed (excerpt from the nomination dossier)

The nominated property "*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*" is proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List under evaluation criteria C (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi), as is explained in detail below.

Each of the stone monuments and archeological sites included in the nominated property illustrates the unique development and transition that Ryukyu had experienced through political, economic and cultural interchanges with mainland Japan, China and Southeast Asia. In this sense, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion **C (ii)**.

The *Gusuku* sites included in the nominated property are exceptionally precious archeological remains, valuable as sources of information about the architecture of forts and castles which had developed in tandem with the political changes of Ryukyu since they first appeared as the residences of local chieftains representing farmer villages on the southernmost islands of Japan. They are tangible symbols of the now-lost ancient culture and tradition of Ryukyu. Originally the *Gusukus* were deeply incorporated in the day-to-day lives of farmer villages. Still today they are active stages for cultural activities of Ryukyu and local spiritual centers where people living in the region strengthen spiritual ties with each other through prayer and worship for their shared ancestors. Being exceptional testimony to the cultural tradition of Ryukyu, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion **C (iii)**.

Each of the monuments, sites and cultural landscapes included in the nominated property is an outstanding example showing that Ryukyu during the reign of the Ryukyu Kingdom boasted civil engineering, architecture and landscape architecture of high standards from cultural and esthetic points of view. In particular, stone monuments such as Tamaudun and Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon and other stone structures -- ranging from old-type plain-stacked castle walls to newer block-piled walls and arched gateways -- clearly reflect elements of architectural workmanship and designs used in China and East Asia which are skillfully modified and adjusted to the use of unique Ryukyuan materials. At the same time, Shikinaen shows, in its composition, landscape and garden facilities including arched bridges, typical elements of a uniquely Ryukyuan sense of architectural composition and design, which have been born out of a fusion between the Japanese-style garden and the Chinese-style garden.

Being an outstanding example of architectural techniques of stone monuments and cultural landscapes from the inception of the Ryukyu Kingdom throughout its time of prosperity, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion **C (iv)**.

Each of the monuments and sites included in the nominated property is an outstanding example representing the typical elements of religious beliefs and activities unique to Ryukyu. Among them *Gusuku* sites were not simply political centers but also religious stages for the local people in the farmer hamlets in many cases. Still today, *Gusukus* are at the same time archeological remains of high academic value and living spiritual centers for contemporary Ryukyuan people, as is reflected in the fact that *Gusuku* sites are still today used by traditional priestesses called Noro as stages for religious rituals. Sêfa-utaki, which was the religious center of the entire Ryukyu Kingdom, still retains those key features of Ryukyuan sacred places known as Utaki: closed thick forests and picturesque rocks. It is intriguing that Sêfa-utaki commands a view of small islands in the eastern sea between the tree trunks of the thick forest, reminding devout visitors of the old Ryukyuan belief that the gods' land of Nirai Kanai is located far in the east at the end of the sea. In this way Sêfa-utaki is a cultural landscape closely associated with religious beliefs unique to Ryukyuan nature worship, a living religious tradition still flowing in contemporary rituals and festivals of this region. For that matter, the whole of the nominated property is rooted in the spiritual lives and day-to-day activities of the local people as an active stage for such rituals.

Being directly and tangibly associated with the religious beliefs and living traditions of Ryukyu, the nominated property meets the standard of evaluation criterion **C (vi)**

*As a result of discussion at the 24th session of the World Heritage Committee, this property was finally inscribed on the World Heritage List, based on criterion C (ii), C (iii) and C (vi), without criterion C(iv).

2. Existing State of the Property

The existing state of this property was updated based on site visits, interviews with site managers and other resource persons, collection of relevant information, etc. The results are described below.

(1) Perspectives for updating the existing state

The existing state of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” has been with a particular focus on changes that occurred since the time of World Heritage inscription up to the present and in consideration of the final structure of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan mainly from the following three perspectives.

<Perspectives for updating the existing state>

a. Impact on the property and progress made

The state of individual component parts have been updated from the perspectives of any (potential) impact on the property that occurred since World Heritage inscription up to the present and of the progress made in terms of preservation and management through the efforts made by local governments etc.

b. Preservation / management, maintenance, interpretation, utilization, and organization

The aforementioned progress made has been examined from the perspectives of “preservation and management” to ensure the transmission of the value to future generations, “maintenance, interpretation and utilization” to visualize and communicate the value to local communities, visitors, etc. and “organization” to ensure their implementation.

c. Location: property, buffer zone, and surrounding area (outside buffer zone)

The aforementioned “impact on the property” and “progress made” have been looked into in terms of their location, i.e. whether it is in the “property”, the “buffer zone”, or the “surrounding area (outside buffer zone)”.

Table 2-2: Summary of items and contents on existing state of each component part

Category		Item	Content
1. Impact on the property		A. Development pressures	Situation of impacts on the property from residential area development, construction of large buildings and structures, and other developments.
		B. Environmental pressures	Situation of impact on the property from climate change, acid rain and other forms of environmental problem.
		C. Natural disasters	Situation of impact on the property from typhoons, earthquakes, large-scale rainfall and other forms of natural disaster.
		D. Visitor/tourism pressures	Situation of impact on the property from the increasing number of tourists and other forms of tourism use.
2. Progress made	2-1 Preservation and management	A. Research and study	Research and study on the property itself, historical cultural resources associated with the property and other subjects.
		B. Enforcement of laws	Status of enforcement of new control measures by laws and regulations in the property, the buffer zone and the surrounding area.
		C. Maintenance	Maintenance work conducted mainly for the protection of archaeological remains and monuments included in the property.
		D. Landscape conservation	Various efforts related to the conservation of landscapes and views from the property to the surrounding area and vice versa.
	2-2 Maintenance, interpretation and utilization	A. Projects for preservation	Status of restoration of archaeological remains, monuments, and historic buildings in the property, including recovery from natural disasters.
		B. Projects for utilization	Status of installations of convenience facilities etc. which have been carried out for the purpose of proper use of the property.
		C. Efforts for interpretation and utilization	Status of efforts that have been made for the interpretation and utilization of the property.
	2-3 Organization	A. Organization for preservation and management	State of the establishment and/or operation of the organization for preservation and management of the property.
		B. Organization for maintenance, interpretation and utilization	State of the establishment and/or operation of the organization for maintenance, interpretation and utilization.

(2) Existing state of the property

The existing state of the property is described below by category specified in the preceding section.

1. Impact on the property

The situation of the impact on the property is summarized below.

A. Development pressures

a. Construction of buildings, structures, etc. that affect the landscape

At some component parts, there are situations in which views from the property to the surrounding natural elements such as the sea and the mountain ridge are obstructed or the horizon or the skyline formed by the mountain ridge is broken due to the construction of high structures such as steel towers or large structures such as power stations mainly in the surrounding area.



Photo 2-10: View from the property to the surrounding area. A steel tower breaks the horizon (Zakimi-jō site).



Photo 2-11: View of Nakagusuku Bay from the center of Katsuren-jō Castle. Landfilling for port construction is under way (Katsuren-jō site).

b. Plans of developments that would affect the landscape

Land reclamation is planned at the Awase tidal flat that extends over Nakagusuku Bay located between Katsuren-jō Site and Nakagusuku-jō Site. The initial plan, which was to reclaim and expand land from the mainland, was changed later to off-shore landfilling. Okinawa City plans to purchase a part of the land to develop a center to accommodate hotels, shopping malls, and an IT training center (Awase Tidal Flat Reclamation Plan).



Photo 2-12: View of Nakagusuku-jō from Katsuren-jō.

B. Environmental pressures

a. Decrease in pond water in the garden

There is a decrease in the water amount in the pond located in Shikinaen. The main cause is considered to be the decrease in the water amount of the Ikutokusen spring, which is the source of the pond water.

C. Natural pressures

a. Damage to archaeological remains due to typhoons, earthquakes, etc.

Some component parts suffered damage due to typhoons, earthquakes, etc., including partial collapse of the castle wall, damage to the archaeological remains by a fallen tree (damaged archaeological remains have been restored and a fallen tree has been removed after disasters).

Photo 2-13: Significantly distorted castle wall after a typhoon. The gaps that existed between stone blocks before the typhoon widened (Nakagusuku-jō Site). Source: "Nakagusuku Village Cultural Properties Vol. 12, Development Project Report II on Nakagusuku-jō Site" Nakagusuku Board of Education, 2010.



b. Erosion of surface soil due to inflow of rainwater

At the Katsuren-jô Site and Sêfa-utaki, there are some places where rainwater runoffs caused by torrential rains have eroded surface soil along the walking trails.



Photo 2-14: Loss of surface soil by the side of the cobbled pathway (Katsuren-jô site).



Photo 2-15: Loss of surface soil. Sandbags are placed to filling the grooved ground (Sêfa-utaki).

D. Visitor/tourism pressures

a. Damage to archaeological remains due to visitation

At Shikinaen, the lawn is becoming the bare ground due to trampling of increasing visitors.

b. Disturbance to the use as a place for prayer-giving

At Sêfa-utaki, the number of visitors has increased from approximately 12,000 annually before World Heritage inscription to some 30 times after World Heritage inscription, resulting in disturbance to the sacred atmosphere of the place for prayer-giving.

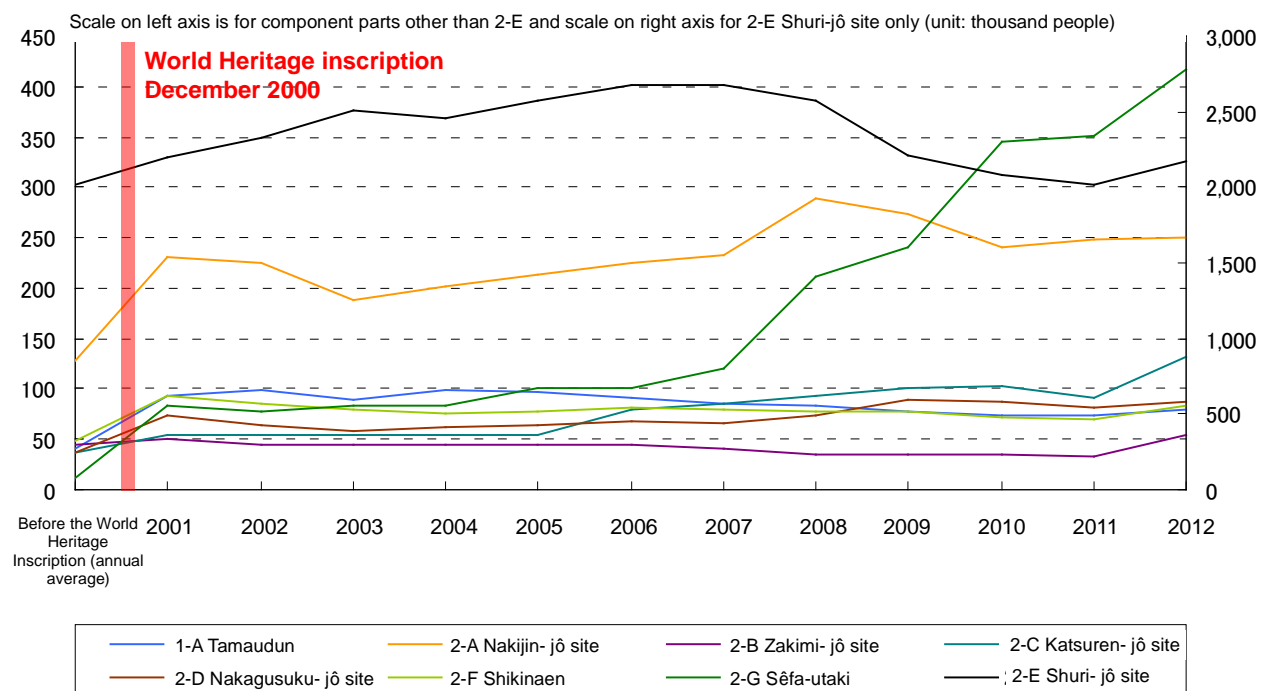


Figure 2-3: Change in the number of visitors at individual component parts

2-1 Progress made (preservation and management)

The situation of actions taken for preservation and management is described below.

A. Research and study

a. Research and study on the property

At Nakijin-jō site, the archaeological excavations of settlement site, stonework remains etc. in the vicinity of the property have been carried out, resulting in the confirmation of their relation to the property.

At Nakagusuku-jō site, archaeological excavations are continuously carried out in the property and the buffer zone, resulting in the steady accumulation of information about the state of preservation, internal structure, and baseline data for repair or restoration.



Photo 2-16: The central part of the south wall of Nakagusuku-jō, as completed excavated. The long-lost wall lines were discovered (Nakagusuku-jō site).

Source: "Nakagusuku Village Cultural Properties Vol. 12, Development Project Report II on Nakagusuku-jō Site," Nakagusuku Village Board of Education, 2010

B. Enforcement of laws

a. Designation of historical cultural resources associated with the property as cultural properties

At Nakijin-jō site, the aforementioned settlement site, the archaeological remains of stone work, etc. have been additionally designated as part of the national historic site as a result of the determination of their value based on archaeological excavations. In 2010, Shiina-jō site (the castle believed to predate Nakijin-jō) was added to the designation and the official name of Nakijin-jō as the national historic site was changed to "Nakijin-jō site with Shiina-jō site attached" accordingly (February 2010).



Photo 2-17: Archaeological remains of stone work at the Shiina-jō site (Nakijin-jō site)

Source: "National Historic Site, Nakijin-jō Site: Nakijin-jō Site complemented by Shiina-jō Site," Brochure, Nakijin Village Board of Education.

b. Implementation of new legal protection measures for landscape conservation by means of the development of landscape plans and the enactment of landscape ordinances

In Yomitan Village, the height limit on the buildings and structures surrounding the Zakimi-jō Site was lowered from 13m to 12m by means of the amendment to the "Yomitan Village Landscape Ordinance" and the enforcement of the "Yomitan Village Landscape Plan" in 2009.

In Uruma City, the "Uruma City Landscape Plan" was formulated in March 2011. This plan designated areas around the Katsuren-jō Site as the priority area (the surrounding area of the Katsuren-jō site and the marine road), for which the standards for landscape development are to be discussed.

In Naha City, the "Naha City Landscape Plan" was formulated in May 2011 (in force on 1 April 2012). This plan designated the area covering Shuri-jō site, its buffer zone, and their surrounding area as "Shuri historic area" and Shikinaen, its buffer zone, and their surrounding area as "Shikina historic area", for which new restrictions were introduced on the form, design, height (15m or lower), etc. of buildings and structures (height limit was only for the Shuri historic area).

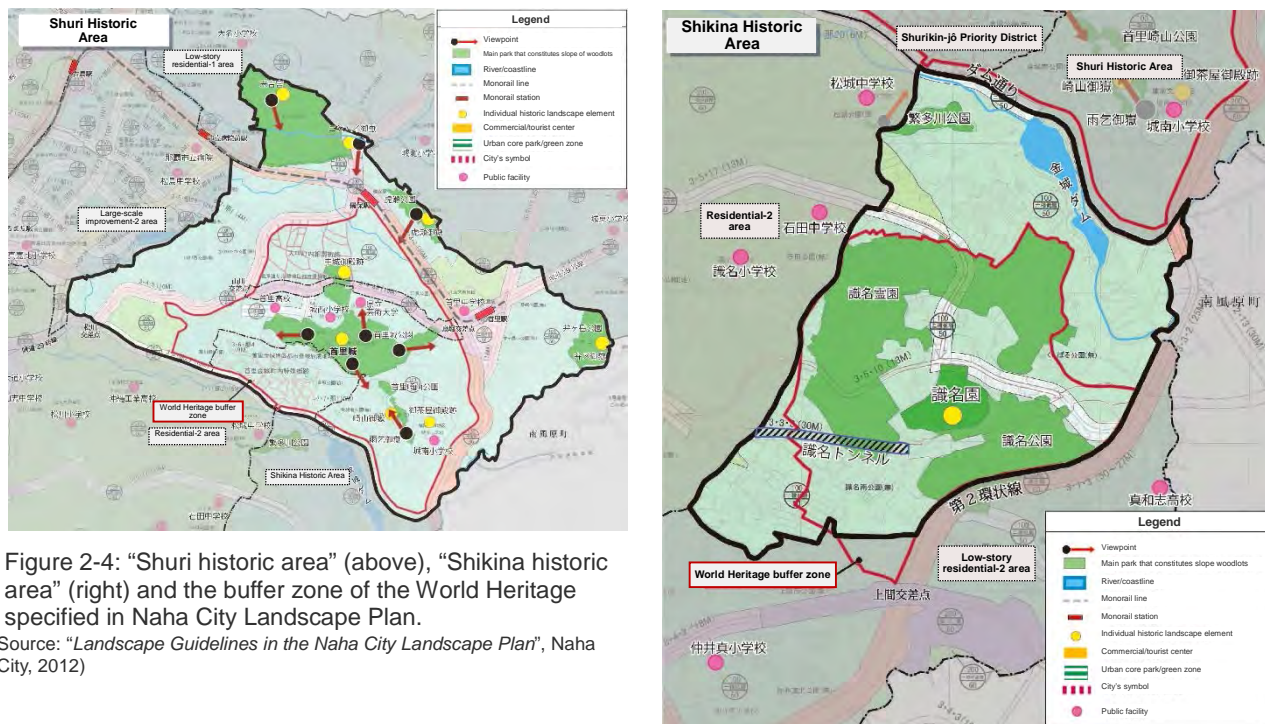


Figure 2-4: “Shuri historic area” (above), “Shikina historic area” (right) and the buffer zone of the World Heritage specified in Naha City Landscape Plan.

Source: “Landscape Guidelines in the Naha City Landscape Plan”, Naha City, 2012)

C. Maintenance

a. Daily maintenance such as cleaning, grass cutting, etc.

At all component parts, cleaning, grass cutting, and other daily maintenance work are carried out regularly. In addition, any plants that may have negative impacts on archaeological remains etc. are regularly removed.

D. Landscape conservation

a. Disturbing structures already identified at the time of World Heritage inscription

In the buffer zone of the Nakagusuku-jō site, there still remains a landscape-disturbing structure that was already identified at the time of World Heritage inscription, for which possibilities of future removal were to be explored.

b. Implementation of new legal protection measures for landscape conservation by means of the development of landscape plans and the enactment of landscape ordinances

As is shown in “B. enforcement of laws”, new legal protection measures for landscape conservation have been implemented for the component parts located in cities or villages that have developed their landscape plans, including the buffer zone and the surrounding area of the property. In addition, Naha City provides subsidies for buildings (red roof tiles, stone walls, etc.) in harmony with the development of historic and traditional landscapes.

2-2 Progress made (maintenance, interpretation and utilization)

Efforts that have been made for maintenance, interpretation and utilization are described below.

A. Projects for preservation

a. Repair and restoration of archaeological remains of stone walls etc.

At Nakijin-jô, Katsuren-jô, Nakagusuku-jô and Shuri-jô sites, damaged or degraded archaeological remains of stone walls etc. were repaired. In addition, the archaeological remains damaged by natural disasters such as typhoons and earthquakes were restored.



Photo 2-18: Repaired castle wall (Katsuren-jô site)



Photo 2-19: Repaired castle wall (Nakagusuku-jô site)



Photo 2-20: Collapse of stone wall of the third enclosure of Katsuren-jô site due to an earthquake (Katsuren-jô site).



Photo 2-21: Stone wall of the third *kuruwa* of Katsuren-jô Site repaired after the earthquake (Katsuren-jô site).

b. Restoration of historic buildings

At Tamaudun, the eastern guardhouse that once existed was restored based on the results of accumulated academic research and studies.

c. Shortage of engineers with specialized preservation skills

Some component parts are faced with a shortage of engineers who have specialized preservation skills for repair and restoration of stone walls, gardens, architectural structures, etc.



Photo 2-22: Restored eastern guardhouse. The building was once used as a waiting room for the king at the time of memorial service (Tamaudun)

B. Projects for utilization

a. Visitor centers, guidance facilities, parking lots, rest areas, and other convenience facilities

At Nakijin-jō site, Katsuren-jō site and Sêfa-utaki, visitor centers, guidance facilities, accompanying parking lots, rest areas, and other convenience facilities have been in place.



Photo 2-23: "Gusuku Exchange Center", including information, shop, and rest area (Nakijin-jō site).



Photo 2-24: "World Heritage Katsuren-jō Site Rest Area", providing information about World Heritage and Katsuren-jō site (Katsuren-jō site).



Photo 2-25: History learning and experiential facility, "Green Museum Sêfa" (Sêfa-utaki).

b. Scale models, signboards, and other facilities for the interpretation of the property

At some component parts, large scale models, explanatory signboards, and other exhibition tools have been installed to facilitate visitors' understanding of the property.

At Nakijin-jō site, for example, differences between the stone walls of Nakijin-jō site and those of other component parts are explained in terms of materials used and civil engineering techniques exploited to build them.

<Scale models of the entire historic sites>



Photo 2-26: Scale model of Nakijin-jō site



Photo 2-27: Scale model of Katsuren-jō site



Photo 2-28: Scale model of Nakagusuku-jō site

<Signboards explaining differences with other component parts>



Photo 2-29: Displayed stone materials used for castle walls of other component parts (Nakijin-jō site)



Photo 2-30: Explanatory signboard for the display shown in the left photo in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean (Nakijin-jō site)

c. Installation of facilities for interpretation and utilization such as walking trails

At Katsuren-jō site, Sêfa-utaki, etc., deck-style walking trails have been installed for the use of visitors, while protecting the archaeological remains, too.

At Nakijin-jō site, Nakagusuku-jō site, etc., wooden gateways have been installed to ensure the safety of visitors from the fall of the stones of the castle walls.



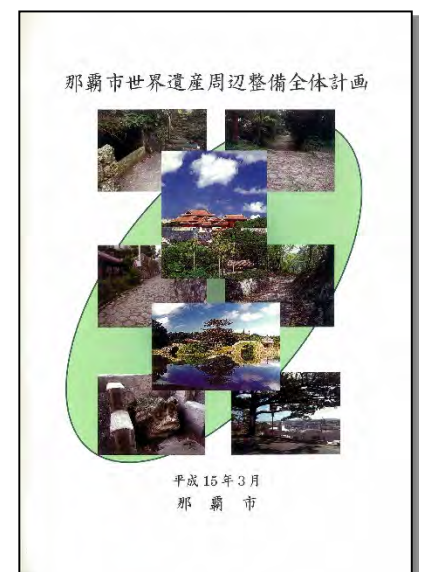
Photos 2-31 [upper left]:
Deck-style steps along the stonewall (Katsuren-jō site)
Photos 2-32 [lower left]:
A wooden gateway (Nakagusuku-jō site)
Photos 2-33 [top]:
Deck-style steps (Sêfa-utaki)

d. Enhancement of historic environments surrounding the property (and the development of a plan for that purpose)

Naha City developed the "Naha City Master Plan for the Surrounding Area of the World Heritage" in March 2003 and have been working for the enhancement of the environment by making use of historical cultural resources that are distributed in the surrounding area of the property, targeting a wide area including Shuri-jō Site and Shikinaen.

Nanjo City developed its "Basic Concept about History and Culture" and "Preservation and Utilization Plan" in 2011, determining the content of environmental improvement in pursuit of the preservation and utilization of historical cultural resources in the city.

Figure 2-5: Cover of "Naha City Master Plan for the Surrounding Area of the World Heritage" (Naha City, 2003)



C. Projects for interpretation and utilization

a. Expansion of areas open to the public

At Shuri-jô site, the area within the Okinawa Shurijo Castle Park including Nishi-no-azana and Kyonouchi inside of the castle walls have been opened to the public.

Photo 2-34: Newly opened "Kyonouchi" area (Shuri-jô Site)

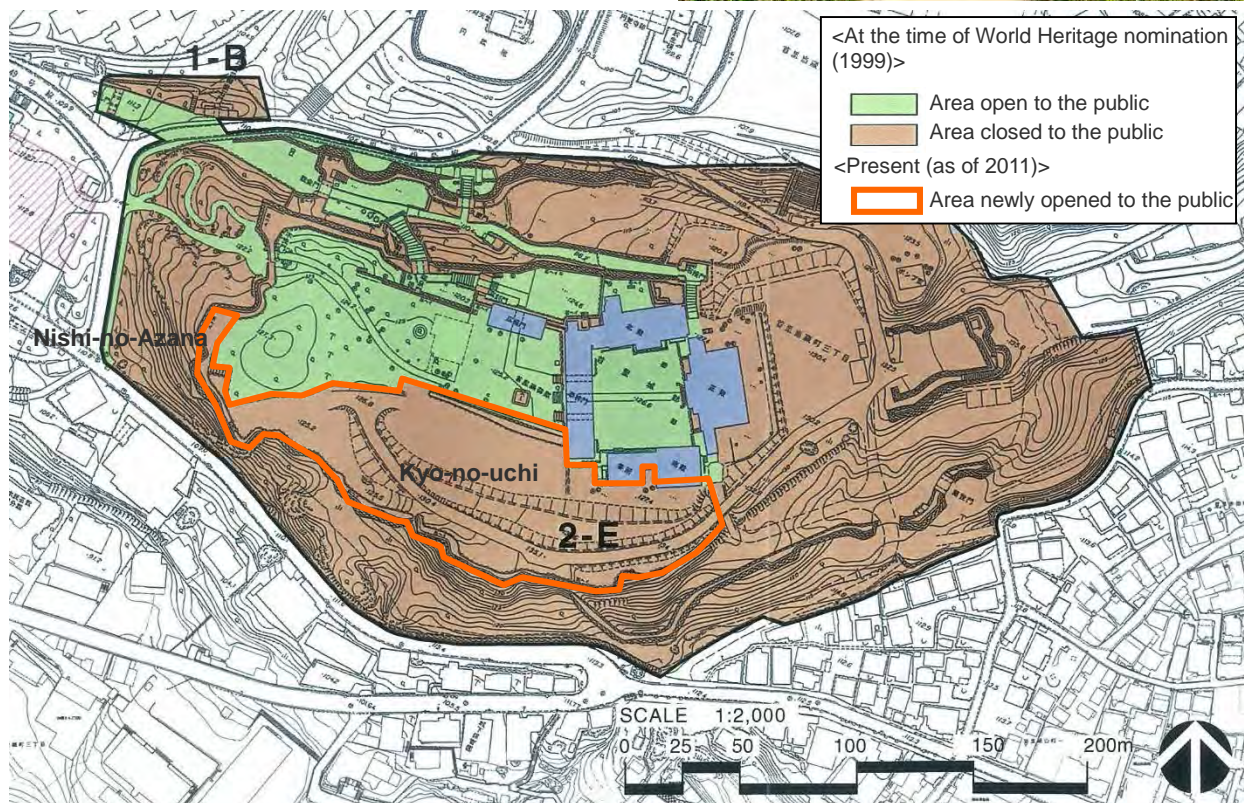


Figure 2-6: At Shuri-jô site, areas open to the public at the time of nomination and additional area that has been opened to the public after inscription (map included in the nomination dossier with modification).

b. Guided tour (or its plan)

At all of the component parts, guided tours are provided or planned in cooperation with local communities.

Photo 2-35: A local group, "Friends of Guides for Cultural Properties in Chinen", provides tours around the local attractions including Sêfa-utaki.



c. Events making use of the property

At Zakimi-jō and Nakagusuku-jō sites, events such as outdoor theaters and concerts are organized with the stone walls of the castle sites in the background. At Nakijin-jō, Zakimi-jō and Katsuren-jō sites and Shikinaen, outdoor wedding ceremonies and other events making use of the property are organized in cooperation with private business operators.

In addition, in 2010, to commemorate the tenth anniversary of World Heritage inscription, various events were organized such as the commemorative lecture, symposium, traveling exhibition, and relayed lecture as part of the "World Heritage Inscription Tenth Anniversary Project".

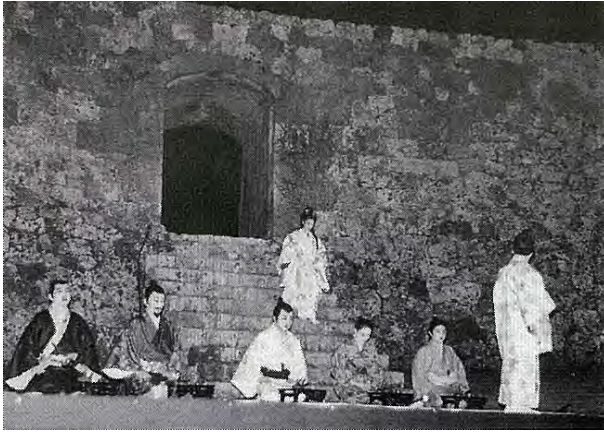


Photo 2-36: Outdoor theater at Zakimi-jō site (historical play titled "Lord Gosamaru") (Source: "Zakimi-jō Remains Collection Vol. 2, Castle as Theater", Yomitan Village Board of Education, 2003).



Photo 2-37: "Wakateda-watching Gathering" at Nakagusuku-jō site. On the day of the winter solstice in December, classical songs, Ryukyuan dances, and traditional performing arts are played by people who wait for and watch the solemn sunrise (Source: "Nakagusuku Village" website).



Photo 2-38: A poster for the "World Heritage Inscription Tenth Anniversary Project". An executive committee was set up for the project management. Lectures and symposia were the key projects and, in addition, relayed lectures were held, connecting areas where component parts are located.

d. Education and awareness-raising by means of the property

At Nakijin-jō site, elementary school students learn about local history by experiencing archaeological excavations of Nakijin-jō site.

At Katsuren-jō site, educational use in integrated learning programs at school is promoted and the train-the-teachers courses are provided in relation to that. Also, lecturers are dispatched to lectures at community centers and PTA seminars.

At Nakagusuku-jō site, an educational curriculum for elementary and junior high school students of Nakagusuku Village to learn about local history and culture has been created ("Project to Learn about History and Culture of Nakagusuku by means of Lord Gosamaru and Nakagusuku-jō Site"). Also, side readers and teaching materials have been produced.

2-3 Progress made (organization)

Progress made in the establishment and operation of organizations is summarized below.

A. Organization for preservation and management

a. Preservation and management of the component parts led by cultural property departments of municipal governments

Within the property, the preservation and management of individual component parts is primarily the responsibility of the cultural property departments of local governments such as the boards of education of Okinawa Prefecture and municipal governments. Daily maintenance work is carried out with the participation of local communities.

Activities for landscape conservation in the buffer zone and the surrounding area are carried out under the leadership of city planning departments.

Table 2-3: Owners and administrators of component parts

World Heritage category	Name of the component part	Owner	Site manager responsible for the management of the component part
Monument	1-A Tamaudun	Okinawa Prefecture Naha City	Naha, Board of Education
	1-B Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Naha City	Naha City Board of Education
Site	2-A Nakijin-jô site	Nakijin Village	Nakijin Village Board of Education
	2-B Zakimi-jô site	Yomitan Village	Yomitan Village Board of Education
	2-C Katsuren-jô site	Uruma City	Uruma City Board of Education
	2-D Nakagusuku-jô site	Nakagusuku Village Kitanakagusuku Village	Nakagusuku Village Board of Education Kitanakagusuku Village Board of Education
	2-E Shuri-jô site	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Okinawa Prefecture	Cabinet Office (Okinawa General Bureau) Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education Civil Engineering and Construction Dept., Okinawa Prefecture
	2-F Shikinaen	Naha City	Naha City Board of Education
	2-G Sêfa-utaki	Nanjo City	Nanjo City Board of Education

B. Organization for infrastructure, interpretation and utilization

a. Participation of local communities and private businesses

The maintenance work for preservation of individual component parts is the primary responsibility of the board of educations of municipal governments, as is the case with aforementioned preservation and management.

Regarding interpretation and utilization, measures have been taken to encourage active participation of local communities under the leadership of municipal boards of education and tourism departments. For example, guided tours are available at all of the component parts in cooperation with local communities. At Nakijin-jô site, the members of the "Nakijin *Gusuku* Study Group", who have completed the "Nakijin-jô Site Tour Guide Training Course" of the Nakijin Village Board of Education, provide guided tours and engage in research, clean-up activities, and publication of newsletters (chargeable).

At Nakijin-jô site and Shikinaen, Ryukyu-style wedding ceremonies are organized in cooperation with private businesses and other activities are carried out, making use of the charm of the property.

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of World Heritage inscription, Okinawa Prefecture took the lead in promoting mutual coordination among all the component parts by means of a commemorative project.

Table 2-4: Existing state of component parts

Category		Item	Existing State (Measures taken since World Heritage inscription, on-going actions, present situations, etc.)	Area			Component Part								
				Property Area	Buffer Zone	Surrounding Area *	1-A Tamaudun	1-B Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	2-A Nakijin-jō Site	2-B Zakimi-jō Site	2-C Katsuren-jō Site	2-D Nakagusuku-jō Site	2-E Shuri-jō Site	2-F Shikinaen	2-G Sefa-utaki
1. Impact on the property		A. Development pressures	a. Construction of buildings, structures, etc. that affect the landscape.		□	□			●	●	●	●			●
			b. Plans of developments that would affect the landscape.			□				●	●	●			
		B. Environmental pressures	a. Decrease in pond water in the garden.	◆									●		
		C. Natural pressures	a. Damage to archaeological remains due to typhoons, earthquakes, etc.	◆				●	●		●	●		●	●
			b. Erosion of surface soil due to inflow of rainwater.	□							●				●
		D. Visitor/tourism pressures	a. Damage to archaeological remains due to visitation.	◆							●	●		●	●
			b. Disturbance to the use as a place for prayer-giving.	◆											●
2. Actions taken	2-1 Preservation and management	A. Research and study	a. Research and study on the property, including archaeological excavations. Research and study on historic cultural resources associated with the property.	□	□				●		●	●			●
		B. Enforcement of laws	a. Designation of historical cultural resources associated with the property as cultural properties.		□				●						
			b. Implementation of new legal protection measures for landscape conservation by means of the development of landscape plans and the enactment of landscape ordinances (including those in the pipeline).		□	□	●	●		●	●		●	●	●
		C. Maintenance	a. Daily maintenance such as cleaning, grass cutting, etc.	□			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
		D. Landscape conservation	a. Disturbing structures already identified at the time of World Heritage inscription.		□	□					●		●		
			b. (Same as B-b.)		□	□	●	●		●	●		●	●	●
	2-2 Maintenance, Interpretation, and Utilization	A. Projects for preservation	a. Repair and restoration of archaeological remains of stone walls etc.	◆					●		●	●	●		
			b. Restoration of historic buildings.	◆			●								
			c. Shortage of engineers with specialized preservation skills.	◆	□	□	●				●	●			
		B. Projects for utilization	a. Visitor centers, guidance facilities, parking lots, rest areas, and other convenience facilities.		□				●		●	●			●
			b. Scale models, signboards, and other facilities for the interpretation of the property.	◆	□				●	●	●	●	●		
			c. Installation of facilities for interpretation and utilization such as walking trails.	◆					●		●	●			●
			d. Enhancement of historic environments surrounding the property (and development of a plan for that purpose).		□	□	●	●	●				●		
		C. Actions for interpretation and utilization	a. Expansion of areas open to the public.	◆					●				●		
			b. Guided tour (or its plan).	◆	□	□	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
			c. Events making use of the property.	◆					●	●	●	●	●		
			d. Education and awareness-raising by means of the property.				●	●	●		●	●	●	●	
	2-3 Organization	A. Organization for preservation and management	a. Preservation and management of the component parts led by cultural property departments of municipal governments.				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
		B. Organization for infrastructure, interpretation and utilization	a. Participation of local communities and private businesses.				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

* “Surrounding area” means the area outside the buffer zone.

3. Summary of the Existing State of the Property and Perspectives for the Development of this Plan

Based on the previous sections, the existing state of the property and the perspectives for the development of this plan are summarized below.

<Perspectives for preservation and management >

Point 1: Preservation and management of the property

In the property area, legal protection measures that were in place at the time of World Heritage inscription have been maintained and various activities for research and maintenance have continued to be conducted after World Heritage inscription. Damage to archaeological remains due to earthquakes, typhoons, and other natural disasters were responded to promptly and it has been confirmed that the property is in good condition overall. On the other hand, the increasing number of tourists, loss of surface soil due to rainwater runoff, and other forms of damage and impact that vary depending upon the specific characteristics of individual component parts are observed.

In light of this, it is necessary to clarify the principles for preservation and management of individual component parts.

Point 2: Conservation of the buffer zone

With regard to the buffer zone of the property, legal control measures that were in place at the time of World Heritage inscription have been maintained and conservation measures have been taken for historical and scenic landscapes that have been developed in unity with the property. For some component parts, local governments of the municipalities where component parts are located have developed new landscape plans to strengthen regulations on a series of activities for the purpose of landscape conservation. However, visually disturbing elements that existed at the time of World Heritage inscription still remain in some of the component parts.

In light of this, with regard to the buffer zone, it is necessary to promote conservation of historical and scenic landscapes and to explore corrective measures to address the outstanding issue of visually disturbing elements, while ensuring the continued enforcement of the existing control measures under applicable laws.

Point 3: Conservation of the landscapes of the surrounding area

In relation to this property, the natural environments and historical cultural resources remain in good condition even in the surrounding area outside the buffer zone and it is important to note that the landscapes in the surrounding area visible from the property are important in understanding the characteristic locations of the component parts. However, the construction of buildings and structures has taken place and there are plans for large-scale developments, suggesting the possibility that such landscapes may change in the future.

In light of this, with regard to the surrounding area outside the buffer zone, it is necessary to clarify principles for conservation of the landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of the locations of the component parts of this property, while ensuring coordination with developments foreseeable in the future.

Point 4: Conservation of historical cultural resources associated with the property

In the Ryukyu region, there are diverse historical cultural resources that are associated some way or others with this property, including more than 300 *Gusuku* sites. After World Heritage inscription, research on such historic cultural resources has continued to be promoted, resulting in the further clarification of historical and cultural characteristics of the area surrounding the property. In order to further deepen the understanding of the property, the preservation of such historical cultural resources is needed, while research activities are to be continued.

In light of this, it is necessary to continue and develop research on historical cultural resources associated with the property and to take appropriate measures for preservation.

<Perspectives for infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization>

Point 5: Appropriate infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization

After World Heritage inscription, infrastructure and programs for interpretation and utilization have been installed and conducted at each component part. Repair work on stone walls and restoration of buildings etc. have been conducted. Guidance facilities and the surrounding environment have been improved. On the other hand, there have been some problems experienced, making it difficult for visitors to perceive the Outstanding Universal Value and other characteristics of the property, due to shortage of human resources with appropriate repair skills, damage to archaeological remains from excessive tourism use, and disturbance to the scenic landscapes (sacred atmosphere).

In light of this, it is necessary to ensure the appropriate infrastructure for preservation, including the transmission of skills and techniques for preservation, and to promote the appropriate styles of interpretation and utilization that strike a balance between tourism and preservation.

<Perspectives for monitoring>

Point 6: Establishment of methods to monitor impact on the property and state of preservation and utilization

Since the World Heritage inscription up to the present, the property, buffer zone and surrounding area have been under development pressures, natural pressures, visitor/tourism pressures, and other pressures from factors that may affect the Outstanding Universal Value and other characteristics of this property. In order to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value and other characteristics of this property should be protected, it is essential that such factors are accurately identified and preventive measures are taken. On the other hand, various measures for utilization and preservation have been taken, including infrastructure for preservation and environmental improvement and conditions encompassing this property have also undergone diverse changes.

In light of this, it is necessary to establish the methods to make early and accurate detections of any impact on the property and to collect various types of information about the preservation and utilization of the property on a continual basis.

<Perspectives for organization>

Point 7: Establishment of organization for the implementation of the plan with the participation of and in coordination with diverse stakeholders

So far, measures for preservation, management, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property have been implemented with the involvement of diverse stakeholders ranging from the national and local governments, local communities, experts, and academia to businesses, resulting in achievement of certain results. However, on the other hand, those measure were taken in most cases on component-by-component basis and overarching approach to the property as one whole beyond individual component parts was not sufficient. As a result, some issues remain to be fully addressed.

In light of this, an organization that ensures the promotion of various actions based on this plan is to be established with the participation of and in cooperation with diverse stakeholders who work together for the common goal of preservation and utilization of this property.

<Others>

Point 8: Measures to ensuring the effectiveness of the plan

This plan forms the basis for comprehensive preservation and management of the World Heritage, "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu". It is essential to ensure the implementation of various measures based on the plan. As is evident in the recent developments of the preservation and management of World Heritage, there are increasing cases that measures are included to ensure the effectiveness of the management plan, including the action plan.

In light of this, it is necessary in this plan, too, to ensure the effectiveness of the plan for example by working out a project plan, in addition to the establishment of the aforementioned management organization.

Chapter 3

Vision and Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

1. Vision for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

The World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”, consists of five *Gusuku* sites, two related monuments, and two cultural landscapes. It is a series of component parts of exceptionally high value that illustrate the distinctive characteristics of Ryukyuan geography and history as well as the unique political, economic, and cultural developments of the region. This property is an outstanding example of historical cultural resources in the Ryukyu region, where 304 *Gusuku* sites that represent the history and culture of the Kingdom of Ryukyu have survived to the present day.

The *Gusuku* sites included in this property are extremely valuable, not only as archaeological sites but also as tangible symbols of the power of the now-disappeared Kingdom of Ryukyu. They also embody the core of Ryukyuan culture as the spiritual basis for nature worship and ancestor worship indigenous to the region. Likewise, the monuments, *Utaki*, and sites included in this property constitute an exceptional example representing the typical elements of religious beliefs and activities unique to the Ryukyu region. As a cultural heritage born from this extraordinary culture, the garden included in the property is also distinctively Ryukyuan in design and composition.

As mentioned in the previous chapters, more than ten years have passed since this property was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. In the meantime, various organizations have been working to preserve and utilize this property. While producing satisfactory results, these efforts also revealed a range of problems that had not been anticipated 10 years ago as well as diverse challenges to be dealt with in order to further preserve and utilize this property.

Most importantly, this property is valuable not only because of its “Outstanding Universal Value” as a World Heritage property but also because of its unique characteristics that come from the combination of the property itself, the surrounding area that supported its establishment and development, and a wide range of other tangible and intangible historical cultural resources. These uniqueness characteristics should also be preserved and passed on to future generations as it is the key to promoting the better understanding of this property.

In this context and in light of the changes that occurred since the inscription of this property on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the vision for comprehensive preservation and management has been adopted, as is shown below, in order to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value and uniqueness of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu.”

<Vision for Comprehensive Preservation and Management>

We preserve and utilize the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”, passing on its Outstanding Universal Value to future generations as a matter of principle.

Also, in recognition of its significance as a symbolic heritage of the history and culture of the Ryukyu region, we pass on the unique characteristics of this heritage that are expressed by it in combination with associated historical cultural resources and landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of the locations of the individual component parts.

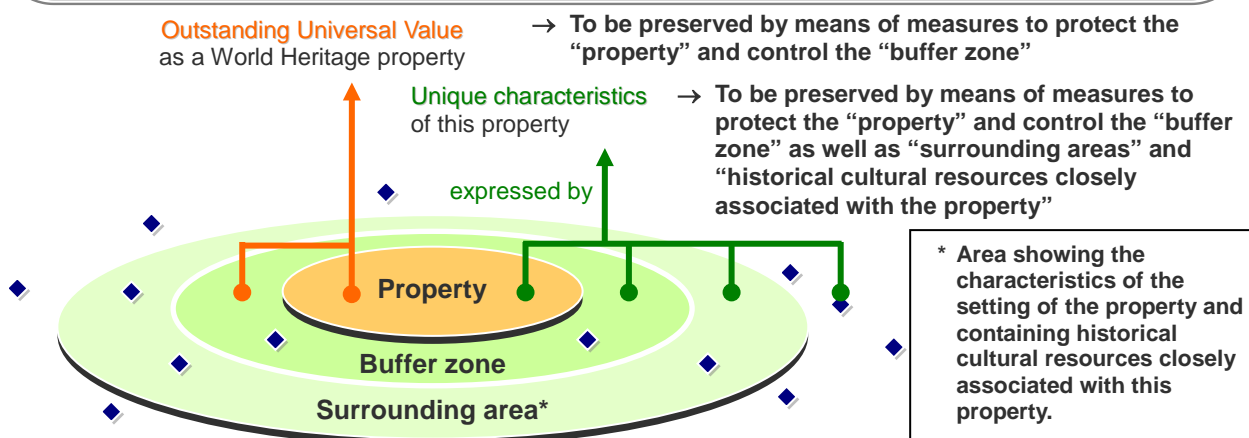


Figure 3-1: Comprehensive preservation and management of the property (schematic image)

2. Scope of Comprehensive Preservation and Management

For the purpose of this plan, the elements to be covered for comprehensive preservation and management are identified and sorted out, as is shown below.

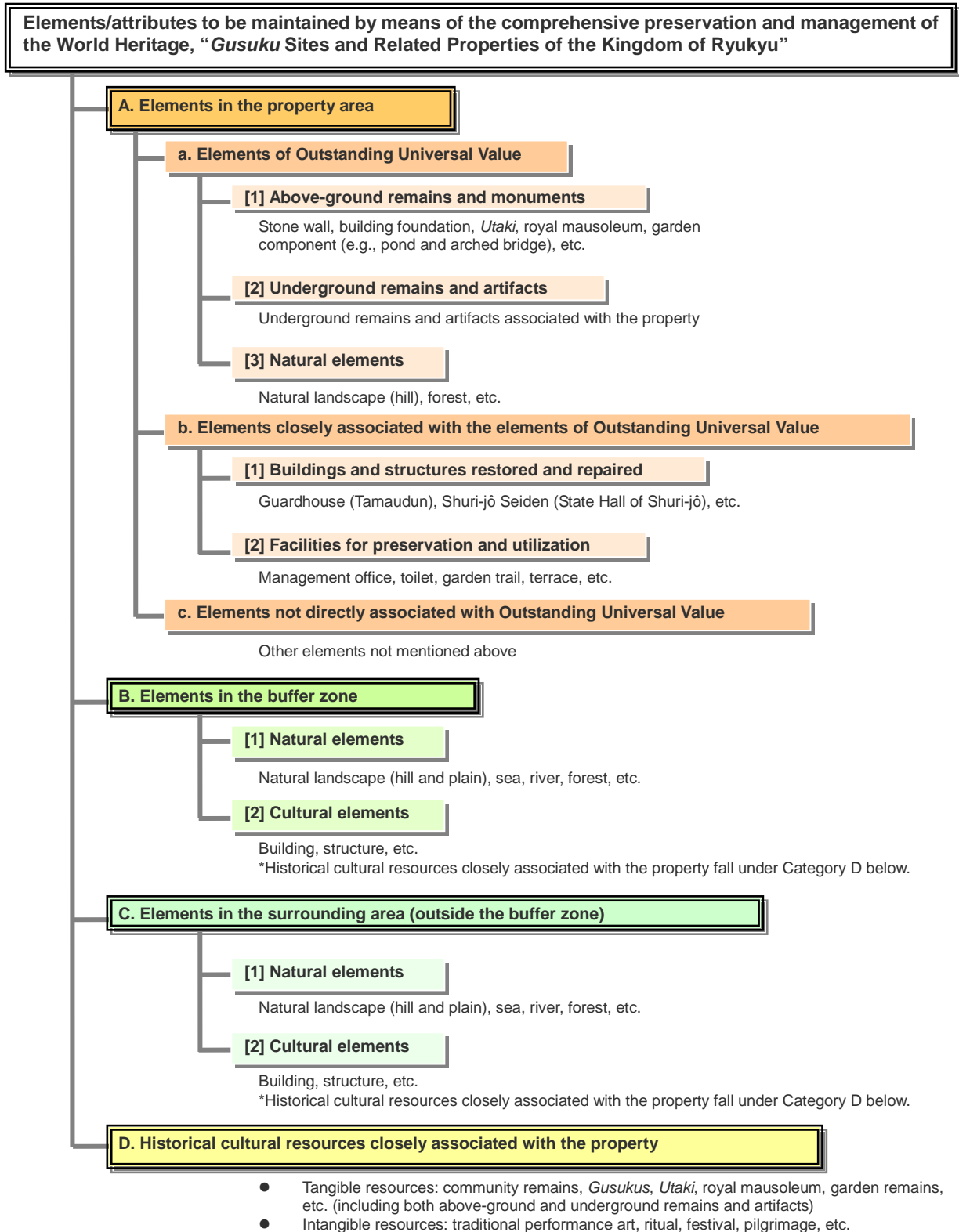


Figure 3-2: Chart showing the elements to be maintained by means of comprehensive preservation and management

3. Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

Based on the vision for comprehensive preservation and management, the basic policies for comprehensive preservation and management are set out, as is shown below.

<Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management>

[1] Ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

The primary focus is placed on the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of this World Heritage property. To this end, measures will be taken to identify and preserve key elements carefully. Moreover, as this property consists of nine component parts, it is necessary to develop specific preservation and management measures for each of the component parts to meet their specific characteristics.

[2] Conserve historic, scenic landscapes that are created out of the combination of this property and the buffer zone

The historical landscapes that have been created out of the combination of this property and the buffer zone shall be conserved properly. To this end, in the buffer zone, the existing legal restrictions on development and other activities will be maintained, and new restrictions will be added as required. Moreover, other necessary measures will be taken to remove or mitigate the obstructions disturbing the historical landscape conservation, including those pointed out at the time of inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List. In this manner, the historical landscapes will be conserved and enhanced.

[3] Conserve the landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of this property

Necessary measures will be taken to conserve the landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of the individual component parts of the property. The landscapes to be conserved will be selected mainly based on their relationships with the characteristics of the setting of the component parts, and each landscape will be conserved in a way consistent with the local city plans and landscape plans.

[4] Safeguard the historical cultural resources closely associated with the property

In the surrounding area of this property, there exist various types of tangible and intangible historical cultural resource closely associated with the property that are important for the understanding of this World Heritage property. These historical cultural resources are to be identified and studied in order to further clarify the historical and cultural context and background and are safeguarded by means of legal protection, planned maintenance work, installation of facilities for preservation, and so on.

[5] Put in place proper infrastructure for preservation to ensure the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property

In order to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of this property is maintained, proper infrastructure for preservation is put in place to be able to restore the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value such as stone walls and historic buildings, as appropriate. Also, in order to ensure the authenticity of these elements in form/design, materials/substance, traditions/techniques, location/settings and so on, measures will be taken to maintain and improve techniques for restoration and pass them on to future generations.

[6] Put in place the environment and promote programs for interpretation and utilization to provide visitors with valuable experiences

In order to provide visitors to this property with opportunities of valuable experiences, various measures for interpretation and utilization of the individual component parts and the property as one whole will be taken both in hardware and software, such as installation of guidance facilities, development of historical and cultural environments in the surrounding area of the property, organization of events and

programs, and installation of information infrastructure.

[7] Monitor the impact on the property on a regular basis and update information on the situation concerning preservation and utilization on a continual basis

In the past ten years after World Heritage inscription, this property has been subjected to impact from different factors, including negative impacts such as damage and deterioration of archaeological remains. It is expected to suffer from various impacts in the future, as situations surrounding it change over time. The key to the preservation and management of this property is early detection of such impacts and prompt and effective actions to address them. As the baseline for this, it is essential to keep track of the state of preservation and management of the property. In light of this, the impact on the property will be monitored periodically and information about the state of preservation and management will be updated on a continual basis.

[8] Establish the organization for preservation and management to promote this plan in coordination with diverse stakeholders

In order to ensure the effective preservation and management of this property in accordance with the above-mentioned basic policies, it is essential to promote the participation and mutual cooperation of all relevant organizations, including not only administrative departments responsible for cultural property management but also other relevant government departments and agencies, scholars, experts, private companies, and local residents. In accordance with the concepts of this plan, a preservation and management system to promote this plan will be established by defining the roles and responsibilities of these various parties and facilitating effective collaboration among them.

[9] Identify specific measures to ensure the effectiveness of this plan

As a measure to ensure that actions for preservation, management, interpretation, and utilization are duly taken after the adoption of this plan, an action plan is worked out, clarifying specific content of actions, responsible bodies, timeframe, and so on.

Based on the abovementioned basic policies, the principles and directions of action (guidance) for specific fields pertaining to comprehensive preservation and management are to be set forth in the following chapters, which is outlined in the chart on next page.

Vision for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

Chapter 3.

Vision and Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

We preserve and utilize the World Heritage, “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*”, passing on its Outstanding Universal Value to future generations as a matter of principle.

Also, in recognition of its significance as a symbolic heritage of the history and culture of the Ryukyu region, we pass on the unique characteristics of this heritage that are expressed by it in combination with associated historical cultural resources and landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of the locations of the individual component parts.

Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

Chapter 4. Preservation and Management of the Property

[1] Ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

Chapter 5. Conservation of the Buffer Zone

[2] Conserve historic, scenic landscapes that are created out of the combination of this property and the buffer zone

Chapter 6. Conservation of Landscapes of the Surrounding Area

[3] Conserve the landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of this property

Chapter 7. Preservation of Historical Cultural Resources Associated with the Property

[4] Safeguard the historical cultural resources closely associated with the property

Chapter 8. Infrastructure, Interpretation, and Utilization

<Preservation>

[5] Put in place proper infrastructure for preservation to ensure the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property

<Utilization>

[6] Put in place the environment and promote programs for interpretation and utilization to provide visitors with valuable experiences

Chapter 9. Monitoring

[7] Monitor the impact on the property on a regular basis and update information on the situation concerning preservation and utilization on a continual basis

[8] Establish the organization for preservation and management to promote this plan in coordination with diverse stakeholders

[9] Review and revise the plan as appropriate in consideration of progress, achievement, and social change over time

[10] Identify specific measures to ensure the effectiveness of this plan

Principles

Direction of Action (Guidance)

[1] Maintain effective protection measures based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

a. Maintain the existing designations of historic sites, places of scenic beauty, and important cultural properties

[2] Identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts

a. Develop individual preservation and management plans of component parts

[3] Ensure that the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are maintained appropriately

a. Carry out maintenance work based on proper inspection and maintenance interventions

b. Develop maintenance plans for component parts

[1] Maintain and strengthen effective conservation measures based on laws and regulations

a. Maintain the existing legal control measures in the buffer zone

b. Introduce new control measures

[2] Maintain and enhance the quality of historic, scenic landscapes

a. Identify the historic, scenic landscapes to be maintained and enhanced

b. Implement measures for visual harmonization

[1] Conserve the landscapes that show the characteristics of the locations of the property

a. Identify landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting of the component parts and clarify the principles for landscape conservation

b. Implement landscape conservation measures based on laws and regulations

[1] Safeguard the tangible and intangible historical cultural resources that contribute to the better understanding of this property

a. Carry out study to identify historical cultural resources associated with the property

b. Implement protective measures based on laws and regulations

c. Develop and implement plans for preservation and utilization

[1] Preserve and restore the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

a. Preserve underground archaeological remnants etc.

b. Restore above-ground elements, including stone walls, gardens, and historic buildings

[2] Maintain and improve techniques for restoration of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. and pass them on to future generations

a. Establish a research organization about conservation techniques for the property

b. Establish a public works contracting system using the specialized technician

[3] Promote the appropriate interpretation and utilization of the property

a. Make presentations of archaeological remains

b. Enhance information provision

c. Establish central facilities for management and utilization and enhance interpretation and guidance

d. Develop appropriate tourism programs in harmony with the preservation of this property

[4] Create and promote tourism programs making use of the property

a. Organize events, including the World Heritage Week

b. Develop model courses for tourists

[5] Build capacities to receive visitors to the property

a. Train and increase guides

b. Train and increase research staff

c. Ensure coordination with various service providers

d. Ensure coordination with school education and lifelong learning

[1] Monitor the impact on the property

a. Monitor the individual component parts by monitoring indicators

[2] Update the basic information about the preservation and utilization of the property on a continual basis

a. Prepare and store reports on preservation and utilization measures

b. Update the basic information on the property on a continual basis

Chapter 10. Organization for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

Chapter 11. Revision of the Plan

Action Plan

Chapter 4

Preservation and Management of the Property

1. Principles

Based on basic policy [1] to “ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property” in Chapter 3 (“Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for preservation and management of the property are set forth as follows.

[1] Maintain effective protection measures based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

Under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties of Japan, the component parts of this property are designated as a historic site, a place of scenic beauty, or an important cultural property within which developments and other activities that may alter the existing state are strictly restricted. These legal protection measures based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, which were mobilized to protect the property when it was nominated for World Heritage inscription, are to be maintained in the future.

[2] Identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts

This property is a serial property consisting of nine component parts, each of which includes various elements representing the Outstanding Universal Value of this World Heritage property. Not only the types of element but also the specific situations, including the manager and the application of laws and ordinances, vary between individual component parts. In light of this, appropriate preservation and management is to be carried out to meet the specific characteristics of individual component parts.

[3] Ensure that the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are maintained appropriately

The elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property are subjected to the constant risk of damage or degradation due to natural or anthropogenic impacts because of their locations and public accessibility. This may potentially impair the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Therefore, appropriate maintenance is to be carried out in order to prevent damage to or degradation of the property and to take prompt corrective actions in case such damage or degradation occurs.

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Maintain effective protection measures based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

Based on basic policy [1] to “maintain effective protection measures based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Maintain the existing designations of historic sites, places of scenic beauty, and important cultural properties

All of the nine component parts of this property are designated as cultural properties under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, as shown in Table 4-1 below. According to the provisions of the law, activities that may alter or affect the existing state of the areas designated as cultural properties require prior permission from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs. The only exception is an activity related to maintenance and emergency measures in response to disasters.

Because activities within the property area are under strict control, there are no possibilities of developments that may have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property. Therefore, the designations and protections of the component parts as cultural properties under the said law are to be maintained in the future.

Moreover, if new important archaeological remains associated with the property are discovered as a result of future research in favor of the extension to the property, the possibilities of designating the said property as a cultural property are to be explored in principle.

Table 4-1: Component parts and their legal status under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties

Category under the World Heritage Convention	Name of the component parts	Category under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties
1. Monuments	A. Tamaudun	Historic Site and Important Cultural Property
	B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Historic Site and Important Cultural Property
2. Sites (including cultural landscapes)	A. Nakijin-jô site	Historic Site
	B. Zakimi-jô site	Historic Site
	C. Katsuren-jô site	Historic Site
	D. Nakagusuku-jô site	Historic Site
	E. Shuri-jô site	Historic Site
	F. Shikinaen	Place of Scenic Beauty
	G. Sêfa-utaki	Historic Site

(2) Identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts

Based on basic policy [2] to “identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Develop individual preservation and management plans of component parts

Individual preservation and management plans are to be developed for component parts in order to enable stakeholders engaging in the preservation and management of these component parts to share the content of preservation and management. The individual preservation and management plans shall specify the following matters.

<Matters to be specified in the individual preservation and management plans of component parts>

1) Elements of Outstanding Universal Value etc.

Based on the chart shown in Section 2 of Chapter 3 “elements to be covered for comprehensive preservation and management”, the elements of Outstanding Universal Value, elements closely associated with the elements of Outstanding Universal Value, elements not directly associated with Outstanding Universal Value, and intangible elements are to be identified for each component part.

Also with regard to the buffer zone and the surrounding area, historical cultural resources closely associated with the property, natural elements, and other cultural elements are to be sorted out.

Principles for preservation and management of the individual elements included in this property are shown in Table 4-2 below.

2) Methods for preservation and management

For the elements identified above, appropriate methods for preservation and management need to be set out for each element in line with the “principles for preservation and management” of individual elements. The following should be taken into account in developing these methods for preservation and management:

- Particularly for the above-ground archaeological remains and historic buildings that are exposed on the ground, methods for preservation and management should be considered on the understanding that they are seen by many visitors;
- When there exists damage or deterioration at present, methods to be adopted for restoration (repair) should also be proposed; and
- In case that there are historic buildings or structures that are not component parts of the property but are contributing to the value of the property in unity with the archaeological remains of the property, methods for their preservation and management should also be presented.

3) Standards for permission to alteration to the existing state

As mentioned above, any activities that may alter the existing state of the areas designated as cultural property require prior permission from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs (in the case of national government organizations, prior consent from the Commissioner is required). Based on the above-mentioned methods for preservation and management, the individual preservation and management plans should provide specific standards for handling activities that may alter the existing state of the property area (all the component parts of this property are designated as cultural properties), including new construction, enlargement, and modification of buildings and structures, landform change, and the cutting of trees or bamboo.

4) Implementation and Organization

In order to ensure the proper preservation and management of the component parts, the individual preservation and management plans should specify how various measures are implemented smoothly and/or how organizational arrangements are made for that purpose.

Moreover, the plans shall set out policies to promote communication and cooperation between owners (administrators) and civic organizations etc. engaged in the preservation of the component parts.

5) Policies for the conservation of the buffer zone

(→ to be decided on based on Chapter 5 in this plan, “Conservation of the Buffer Zone”).

6) Policies for the conservation of landscapes of the surrounding area

(→ to be decided on based on Chapter 6 of this plan, “Conservation of Landscapes of the Surrounding Area”.)

7) Policies for safeguarding historical cultural resources closely associated with the property (component parts)

(→ to be decided on based on Chapter 7 of this plan, “Safeguarding of Historical Cultural Resources Associated with the Property”.)

8) Policies for interpretation and utilization

(→ to be decided on based on Chapter 8 of this plan, “Infrastructure, Interpretation, and Utilization”.)

9) Action Plan

(→ to be developed based on Supplementary Chapter of this plan, “Action Plan”, to define the scope and time frame of projects and identify responsible agencies)

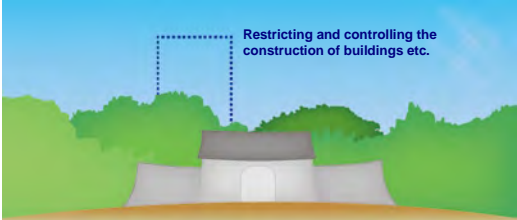
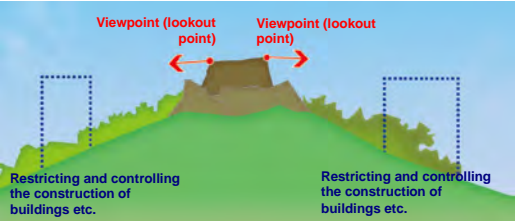
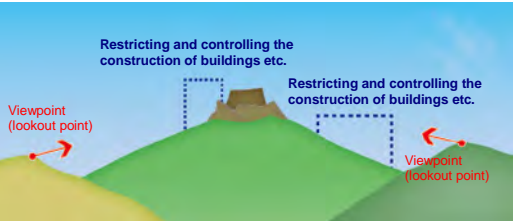
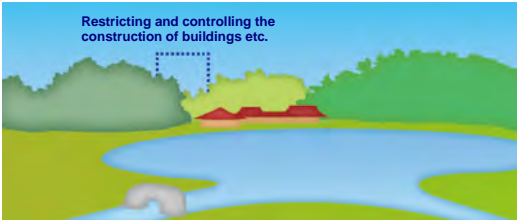
In discussing the principles for preservation and management of the property and those for conservation of the buffer zone in the development of individual component parts, it is desirable that the characteristics specific to heritage categories should be taken into consideration. Table 4-3 on next page shows points that should be considered by category.

In addition, since all the component parts are designated as cultural properties such as historic sites, their individual preservation and management plans should clarify distinction between “Outstanding Universal Value as the World Heritage” and “essential value as a cultural property” and also between “the area inscribed as the World Heritage property” and “the area designated as a cultural property”.

Table 4-2: Target for comprehensive preservation and management and principles for preservation

Target for comprehensive preservation and management		Principles for preservation (conservation)
A. Elements in the property	a. Elements of Outstanding Universal Value	○ To be preserved strictly as elements representing the Outstanding Universal Value.
	[1] Above-ground archaeological remains and monuments	○ To be maintained through repair and restoration while maintaining authenticity in form/design, materials/substance, traditions/techniques, location/settings, etc.
	[2] Underground archaeological remains and artifacts	○ To be maintained underground in the existing state, in principle, except for purposes of academic research and presentation for the interpretation of the value of the property.
	[3] Natural elements	○ To be conserved as appropriate according to their specific characteristics as important elements showing the characteristics of the location/setting of the property.
	b. Elements closely associated with the elements of Outstanding Universal Value	○ To be managed as appropriate according to relations with the Outstanding Universal Value.
	[1] Buildings and structures that have been restored and repaired	○ The existing form/design, materials/substance, traditions/techniques, location/settings etc. should be maintained, in principle, as elements effective in interpreting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property to visitors.
	[2] Facilities for preservation and utilization	○ To be managed as appropriate to contribute to the preservation of the elements of Outstanding Universal Value as well as the utilization of the property. ○ To be improved, removed, or relocated if negatively affecting the preservation of the elements of Outstanding Universal Value.
B. Elements in the buffer zone	c. Elements not directly associated with Outstanding Universal Value	○ To be removed or relocated to outside the property in consideration of the necessity of existence in the present location.
	[1] Natural elements	○ The elements that create historic, scenic landscapes in unity with the property should be conserved as appropriate.
C. Elements in the surrounding area	[2] Cultural elements	○ Appropriate measures, including visual harmonization, should be taken with a view to enhancing the quality of historic, scenic landscapes.
	[1] Natural elements	○ The elements of the landscapes that show the characteristics of the location/setting of the property should be conserved as appropriate.
D. Historical cultural resources closely associated with the property	[2] Cultural elements	○ Appropriate measures, including visual harmonization, should be taken with a view to enhancing the quality of the landscapes that show the characteristics of the location/setting of the property.
		○ Tangible elements should be safeguarded in appropriate condition, respecting authenticity in form/design, materials/substance, location/settings, traditions/techniques, etc. ○ Intangible elements should be safeguarded in appropriate condition, respecting authenticity in traditions/techniques, spirit/feeling, etc.

Table 4-3: Points to be considered for preservation and management of the property and for conservation of the buffer zone by category

Category		Component part	Preservation and management of the property	Conservation of the buffer zone
1. Monuments		A. Tamaudun B. Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preservation and/or restoration of the structure. ○ Conservation of the environment (atmosphere) as a sacred place that is produced out of the combination of the above-mentioned structure and the surrounding natural elements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation of the view of the monument seen from within the premises (of the monument) (e.g., restriction on the visual intrusion of buildings etc. in the background of the monument) 
2. Sites	Gusuku sites	A. Nakijin-jō site B. Zakimi-jō site C. Katsuren-jō site D. Nakagusuku-jō site E. Shuri-jō site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preservation and restoration of stone walls etc. that are characteristic of <i>Gusuku</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation of distant views from specific viewpoints (lookout point) within the <i>Gusuku</i> site (e.g., restriction on the construction of buildings etc. that affect the visual integrity)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation of the views of the <i>Gusuku</i> site from distant viewpoints (lookout point) outside the <i>Gusuku</i> (e.g., restriction on the construction of buildings etc. that affect the visual integrity) 
	Garden	F. Shikinaen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preservation and restoration of the structures, such as pond (shore) and bridge; conservation of plants. ○ Conservation of the landscapes that are created in unity by all the above-mentioned elements of the garden. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation of the views of the garden seen from inside the garden (e.g., restriction on the visual intrusion of buildings etc. in the background of the garden) 
	Utaki	G. Sēfa-utaki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation of singularly-shaped Ryukyu limestone rocks, trees, etc. ○ Conservation of the environment (atmosphere) as a sacred place that is produced in unity by all the above-mentioned element of <i>Utaki</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation of natural elements such as landform and vegetation constituting the environment that form the foundation of <i>Utaki</i>.

(3) Ensure that the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are maintained appropriately

Based on basic policy [3] to “ensure that the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are maintained appropriately” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Carry out maintenance work based on proper inspection and maintenance interventions

Maintenance work is to be continued in order to maintain the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property in good condition. For the purpose of this plan, maintenance work is categorized broadly into inspection and maintenance interventions, as is described below.

[Inspection]

- Daily patrols using a checklist; periodic inspections of facilities for preservation and utilization
- Follow-up monitoring of the elements after repair work or preservation treatment or the key elements that are under protection of preservation facilities in order to check the effectiveness and appropriateness of the maintenance techniques.

[Maintenance interventions]

- Daily maintenance interventions such as cleaning; periodic maintenance work on facilities for preservation and utilization; preparation and storage of reports.
- Emergency and first-aid interventions based on the findings of inspection; ad-hoc interventions for minor repair or improvement.

(Source: “Shiseki tou Seibi no Tebiki: Hozon to Katsuyo no tame ni (Gijutsu-hen)” [Guidelines for Conservation of Historic Sites etc.: For Conservation and Utilization (Techniques)]. the Monuments and Sites Division of the Cultural Properties Department of the Agency for Cultural Affairs. 31 March 2004)

Based on the above, the following four types of maintenance work are to be carried out.

<Types of maintenance work>

1) Daily maintenance

The major elements of the property (the elements of Outstanding Universal Value) are checked if there are any problems with preservation and utilization. Minor interventions are made to keep them in good condition, mainly as part of daily work for interpretation and utilization.

[Inspection] : Patrols are conducted to detect and prevent loss, damage, deterioration, or theft of archaeological remains etc.; inspection of the situation of interpretation and utilization.

[Maintenance interventions]: Care-taking of plants, sweeping, cleaning, etc. are conducted to keep the space clean and comfortable and to produce good environments.

2) Periodic maintenance

The condition of the entire area of the property is checked for the purpose of making general judgement whether there are any problems with the preservation and utilization of the property. Minor preventive measures for preservation are taken, as appropriate.

[Inspection] : Inspections are made of the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and facilities and equipment that require a certain level of management. It is important to conduct detailed inspections periodically to check the parts and items that are important from the perspective of preservation and utilization.

[Maintenance interventions]: Antiseptic and anti-termite treatments of buildings and structures, trimming of plants, phytosanitary quarantine against disease or insect damage, periodic maintenance of facilities and equipment.

3) Regular maintenance

Data are collected on a regular basis according to specific indicators to monitor the effectiveness of preservation treatments that have been applied to the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and to monitor whether and how facilities for preservation are functioning. Regular measures for preservation and utilization are taken.

[Inspection] : Objective data on preservation and utilization are collected and recorded on a continual basis according to certain indicators in order to monitor mainly the effects of recovery (restoration) work or preservation treatments.

[Maintenance interventions] : Interventions are made to maintain favorable environmental conditions for the parts to which preservation treatments have been applied or to maintain the optimal environmental conditions for preservation of elements.

4) Ad-hoc maintenance

Ad hoc patrols and emergency measures are taken for the purpose of detecting damage to the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and checking the safety in the property. As necessary, minor repair or improvement work is carried out to prevent the further expansion of damage or deterioration. In case that full-scale restoration (repair) is needed, initial preparatory arrangements are made (when natural disasters such as typhoons, earthquakes, and fires, or anthropogenic disasters or accidents take place in or near the property or when a special event is organized).

[Inspection] : Inspections are made on an ad hoc basis, when a disaster or an accident occurs in or near the property or when a special event is organized.

[Maintenance interventions] : When minor damage is found as a result of various inspections, repair or improvement work within the scope of maintenance interventions is conducted as appropriate.

b. Develop maintenance plans for component parts

When above-mentioned maintenance work is conducted, maintenance plans are to be developed for individual component parts in order to clarify the targets and levels of maintenance work. It is desirable to decide in advance on the standard form of the check list, reporting sheet, etc. depending on the frequency and content, and carry out maintenance work accordingly (this can be included in a preservation and management plan).

Chapter 5

Conservation of the Buffer Zone

1. Principles

Based on basic policy [2] to “conserve historic, scenic landscapes that are created out of the combination of this property and the buffer zone” in Chapter 3 (“Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for conservation of the buffer zone are set forth as follows.

[1] Maintain and strengthen effective conservation measures based on laws and regulations

The existing legal restrictions in the buffer zone will be maintained to prevent development and other activities that may cause physical damage to the property and also to conserve the historic, scenic landscapes that are created out of the combination of this property and the buffer zone. Also, legal conservational measures in the buffer zone will be maintained and strengthened by introducing additional control measures through new designations in consideration of the specific characteristics of the individual component parts.

[2] Maintain and enhance the quality of historic, scenic landscapes

In order to maintain and further enhance the quality of historic, scenic landscapes of the buffer zone, viewpoints (outlook points) will be selected to identify specific historic, scenic landscapes to be maintained and enhanced. Appropriate measures, including visual harmonization, will be taken.

As is shown in Section 2 (2) of Chapter 4 (“Identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts”), the principles for conservation of the existing elements are set forth as follows.

Table 5-1: Principles for conservation of the elements in the buffer zone

Target of comprehensive preservation and management		Principles for preservation (conservation)
B. Elements in the buffer zone	[1] Natural elements	○ The elements that produce historic, scenic landscapes in unity with the property should be conserved appropriately.
	[2] Cultural elements	○ Appropriate measures should be taken, including visual harmonization, in order to contribute to enhancing the quality of historic, scenic landscapes.

<Conservation of historic, scenic landscapes in the buffer zone of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”>

The nomination dossier for inscription of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” on the World Heritage List describes the protective measures and means for implementing them in the buffer zone as follows.

The areas surrounding the individual assets of the nominated property are regulated through various applicable laws and municipal ordinances, as listed below for each asset, to ensure that the historical landscape and scenic landscape of these areas will be conserved in close harmony with the nominated property.

Particularly for the three closely-related cultural assets, i.e. the Shuri-jô site (2-E), Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon (1-B)) and Tamaudun (1-A), Naha City carried out in 1998 a program of basic research in preparation for administrative planning regarding landscape formation along the Shuri Symbol Road. Based on the research result, the architectural characteristics of buildings (i.e. color and height of the buildings) in the immediate surrounding of these component parts have been placed under regulation, so that the natural and cultural settings around the nominated property can be kept in good state of conservation.

At Shikinaen (2-F), there is not likely to be any adverse change to its cultural value even if the land use outside the garden changes according to development trends, because the mature growth of trees inside the garden visually separates the garden from outside.

(Excerpt from the nomination dossier)

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Maintain and strengthen effective conservation measures based on laws and regulations

Based on principle [1] to “maintain and strengthen effective conservation measures based on laws and regulations” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

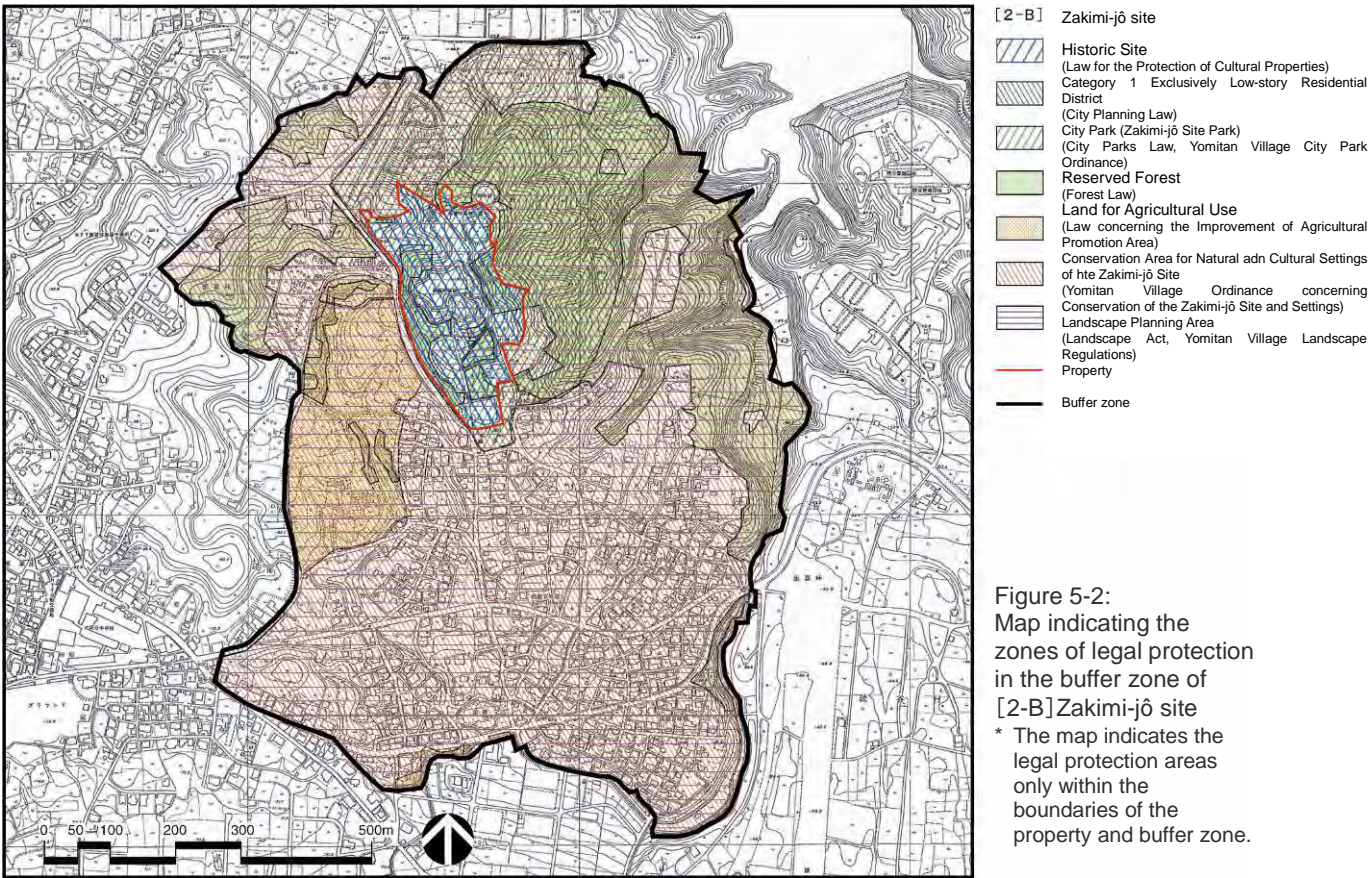
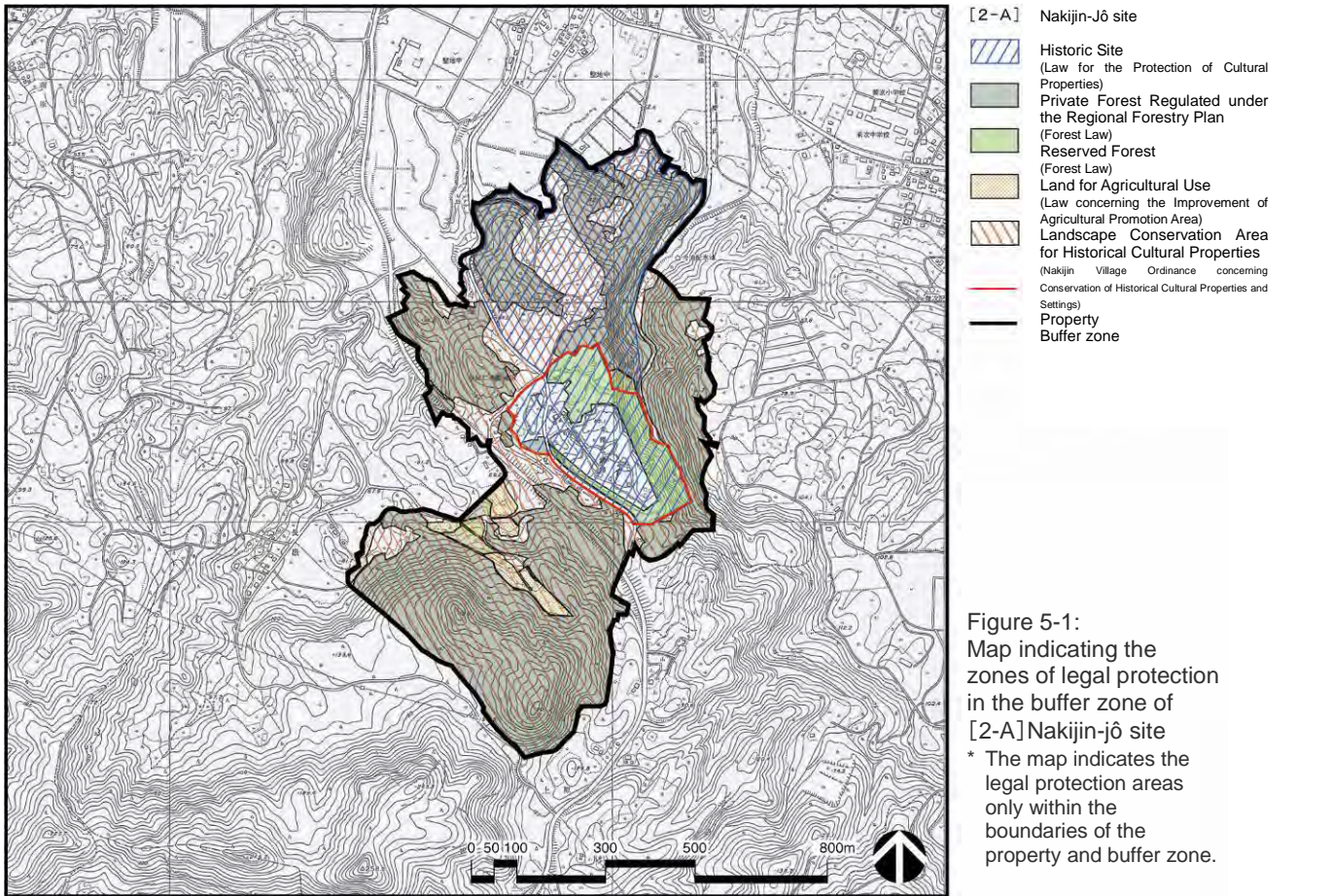
a. Maintain the existing legal control measures in the buffer zone

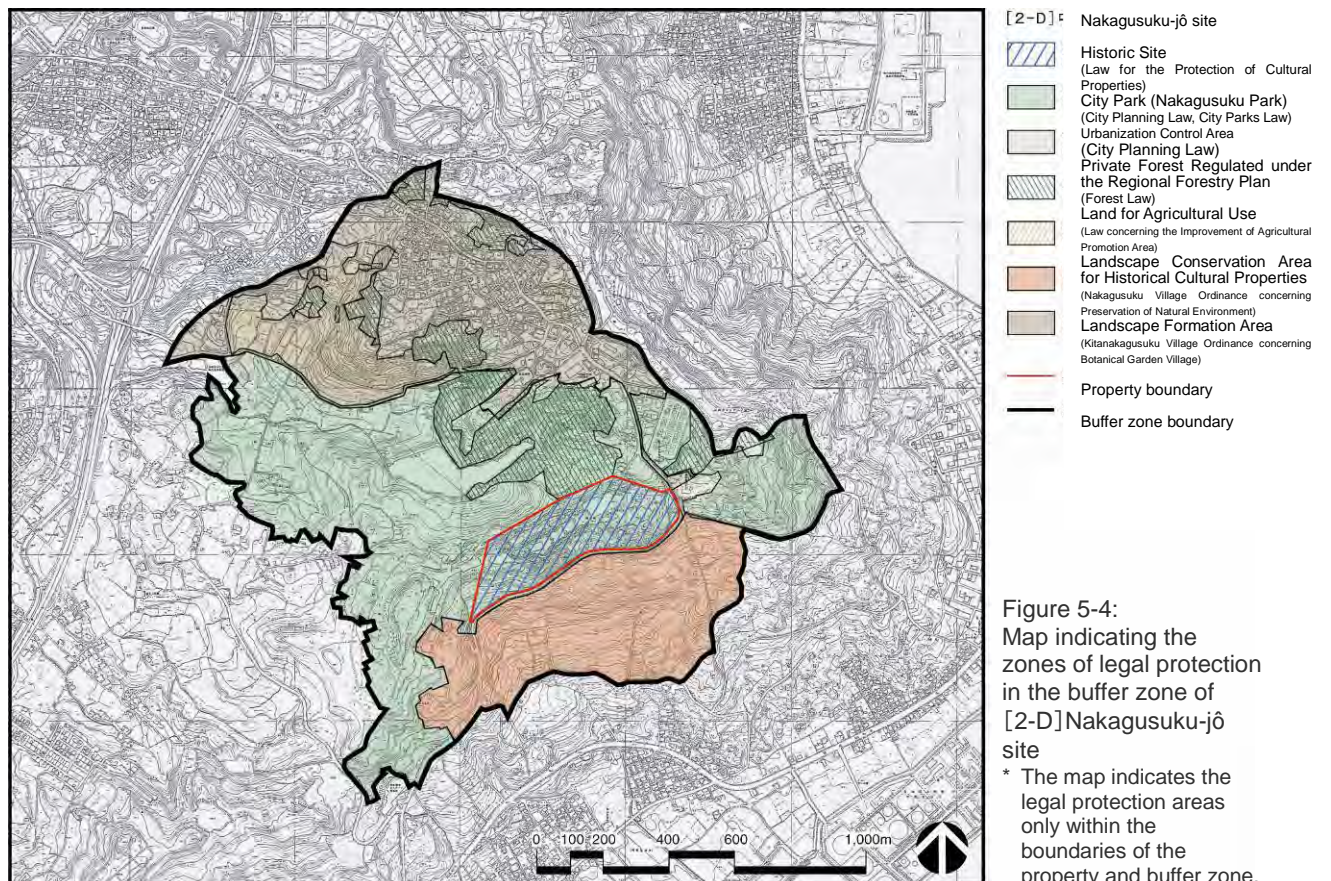
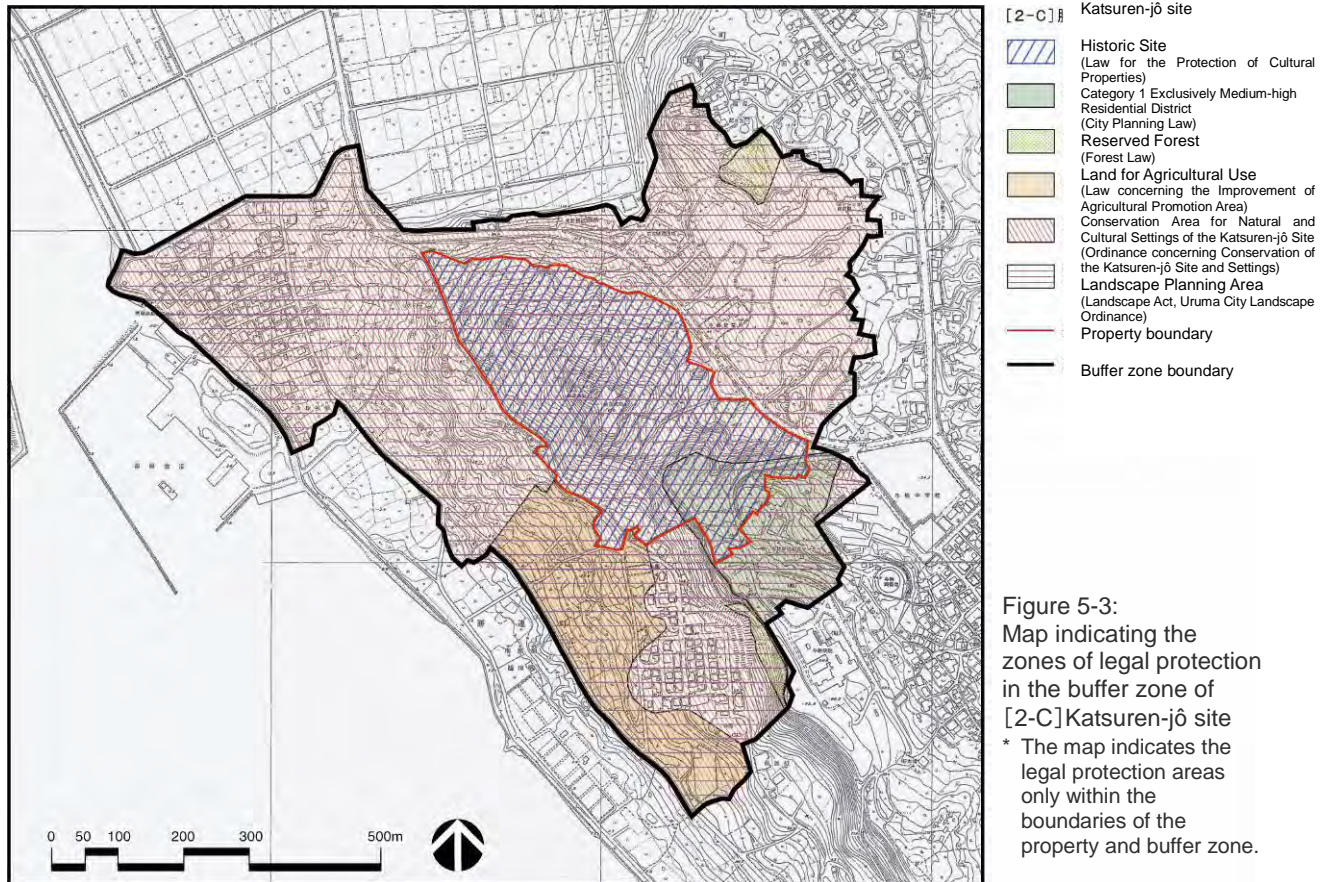
Figures 5-1 to 5-7 and Table 5-1 show the existing zones and designations that are applied to the buffer zone under applicable laws and regulations and the content of the control measures. Many of these control measures have been functional in conserving the historic, scenic landscapes in the buffer zone and preventing the developments and other activities that may cause physical damage to this property since the time of World Heritage inscription. In addition, the Landscape Act came into effect in June 2004, and municipal landscape plans were developed by Yomitan Village, Uruma City, and Naha City, according to which these entire city areas have been designated as the landscape plan areas, in which additional restrictions are imposed on the construction of buildings and so on.

In light of the above, the existing legal measures for conservation that are applied to the buffer zone will be maintained and the historic, scenic landscapes in the buffer zone will be conserved.

b. Introduce new control measures

In the buffer zone, in case that activities that are not controlled by the existing laws and regulations may cause damage to the historic, scenic landscapes, new protective designations will be made to strengthen control measures. In particular, when new development projects are envisaged in the buffer zone, strengthened efforts will be made to ensure the conservation of the historic, scenic landscapes, for example by means of designations as a landscape area or a priority area under the landscape plan.





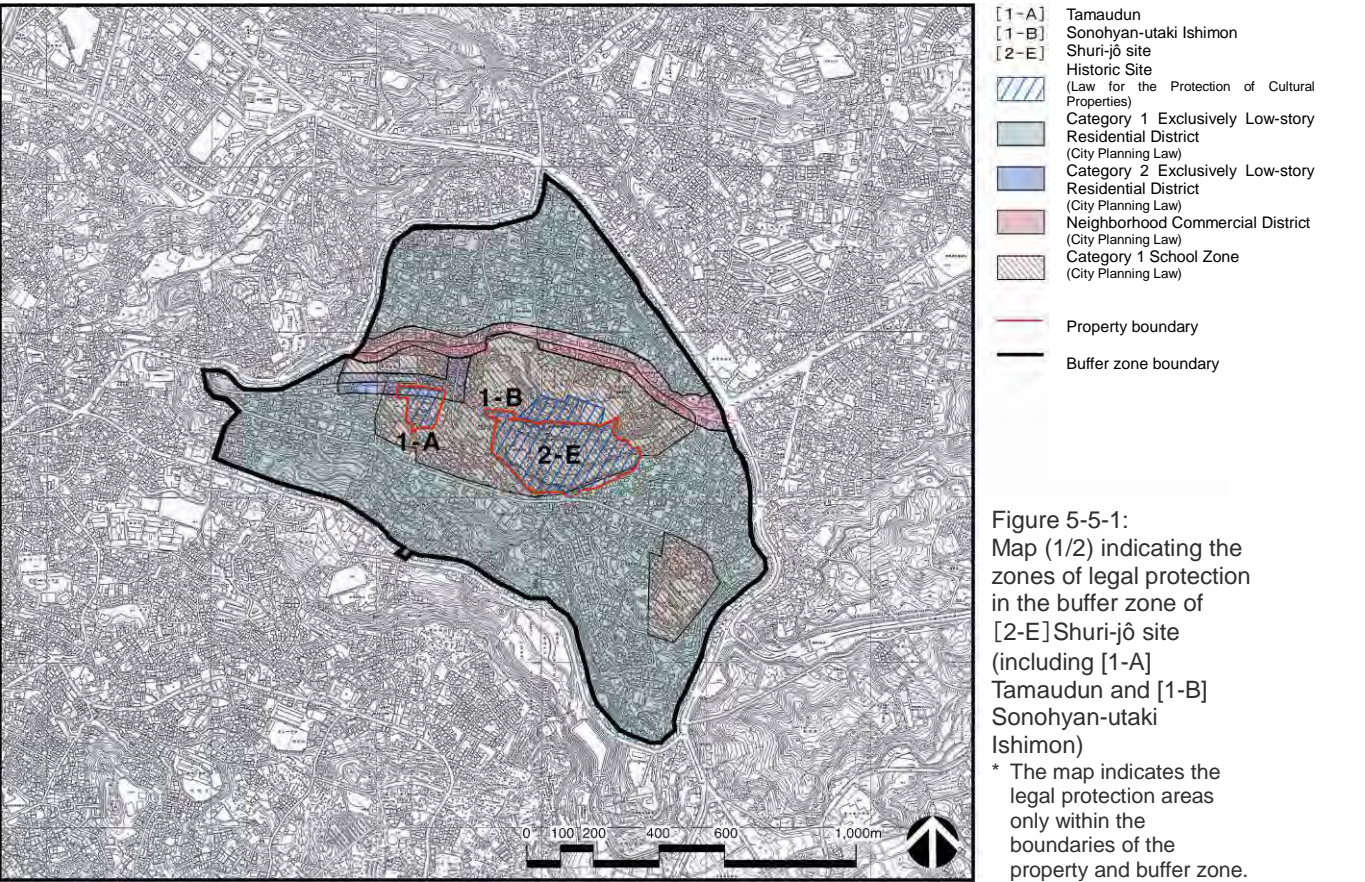


Figure 5-5-1:
Map (1/2) indicating the zones of legal protection in the buffer zone of [2-E] Shuri-jō site (including [1-A] Tamaudun and [1-B] Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon)
* The map indicates the legal protection areas only within the boundaries of the property and buffer zone.

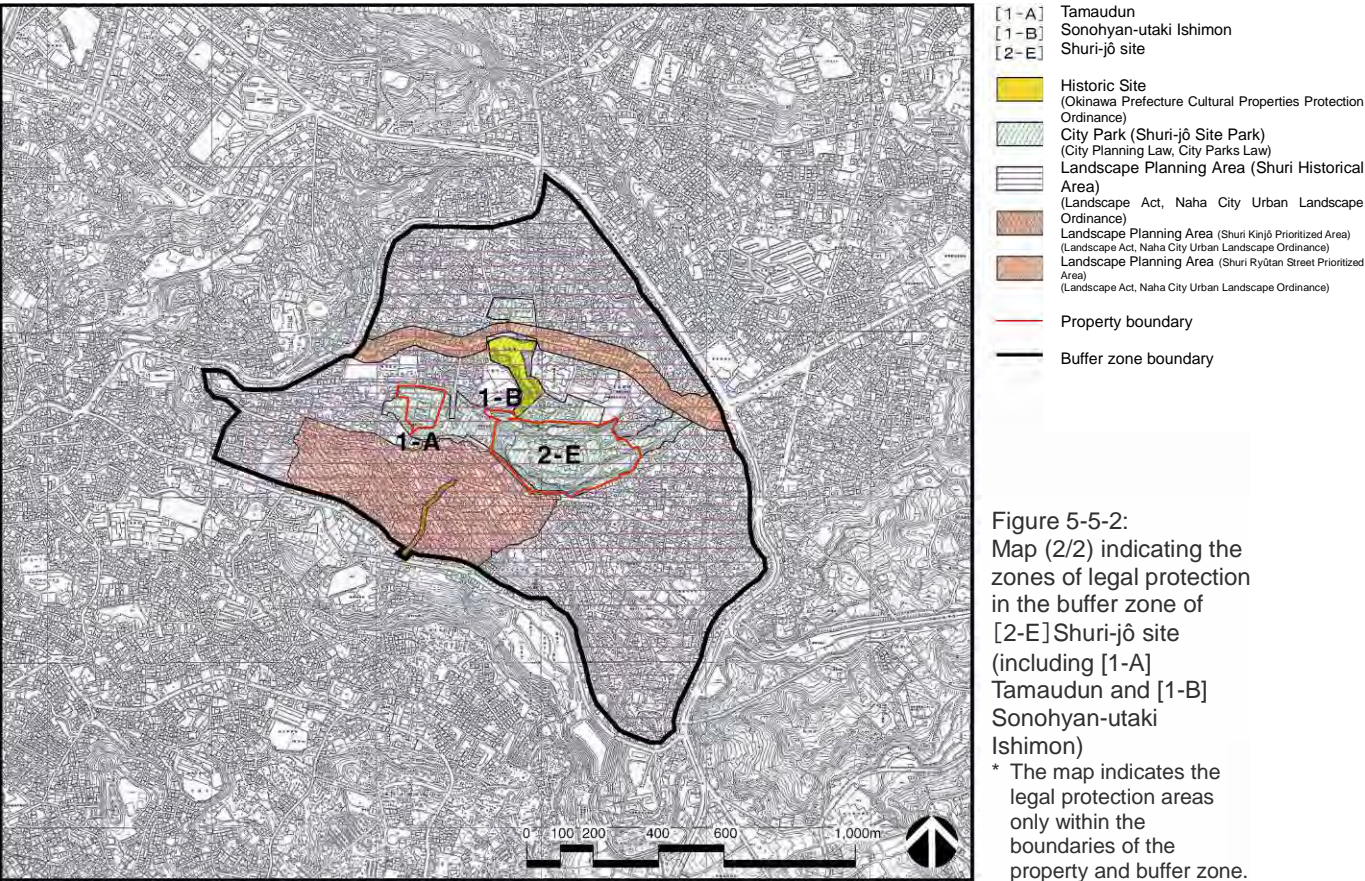


Figure 5-5-2:
Map (2/2) indicating the zones of legal protection in the buffer zone of [2-E] Shuri-jō site (including [1-A] Tamaudun and [1-B] Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon)
* The map indicates the legal protection areas only within the boundaries of the property and buffer zone.

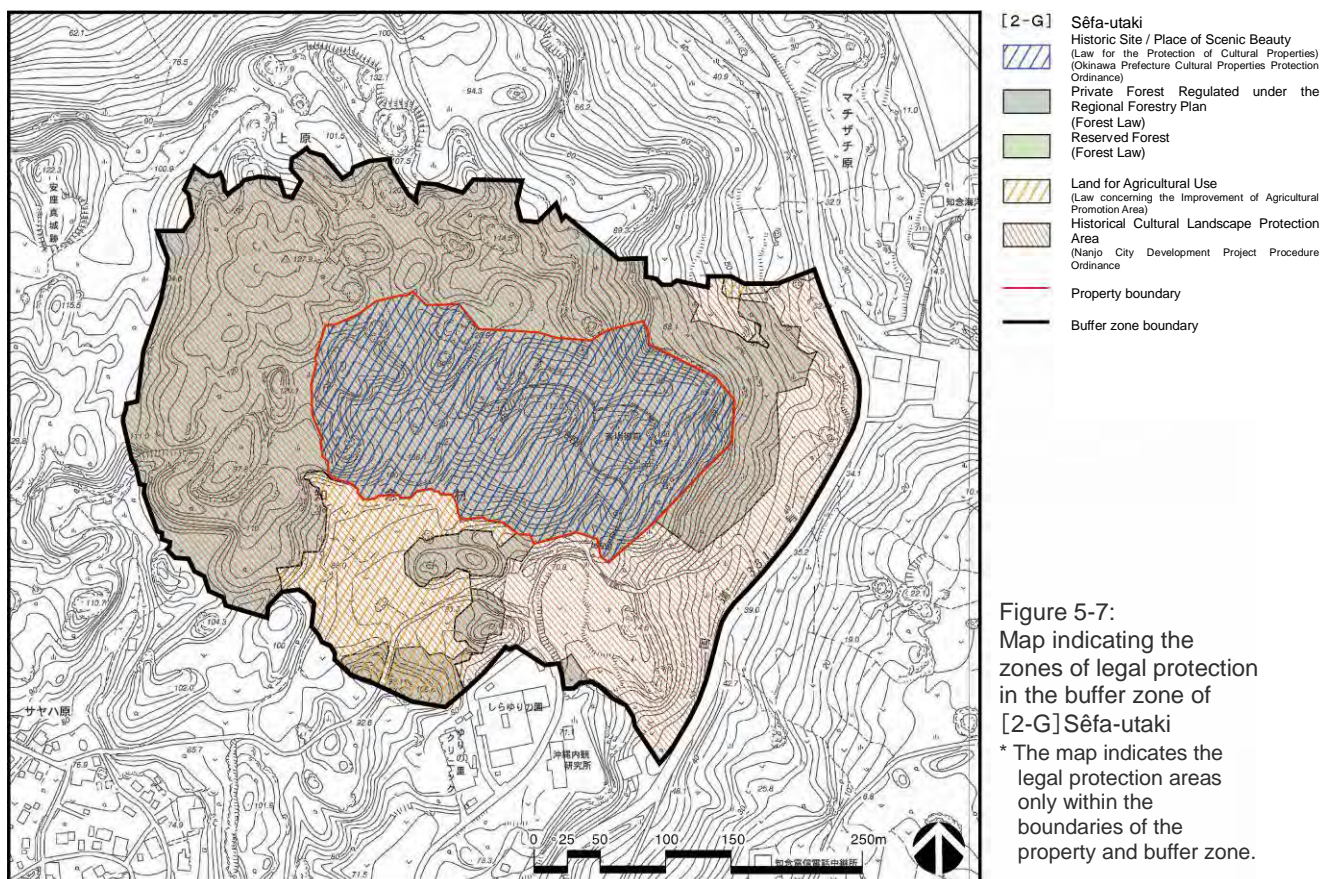
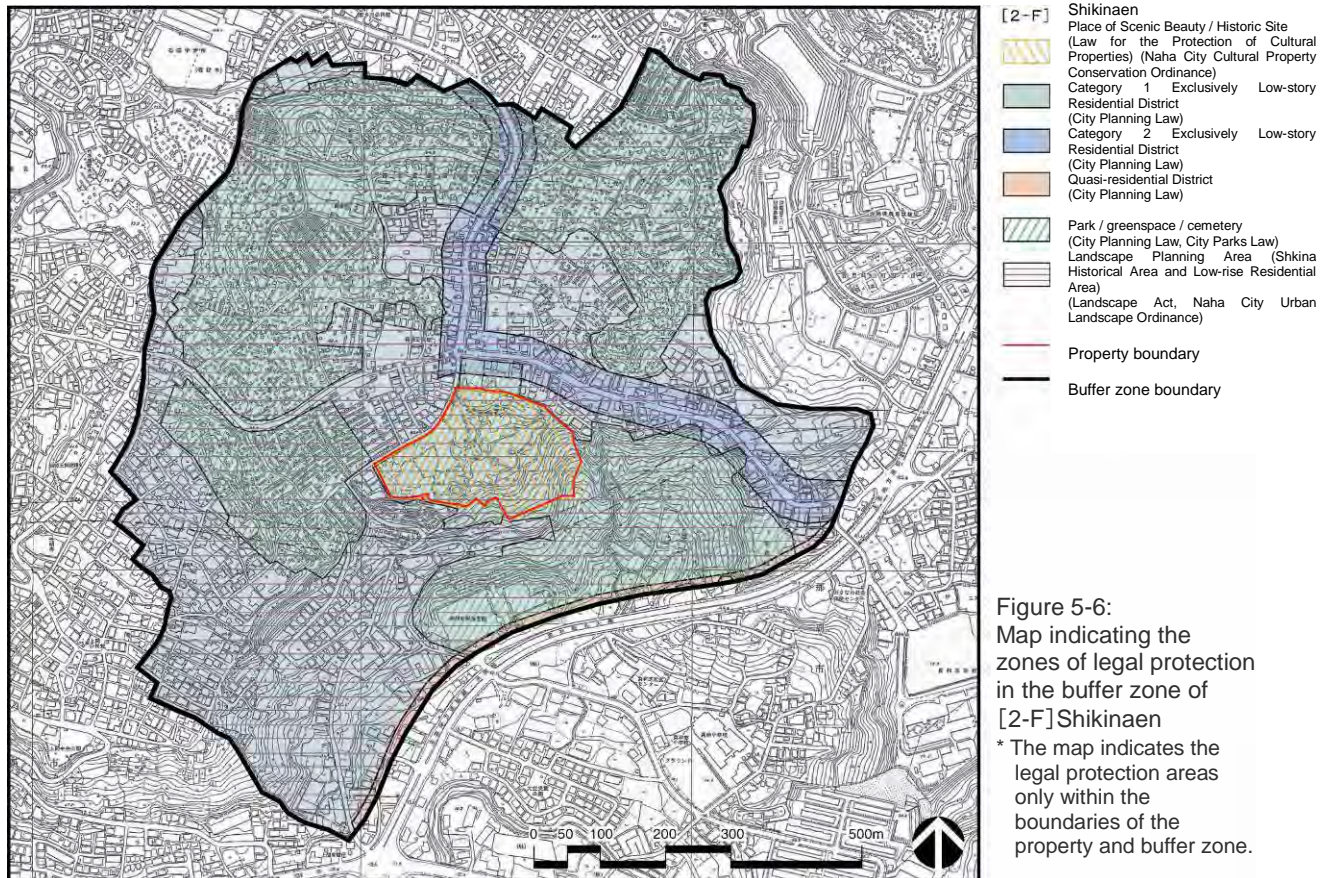


Table 5-2: Summary of Laws and Regulations Applicable to the Buffer Zone (1/3)

Name of the component part	Area	Designation	Applicable laws and regulations	Principles
1-A Tamaudun	136.9 ha	(Same as "[2-E] Shuri-jō site".)		
1-B Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	136.9 ha	(Same as "[2-E] Shuri-jō site".)		
2-A Nakijin-jō site	25.3 ha	Landscape Conservation Area for Historical Cultural Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nakijin Village Ordinance on Environmental Conservation for the Historical Cultural Sites 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of preservation and utilization of important historical cultural properties in Nakijin Village and prevention of damage or loss.
		Private Forest Regulated under the Regional Forestry Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Reserved Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Land for Agricultural Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law concerning the Improvement of Agricultural Promotion Area 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of agriculture.
2-B Zakimi-jō site	78.9 ha	Conservation Area for Natural and Cultural Settings of the Zakimi-jō Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yomitan Village Ordinance on Environmental Conservation for Zakimi-jō Site 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of preserving and enhancing historical, natural, and social environments that constitute the cultural value of Zakimi-jō site.
		Landscape Planning Area (The entire village is designated)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape Act Yomitan Village Landscape Regulations 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of preserving and enhancing beautiful landscapes of Yomitan Village.
		Use District (Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Planning Law 	The use purpose, floor-area ratio, building-coverage ratio, maximum height, etc. of buildings are regulated and controlled for the purpose of creating a better city environment. The city area is zoned into residential, commercial, and other districts in order to ensure a functional urban life.
		City Park (Zakimi-jō Site Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Parks Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of city parks and thereby enhancing public welfare.
		City Park (Zakimi-jō Site Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yomitan Village City Park Ordinance 	Some activities are restricted for the preservation and management of Zakimi-jō Site Park.
		Reserved Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Land for Agricultural Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law concerning the Improvement of Agricultural Promotion Area 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of agriculture.

* The boxes shaded in blue represent designations after the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Required procedures	Restrictions on construction and other activities				Penalty
(Same as “[2-E] Shuri-jô site”).					
(Same as “[2-E] Shuri-jô site”).					
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings etc., landform change (e.g., removal of soil and stone), or the cutting of trees or bamboo. <Permission standards> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The location, pattern, form, design, or color of the buildings etc. of the historical, cultural heritage shall not have significant negative impact on the characteristics of landscape resources.• The location, pattern, form, design, or color of the buildings etc. of the historical, cultural heritage shall not have significant negative impact on the historic, scenic landscapes.• No significant interference is made with the conservation area for historic, cultural heritage, the conservation of landscape resources, or environmental maintenance.				—
Prior permission / Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior notification is required to cut down standing trees.• Prior permission is required for development activities.				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required to cut down standing trees, remove soil, stones, or roots, or undertake development activities.				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required for development activities.				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings and structures, change to exterior design or color, or the cutting of trees or bamboo. <Permission standards> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The maximum height of buildings and structures shall not exceed 12m.• The pattern, form, design, and color of buildings and structures shall be harmonized to the extent possible with the surrounding landscapes. The tone of color shall be kept as subtle as possible and the design shall match the surrounding atmosphere.• Cutting of trees or bamboo shall not cause significant damage to historic, scenic landscapes.				—
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings and structures, change to exterior design or color, landform change (e.g., the reclamation of agricultural land, the removal of soil and stones, and the mining of mineral resources), and the outdoor accumulation or storage of goods. <Standards> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The height of buildings and structures shall not exceed 12m outside the Use Districts (in the Use Districts, the provisions of the Building Standards Act are applied).• The height and location of buildings etc. shall be carefully considered to ensure harmony with the surrounding landscapes.• The form and design of buildings etc. shall be carefully considered to ensure consistency and harmony with the surrounding landscapes.• The tone of color shall be kept subtle in harmony with the surrounding landscapes.• The materials of buildings etc. shall be carefully selected to ensure harmony with the surrounding landscapes.• The premises shall be greened to the extent possible.				—
Confirmation		Building-coverage ratio	Floor-area ratio	Height	Imprisonment or fine
	Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District	50%	100%	10m	
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required to build facilities, structures, and so on except for park facilities.				Fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is prohibited to cause damage or disorder to parks and to cut or collect plants.• Prior permission is required to build facilities, structures, and so on, except for park facilities.				Non-criminal fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required to cut down standing trees, remove soil, stones, or roots, or undertake development activities.				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior permission is required for development activities.				Imprisonment or fine

Table 5-2: Summary of Laws and Regulations Applicable to the Buffer Zone (2/3)

Name of the component part	Area	Designation	Applicable laws and regulations	Principles
2-C Katsuren-jô site	44.2 ha	Katsuren-jô Site Environmental Conservation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ordinance concerning Conservation of the Katsuren-jô Site and Settings 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of properly conserving the environment in and around the Katsuren-jô site.
		Landscape Planning Area (the entire village is designated)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape Act Uruma City Landscape Ordinance 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the beauty of Uruma City and conserving landscapes for future generations.
		Use District (Category I Exclusively High and Medium Storey Building Residential District)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Planning Law 	The use purpose, floor-area ratio, building-coverage ratio, maximum height etc. of buildings are regulated and controlled for the purpose of creating a better city environment and zone cities into residential, commercial, and other districts in order to ensure a functional urban life.
		Reserved Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Land for Agricultural Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law concerning the Improvement of Agricultural Promotion Area 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of agriculture.
2-D Nakagusuku-jô site	178.1 ha	Landscape Conservation Area for Historical Cultural Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nakagusuku Village Ordinance concerning Preservation of Natural Environment 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and preserving the sound natural environment and important historic, cultural properties in Nakagusuku Village and preventing damage or loss.
		Landscape Formation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitanakagusuku Village Ordinance concerning Botanical Garden Village 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of preserving and enhancing important historic, cultural properties in Kitanakagusuku Village.
		City Park (Nakagusuku Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Parks Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of city parks and thereby enhancing public welfare.
		Urbanization Control Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Planning Law 	Development and construction activities are restricted for the purpose of controlling urbanization and conserving the natural environment.
		Private Forest Regulated under the Regional Forestry Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Law 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Land for Agricultural Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law concerning the Improvement of Agricultural Promotion Area 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of agriculture.
2-E Shuri-jô site	136.9 ha	Landscape Planning Area (Shuri Historical Area) (Shurikin-jô district) (Ryutan-dôri District)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape Act Naha City Urban Landscape Ordinance 	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of enhancing the beauty of the city, conserving and regenerating the landscapes full of historical and local characteristics, and developing other urban landscapes.

* The boxes shaded in blue represent designations after the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Required procedures	Restrictions on construction and other activities			Penalty
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings etc., the removal of soil and stones, or landform change, and the cutting of trees or bamboo. <Permission standards> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maximum height of buildings etc. shall not exceed 13m. Buildings etc. shall be harmonized with the surrounding landscapes. The tone of color shall be kept as subtle as possible, and the design shall match the surrounding atmosphere. It is prohibited to conduct activities that may have significant negative impact on historic landscape conservation, such as the removal of soil and stones, landform change, and the cutting of trees or bamboo. 			—
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings and structures, the change to exterior design or color, landform change (e.g., the reclamation of agricultural land, the removal of soil and stones, and the mining of mineral resources), the planting and cutting of trees or bamboo, the outdoor accumulation of soil, stones, wastes, recycled materials, and other goods, and the reclamation of waterfronts. 			—
Confirmation		Building-coverage ratio	Floor-area ratio	Imprisonment or fine
	Category I Exclusively Medium-High Residential District	50% or 60%	200%	
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required to cut down standing trees, remove soil, stones, or roots, or undertake development activities. 			Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required for development activities. 			Imprisonment or fine
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, or relocation of buildings etc., landform change (e.g., the removal of soil and stones), and the large-scale cutting of trees or bamboo. 			—
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, or relocation of buildings and structures, the repair on and change to exterior design or color, the installation or display of billboards or advertisement signs, the development of residential land, landform change, or the cutting of standing trees essential to landscapes. 			—
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required to build facilities, structures, and so on, except for park facilities. 			Fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is prohibited to construct buildings other than designated structures, buildings for agricultural, forestry, and fishing purposes, or residential buildings for people working in these sectors. 			Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission / Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required to cut down standing trees. Prior permission is required for development activities. 			Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required for development activities. 			Imprisonment or fine
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings and structures, the change to exterior design or color, landform change (e.g., the reclamation of agricultural land, the removal of soil and stones, and the mining of mineral resources), and the planting and cutting of trees or bamboo. <Standards> *Excerpted from the Naha City Landscape Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houses should have sloped, red-tiled roofs to create historical landscapes. Surrounding stone walls should be made from traditional Ryukyu limestone in order to preserve and enhance the historical and traditional landscape of Okinawa. Other fences and walls should be built in a traditional style (e.g., hedges and bamboo fences). Historical and traditional landscapes should be enhanced and developed by promoting tree planting. The height of buildings shall not exceed 15m (in the Use Districts without height limits). [Standards for Shurikin-jō district] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Height limit: 10m (eaves height limit: 7m) etc. [Standards for Ryūtan-dōri District] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The eaves height shall not exceed 12m, and the height of buildings shall not exceed 15m. In areas facing Ryūtan, the height of buildings shall not exceed 10m. 			—

Table 5-2: Summary of Laws and Regulations Applicable to the Buffer Zone (3/3)

Name of the component part	Area	Designation	Applicable laws and regulations	Principles
2-E Shuri-jō site	136.9 ha	Use District (Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District) (Category II Exclusively Low-story Residential District) (Neighborhood Commercial District) (Educational District)	• City Planning Law	The use purpose, floor-area ratio, building-coverage ratio, maximum height etc. of buildings are regulated and controlled for the purpose of creating a better city environment and zone cities into residential, commercial, and other districts in order to ensure a functional urban life.
		City Park (Shuri-jō Site Park)	• City Parks Law	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of city parks and thereby enhancing public welfare.
2-F Shikinaen	84.2 ha	Landscape Planning Area (Shikina Historical Area)	• Landscape Act • Naha City Urban Landscape Ordinance	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of enhancing the beauty of the city, conserving and regenerating the landscapes full of historical and local characteristics, and developing other urban landscapes.
		Use District (Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District) (Category II Exclusively Low-story Residential District) (Quasi-residential District)	• City Planning Law	The use purpose, floor-area ratio, building-coverage ratio, maximum height etc. of buildings are regulated and controlled for the purpose of creating a better city environment and zone cities into residential, commercial, and other districts in order to ensure a functional urban life.
		City Park (Shikina Park, Shikina Cemetery)	• City Parks Law	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of city parks and thereby enhancing public welfare.
2-G Sēfa-utaki	12.1 ha	Prioritized Protection Area	• Nanjo City Development Project Procedure Ordinance	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting cooperation among the public, private, and civil society sectors to maintain a good living environment and developing a pleasant city environment according to the characteristics of each district.
		Private Forest Regulated under the Regional Forestry Plan	• Forest Law	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Reserved Forest	• Forest Law	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the public functions of forests.
		Land for Agricultural Use	• Law concerning the Improvement of Agricultural Promotion Area	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of promoting the sound development of agriculture.
		Scenic Zone (Category 1 Scenic Zone) (Category 4 Scenic Zone)	• City Planning Law • Okinawa Prefectural Ordinance concerning Regulations on Buildings etc. in the Scenic Zone	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of harmonizing the districts with their surrounding natural landscapes (for example, the height of buildings is regulated).
		Landscape Planning Area	• Landscape Act • Nanjo City Landscape Ordinance (to be in effect by the end of FY2013)	Some activities are restricted for the purpose of creating beautiful landscapes that are in harmony with the nature, history, culture, and people's lives and economic activities in the areas.

* The boxes shaded in blue represent designations after the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Required procedures	Restrictions on construction and other activities				Penalty
Confirmation		Building-coverage ratio	Floor-area ratio	Height	Imprisonment or fine
	Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District	50%	100%	10m	
	Category II Exclusively Low-story Residential District	50%	100%	10m	
	Neighborhood Commercial District	80%	200%	-	
Prior permission (school zone)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factories and facilities inappropriate for educational purposes are restricted. Prior permission is required to construct these facilities. 				
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required to build facilities, structures, and so on, except for park facilities. 				Fine
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, relocation, or removal of buildings and structures, the change to exterior design or color, landform change (e.g., the reclamation of agricultural land, the removal of soil and stones, and the mining of mineral resources), or the planting and cutting of trees or bamboo. <Standards> *Excerpted from the Naha City Landscape Plan Houses should have sloped, red-tiled roofs to create historical landscapes. Surrounding stone walls should be made from traditional Ryukyu limestone to preserve and enhance the historical and traditional landscape of Okinawa. Other fences and walls should be built in a traditional style (e.g., hedges and bamboo fences). Historical and traditional landscapes should be enhanced and developed by promoting tree planting. 				—
Confirmation		Building-coverage ratio	Floor-area ratio	Height	Imprisonment or fine
	Category I Exclusively Low-story Residential District	50%	100%	10m	
	Category II Exclusively Low-story Residential District	50%	100%	10m	
	Quasi-residential District	60%	200%	-	
Prior permission	Prior permission is required to build facilities, structures, and so on, except for park facilities.				Fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required for activities such as development activities, the removal of soil and stones, and landform change. <Standards> Measures shall be taken to avoid damage to the natural and social environments in and around the development project areas. Appropriate measures shall be taken to prevent soil erosion and water pollution in river basins and coastal areas. The forests within the development areas shall be conserved properly to nurture water resources or maintain the environment in and around the areas. 				Fine
Prior permission / prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required to cut down standing trees. Prior permission is required for development activities. 				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required to cut down standing trees, remove soil, stones, or roots, or undertake development activities. 				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior permission is required for development activities. 				Imprisonment or fine
Prior permission	(1) New construction, modification, enlargement, or relocation of buildings and other structures (hereafter referred to as "buildings etc.") (2) Development of residential land, reclamation of agricultural land, and other activities resulting in landform change (hereafter referred to as "development etc. of residential land") (3) Cutting of trees or bamboo (4) Removal of soil, stones, etc. (5) Reclamation of waterfronts (6) Change to exterior color of buildings etc. (7) Outdoor accumulation of soil, stones, wastes, or recycled materials * Standards differ between Category 1 and Category 4.				Fine
Prior notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification is required for activities such as the new construction, enlargement, modification, or relocation of buildings and structures, the repair resulting in appearance change, the change to exterior design or color, landform change (e.g., the reclamation of agricultural land, the removal of soil and stones, the mining of mineral resources), or the planting and cutting of trees or bamboo. <Standards> The height of buildings and structures in the immediate surrounding of scenic residential/community areas shall be carefully considered to ensure harmony with the surrounding streetscapes. The utmost efforts shall be made to use materials in harmony with the history and landscape of Okinawa, such as red tiles, Ryukyu limestone, and flower blocks. The roof color shall not be too bright or too dark to ensure harmony with the color of the exterior walls. 				—

(2) Maintain and enhance the quality of historic, scenic landscapes

Based on principle [2] to “maintain and enhance the quality of historic, scenic landscapes” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Identify the historic, scenic landscapes to be maintained and enhanced

With regard to the historical, scenic landscapes that are created out of the combination of the property and the buffer zone, those to be maintained and/or enhanced are to be identified by setting up or selecting viewpoints (lookout points) for this purpose. From these viewpoints, elements that are disturbing these historical, scenic landscapes (hereafter referred to as “visual disturbances”) are to be identified and the principles and standards will be set out for maintaining and enhancing historical, scenic landscapes. As a measure to develop such principles and standards, it is effective to make use of the landscape plans and landscape ordinances of the municipal governments of the locations where the component parts are located.

Several examples of visual disturbances are described below.

<Examples of visual disturbances>

1) Views of the surrounding area from major viewpoints (lookout points)^{*1} within the property

1. Modern, built structures that break the mountain ridge, coastline, horizon, etc.
2. Modern, built structures existing in the natural or semi-natural environment (e.g., mountains, hills, forests, beaches, seas, and farmland) whose size, color, form, or design is so discordant as to attract people’s attention.

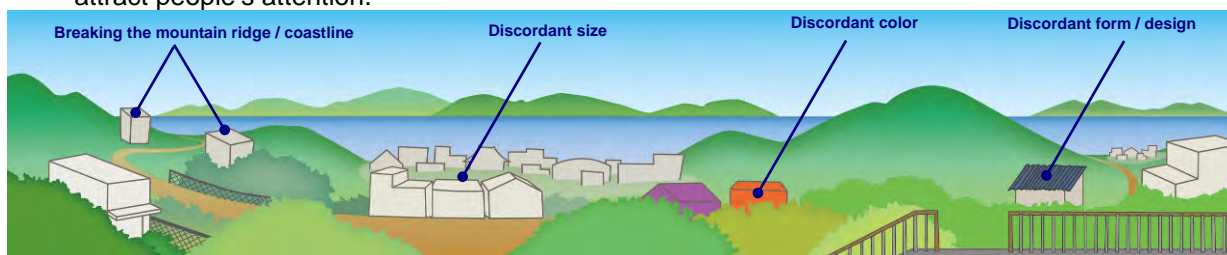


Figure 5-8: Examples of visual disturbances to the views of the surrounding area from major viewpoints (outlook points) within the property

^{*1} The viewpoints (outlook points) of historical importance (e.g., watchtowers in *Gusukus*, the Kankôdai observatory in Shikinaen, and a special place for worshipping a sacred place from afar) will be selected in consideration of the specific characteristics of individual component parts and the potential for use.

2) Views of the component parts from major viewpoints (outlook points)^{*2} outside the property

1. Modern, built structures that hide castle walls and other major above-ground elements of the property.
2. Modern, built structures that break or protrude over the outlines of major above-ground elements of the property, such as castle walls, and forests and other natural landscapes in the surrounding area.

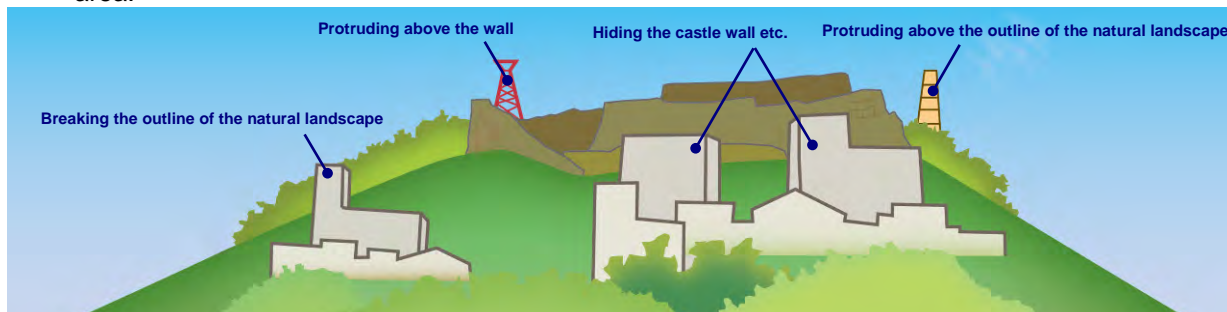


Figure 5-9: Examples of visual disturbances to the view of the component parts of the property from major viewpoints (outlook points) outside the property

^{*2} The viewpoints (outlook points) of historical importance (e.g., settlement sites at the foot of *Gusukus* and a special place for worshipping a sacred place from afar) will be selected in consideration of the specific characteristics of individual component parts and the potential for use (e.g., the starting points of main approaches to the property).

*** Reference: Naha City Landscape Plan (Naha City, May 2011)**

Formulated in May 2011, the Naha City Landscape Plan designates areas in and around the Shuri-jō site and Shikinaen as “Shuri Historical Area” and “Shikina Historical Area”, respectively, setting out the purposes, overall policies, and standards for landscape development for these areas.

Also, the plan presents policies for “viewpoints and views” as part of the development of good landscapes of the entire city, including policies for the conservation of views from viewpoints within and around the Shuri-jō site, which are selected in consideration of its historical context.

[Purposes, overall policies, and standards for landscape development by area]

	Shuri Historical Area	Shikina Historical Area
Purposes of landscape development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve, enhance, and utilize the historical and traditional landscapes typical to subtropical garden cities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To restore, enhance, and utilize the landscapes that are produced by cultural properties and historical resources around Shikinaen. To conserve, restore, and utilize the traditional landscape resources of old settlements.
Policies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Measures will be taken to conserve, enhance, and utilize the landscapes of the World Heritage property, centering on the Shuri-jō site, and the buffer zone, places where cultural properties and historic heritage are concentrated, and the townscapes of a historical castle town characterized by abundant green space. The form and design of buildings and streets shall be in harmony with Shuri-jō, historic settlements such as Shuri Sanka, and historical and traditional landscape resources (e.g., the Hija River and the woodlands of Utaki). Also, efforts for landscape development will be made toward low-story residential areas characterized by red-tiled roofs, stone walls, and abundant green space. Measures will be taken to conserve and restore <i>Sūjiguwā</i>. Measures will be taken to conserve the green mountain ridges as the framework of historical Shuri and to conserve the associated views and set up viewpoints. The height of buildings etc. shall be carefully considered so that the green mountain ridges that constitute the framework of Shuri are visible from major viewpoints within the Shuri-jō site. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the area around Shikinaen, measures will be taken to conserve, enhance, and utilize historic, cultural heritages as the buffer zone of the World Heritage property. Landscapes of the residential areas appropriate for local history and culture are to be developed. <p><Specific policies></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For settlements of Uema and Shikina, measures will be taken to conserve, enhance, and utilize historical cultural resources and local resources, such as the Hija River, woodlands of Utaki, and historic roads. At the same time, landscape development measures will be taken to maintain unique characters of residential areas of Okinawa. For Shikinaen, consultation and restrictions will be made to prevent the construction of buildings and structures (e.g., steel towers) from intruding into the background of the scenic view of Shikina-udun seen from inside the garden. Also, efforts will be made to make the most use of the landscapes associated with the Kankōdai observatory. Streetscapes around the large groups of graves are to be harmonized as the Historical Area and the buffer zone of the World Heritage property.
Standards for landscape development (specific to individual areas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roofs should have red-tiled sloped roofs for the purpose of producing historical landscapes. Efforts should be made to maintain and enhance the historical and traditional landscapes of Okinawa, for example by using traditional Ryukyu limestone for the surrounding stone walls. Other fences and walls should be built in a traditional style such as hedges and bamboo fences. Greening should be promoted further as a measure to improve the historical and traditional landscapes. The height of buildings shall not exceed 15m (in the Use Districts without height limits). 	—

[Viewpoints and views]

[1] Views of Suimui (corresponding to Shuri Historical Area)

- Measures will be taken to conserve and set up viewpoints within the Shuri-jō site as well as the views of the historic forested hills of Suimui seen from the viewpoints (skyline).
- The utmost efforts will be made to conserve the city's landscapes from major viewpoints.

[2] Views of the Shuri-jō site

- Measures will be taken to conserve and set up major historic viewpoints and conserve the views of Shuri-jō from these viewpoints.

Figure: Elements that form landscape framework (part magnified)



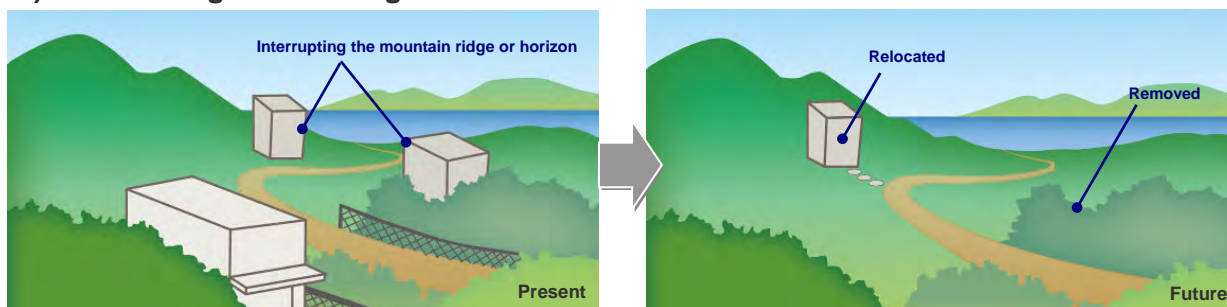
b. Implement measures for visual harmonization

Appropriate measures, including visual harmonization, will be taken to maintain and enhance historical, scenic landscapes. Also, a mechanism is to be put in place for that purpose.

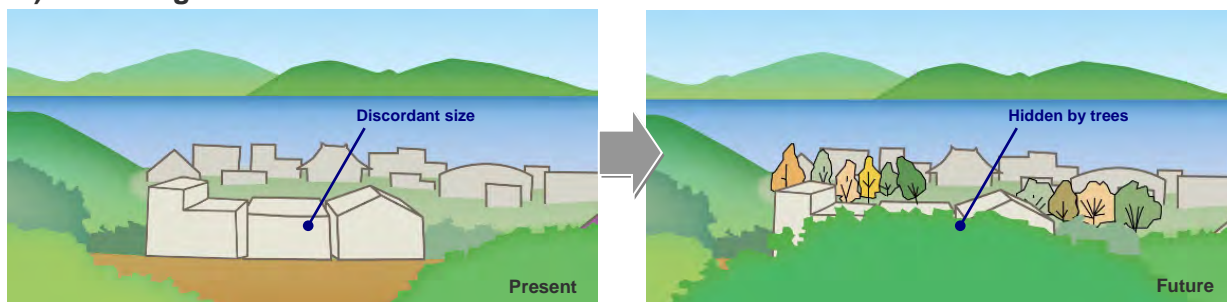
In particular, with regard to the identified elements of visual disturbance, consultation and coordination will be made with owners and managers to take appropriate measures, including for example relocation to a place where there is no impact on historical, scenic landscapes on the occasion of building refurbishment, removal, planting of trees to hide the visually disturbing elements, and change of the color, form, and/or design.

<Examples of visual harmonization>

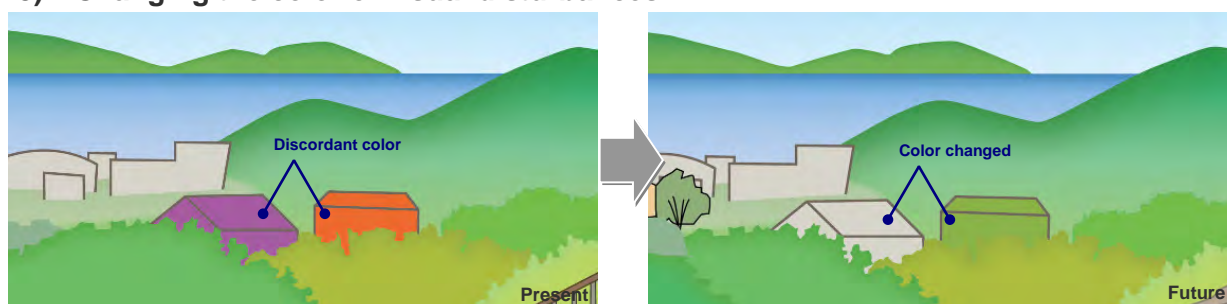
1) Relocating or removing visual disturbances



2) Planting trees to hide visual disturbances



3) Changing the color of visual disturbances



4) Changing the form and/or design of visual disturbances

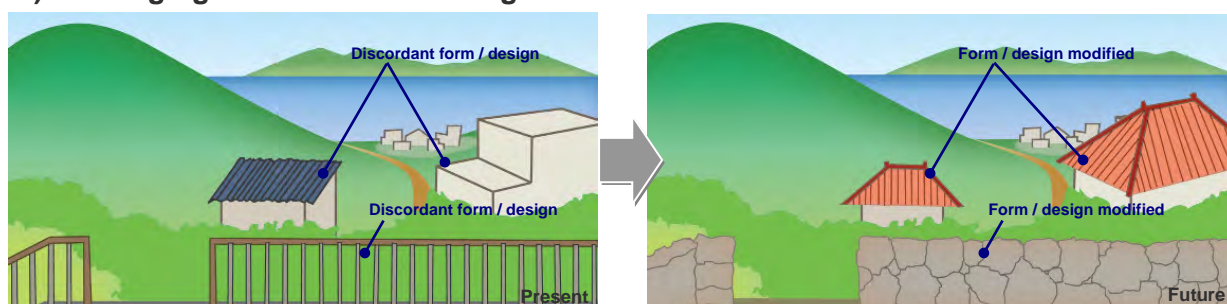


Figure 5-10: Examples of measures to mitigate the impact of visual disturbances

Chapter 6

Conservation of Landscapes of the Surrounding Area

1. Principles

Based on basic policy [3] to “conserve the landscapes of the surrounding area that show the characteristics of this property” in Chapter 3 (“Basic Policies on Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for conservation of the environment of the surrounding area are set forth as follows.

[1] Conserve the landscapes that show the characteristics of the locations of the property

The surrounding area of *Gusuku*, garden, *Utaki*, and other component parts of this property are full of natural elements, such as mountain ridges and the sea, and cultural elements, such as historic ports and settlements. Their views from the property form the landscapes illustrating the characteristics of the locations of the World Heritage property. Although these views are not necessarily an essential part of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, they play an important role in helping many visitors to understand the unique characteristics of this World Heritage property.

In light of this, measures will be taken, according to the specific characteristics of the individual component parts, to conserve the landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the locations of this property.

As mentioned in Section 2 (2) of Chapter 4 (“Identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts”), the principles for conservation of the existing elements are described below.

Table 6-1: Principles for conservation of the elements in the surrounding area

Target of comprehensive preservation and management		Principles for preservation (conservation)
C. Elements in the surrounding area	[1] Natural elements	○ The elements of the landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting of the property should be conserved appropriately.
	[2] Cultural elements	○ Appropriate measures should be taken, including visual harmonization, to enhance the quality of the landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting of the property.

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Conserve the landscapes that show the characteristics of the location/setting of the property

Based on principle [1] to “conserve the landscapes that show the characteristics of the location/setting of the property” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Identify landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting of the component parts and clarify the principles for landscape conservation

Each component part of this property has characteristics unique to its location/setting. The views of the surrounding area from each component part are important as elements that enable visitors to understand such characteristics of the location/setting visually. Therefore, it is important to identify landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting of each component part and clarify the principles for conservation of these landscapes.

The types of landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting are shown below together with the principles for landscape conservation.

<Types of landscape illustrating the characteristics of the location/setting and the principles for landscape conservation (example)>

1) Views of other component parts

Some of the *Gusuku* sites included in this property are located where they are for a reason, i.e. as a watchtower to keep an eye on other *Gusukus*.



[Principles for landscape conservation (example)]

- The visibility of the target *Gusuku* sites from specific viewpoints within other component parts should be secured in order to maintain the mutual visibility between *Gusukus*.

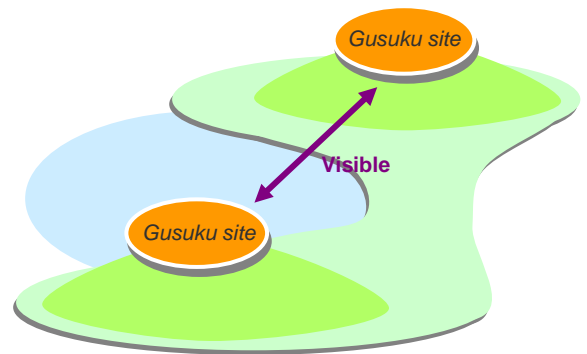


Figure 6-2: Mutual visibility between component parts

2) Views from historically important viewpoints (lookout points) within the component parts

The locations of *Gusukus* were carefully selected to afford a sweeping view of the surrounding area. Inside the *Gusukus*, watchtowers were built to observe the surrounding settlements, the port, and the sea and to be on guard against enemies' invasion.

In contrast, the view of the Kankōdai observatory in Shikinaen was designed to hide the sea with the mountain ridges for the purpose of entertaining envoys.



[Principles for landscape conservation (example)]

- The views of the surrounding natural landscapes from historically important viewpoints (lookout points) within the component parts, as well as the skylines formed by the sea and mountain ridges should be conserved.

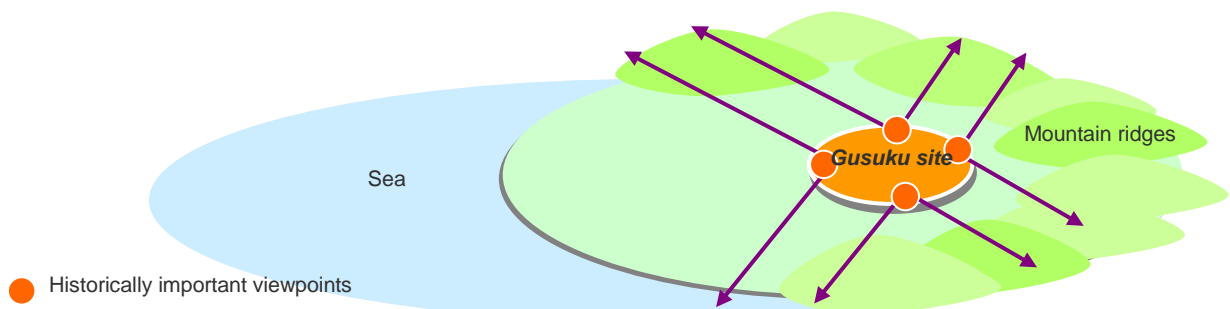


Figure 6-3: Views from historically important viewpoints within a component part

*** Reference: Description on the characteristics of the location/setting of each component part**

The characteristics of the location/setting of each component part are described in the nomination dossier and other documents as follows.

2-A Nakijin-jō site

The location of the castle, an isolated hill surrounded by a river on the east, a valley on the west and a steep cliff on the south, gave Nakijin-jō a great deal of strategic advantage.

2-B Zakimi-jō site

The location of the castle was tactically planned and decided, from the viewpoint of ease of defense, at a site on a hill where a clear view of Shuri-jō was obtained in favor of smooth and prompt communication with the king at Shuri-jō.

2-C Katsuren-jō site

The castle site contains an isolated steep hill with a panoramic view of the surrounding land in all directions. The benefits of the location, i.e. ease of detecting the enemy in the distance and access to an excellent port to the south, made the castle the more formidable.

2-D Nakagusuku-jō site

Nakagusuku-jō was the castle to which Lord Gosamaru was deployed from Zakimi-jō on the king's order to check the invasion of Lord Amawari at Katsuren-jō, who was aspiring to the throne of the kingdom. In the middle of the most turbulent period of Ryukyuan history, the castle played a strategically important role.



Photo 6-10: A View of Nakagusuku-jō Site from Katsuren-jō Site



Photo 6-11: A View of Katsuren-jō Site from Nakagusuku-jō Site

2-E Shuri-jō site

The castle is located on a hill overlooking the town of Shuri and the major port of the Kingdom of Ryukyu, Naha Port; the castle site is separated into inner and outer enclosures in harmony with the natural landform of its location. The inner enclosure was constructed in the early 15th century by Shō Hashi (r 1422 -1439), the second king of the first Shō Dynasty Ryukyu Kingdom. The outer enclosure and the surrounding area were added when the castle was enlarged in the reigns of Shō Shin (r 1477-1526) and Shō Sei (r 1527 -1555) of the second Shō Dynasty. The castle walls of Aikatazumi (random stacking style) coral limestone blocks extend 1,080 m in total length. The walls measure from 6 to 15 m in height and approximately 3 m in thickness. Watchtowers were annexed at the eastern and the western ends of the wall, the Higashi-no-azana and Nishi-no-azana, respectively.



Photo 6-12: A View of Naha City in the direction of Naha Port from Nishi-no-azana inside Shuri-jō Site

(Excerpt from the nomination dossier, except for the photos)

2-F Shikinaen

This hill commands a wide panoramic view to the south. Although approximately 80m above the sea level, the ocean is not visible from here. Rice fields and farmland used to spread endlessly with settlements dotting the green, giving an impression as if it were a continent.

A local old saying, “if Tang is compared to an umbrella, Yamato (mainland Japan) is a hoof of a horse, and Okinawa is the tip of a needle”, indicates that envoys from Tang China thought Ryukyu was so small that the sea is visible from any high places on the island. It is said, however, that they were surprised that Ryukyu was larger than they expected, not being able to catch a glimpse of the sea from this hill.



Photo 6-13: View from the Kankôdai Observatory in Shikinaen

(Source: *Meisho Shikinaen no Sosetsu (Development of Scenic Shikinaen) Vol.2* (only the text is excerpted))

2-G Sêfa-utaki

Take the small path to the east from here and you will hit a fork. The path on the right leads down to Urôkâ, and the wide stone steps right in front of you leads up to Ujoguchi, where incense burners are placed. The six incense burners on the right are used to pray to six gods inside the *Utaki*. Right behind you there is a sunken place encircled by stones. Turn to the east and you will see Kudaka Island on the sea. During the Ôfu period, the ordinary people were forbidden to go farther into the sanctuary of Sêfa-utaki beyond this spot and were only able to worship the sacred island of Kudaka from there. [...] After passing the stalactites, you will enter a triangular aperture that opens in the huge rock. The naturally formed space opens north-south, filled with solemn and majestic atmosphere. At the end of the hole, there is a tile-paved space called Sangûi. Several incense burners are placed facing the south, and there are incense burners for Chonohana in the west. In the east, the Pacific Ocean spreads out before your eyes, leading up to Kudaka Island in the distance.



Photo 6-14: View of Kudaka Island from Ujoguchi

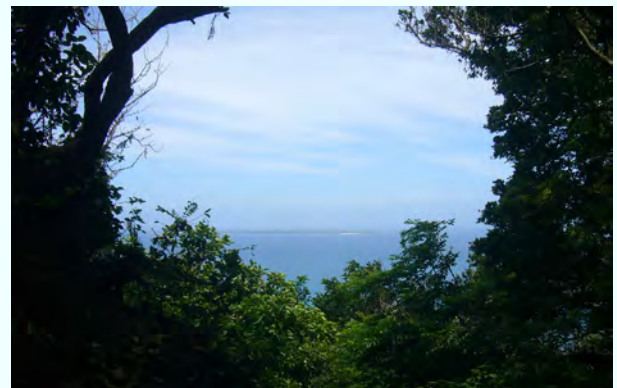


Photo 6-15: View of Kudaka Island from Sangûi

(Source: *Sêfa-utaki Seibi Jigyo Hokokusyo (Report on the Development Project for Sêfa-utaki)* published by Chinen Board of Education in 2002 (only the text is excerpted))

b. Implement landscape conservation measures based on laws and regulations

Measures for the conservation of landscapes will be taken by means of laws and ordinances in order to conserve the landscapes that are identified in accordance with “a. Identifying landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location/setting of the component parts and clarifying the principles for landscape conservation”. Particularly the conservation measures for this purpose should be developed in consideration of the specific situations of the relevant local governments. It is desirable to make effective use of already established city planning instruments such as landscape plans and landscape ordinances.

When such conservation measures are implemented in practice, the introduction of the following two aspects are to be integrated into the relevant system, if possible, in addition to the specific standards and the scope of control measures.

<Aspects to be integrated into the system for the implementation of conservation measures>

1) Establishment of opportunities for consultation and evaluation concerning development activities that may affect the landscape

In the aforementioned landscape plans, it is usually required to have prior consultation and evaluation for the construction of buildings etc. within the landscape planning area. It is important to establish a mechanism to ensure opportunities for prior consultation and evaluation for activities that may affect the landscape, including the construction of buildings, landform change, and the cutting of trees or bamboo.

2) Participation of the department responsible for World Heritage in the above-mentioned consultation and evaluation

In the landscape plan, the above-mentioned prior consultation and evaluation is usually in the charge of the city planning department, with the participation of landscape councils and advisors, depending on the degree of importance. In respect of this specific process, it is important to establish a mechanism to enable the department responsible for World Heritage to participate in the consultation and evaluation and to give advice, instruction, recommendations, and orders from the standpoint of ensuring the landscape conservation measures for the buffer zone of the World Heritage.

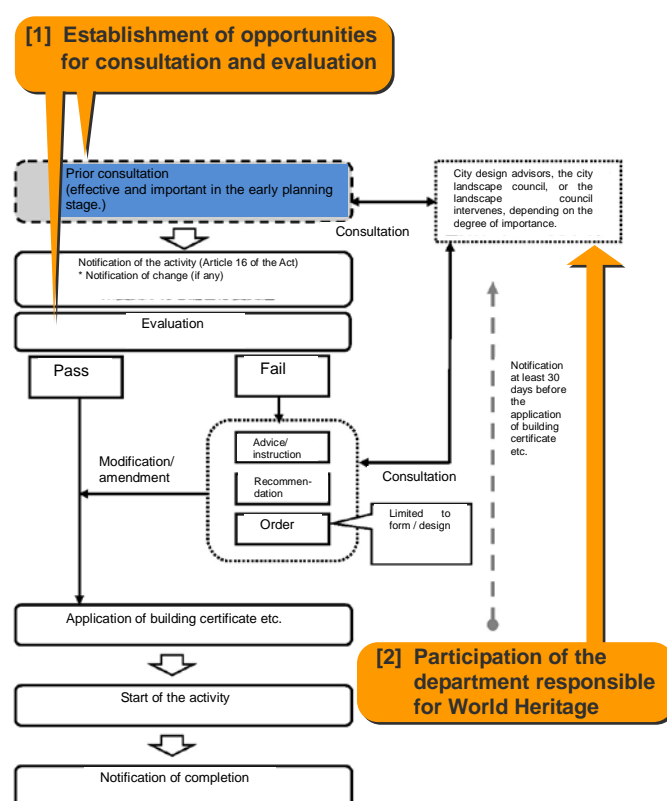


Figure 6-4: Flow of the prior notification procedure in the landscape plan

(Source: Naha City Landscape Plan. Naha City, 2011 (modified))

Chapter 7

Safeguarding of Historical Cultural Resources Associated with the Property

1. Principles

Based on basic policy [4] to “safeguard the historical cultural resources closely associated with this property” in Chapter 3 (“Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for the conservation of the environment of the surrounding area are set forth as follows.

[1] Safeguard the tangible and intangible historical cultural resources that contribute to the better understanding of this property

In Okinawa, there remain many tangible and intangible resources that are associated with history and culture of the kingdoms of Ryuku, other than the nine component parts of the property, including *Gusukus*, gardens (sites), *Utakis*, graves, water wells, settlement sites, old roads, ceremonies, rituals, pilgrimages, and traditional performing arts. These historical cultural resources are considered to play important roles not only in terms of their own historical and cultural value but also they contribute to deeper understanding of this property.

Therefore, measures are to be taken to ensure the preservation of such tangible and intangible historical cultural resources that contribute to deeper understanding of this property.

As mentioned in Section 2 (2) of Chapter 4 (“Identify methods for preservation and management for individual component parts”), the principles for conservation of the individual elements are described below.

Table 7-1: Principles for safeguarding historical cultural resources

Target of comprehensive preservation and management	Principles for preservation (conservation)
d Historical cultural resources closely associated with the property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tangible elements should be preserved in appropriate condition with a particular focus on authenticity in terms of form/design, materials/substance, location/setting, traditions/techniques, etc. ○ Intangible elements should be preserved in appropriate condition with a particular focus on authenticity in terms of traditions/techniques, spirit/feeling, etc.

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Safeguard the tangible and intangible historical cultural resources that contribute to the better understanding of this property

Based on principle [1] to “safeguard the tangible and intangible historical cultural resources that contribute to the better understanding of this property” in Section 1, the direction of action is set forth as follows.

a. Carry out study to identify historical cultural resources associated with the property

Research activities including inventorying surveys and archaeological excavations are to be promoted to identify tangible and intangible historical cultural resources which are associated with this property and which contribute to deeper understanding of this property. Once historical cultural resources have been identified, a list is to be prepared complete with basic information such as the name, location, size, structure, relevance to the property, inter-relations among historical cultural resources, and state of preservation.

<Examples of historical cultural resources associated with this property>

1) Tangible Historical Cultural Resources

Potential tangible historical cultural resources associated with this property include *Gusukus*, settlement sites, old roads, gardens, *Utakis*, temples (sites), graves, wells, and springs.

2) Intangible Cultural Historical Resources

Potential tangible historical cultural resources associated with this property include traditional performing arts, ceremonies, rituals, and pilgrimages.



Tangible historical cultural resources

Photo 6-1[Upper-left]: Urasoe Gusuku Site

Photo 6-2[Upper-right]: Nakijin Village

(Source: Pamphlet about Nakijin Gusuku Remains, National Historic Sites, Shiina Gusuku Site at Nakijin Gusuku Site by the Nakijin Village Board of Education)

Photo 6-3[Middle-left]: Hanta road

Photo 6-4[Middle-right]: Iedouchi garden



Intangible historical cultural resources

Photo 6-5 [Bottom-right]: Traditional play

Photo 6-6 [Bottom-left]: Noro praying at Sangui (from the nomination dossier)



<Example of Systematic Organization of Historical Cultural Resources>

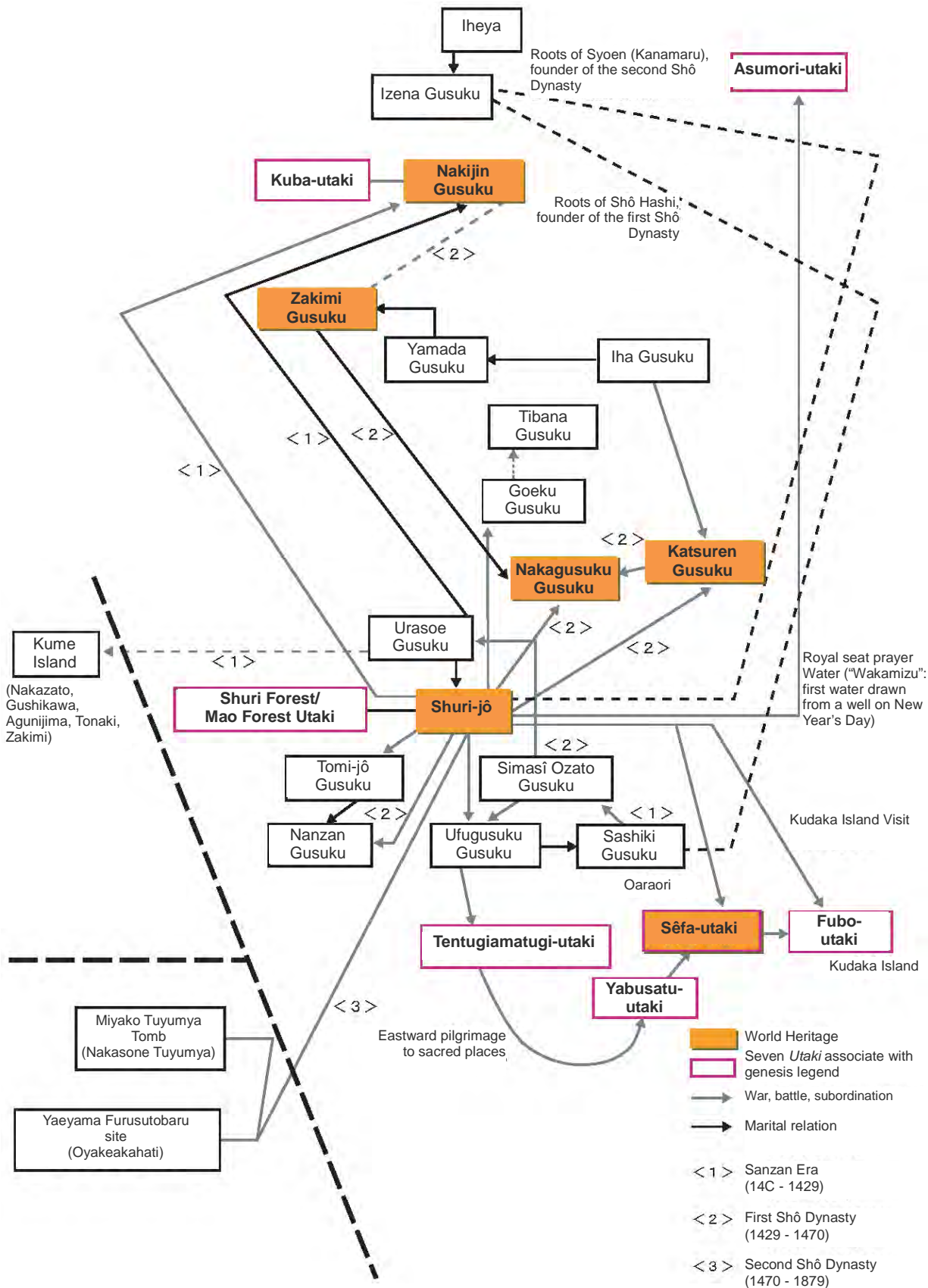


Figure 6-1: Main *Gusukus* related to this property and the Ryukyu Kaibyakunana-utaki
(Source: "Basic Policy Concerning Conservation, Maintenance and Utilization of World Heritage"
Published by Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education in 2002)

b. Implement protective measures based on laws and regulations

For the identified and listed historical cultural resources, appropriate protective measures are to be taken based on laws and regulations in consideration of their specific characteristics, including designation or registration as (national, prefectural and municipal) cultural properties.

c. Develop and implement plans for preservation and utilization

In full consideration of their relevance to this property, the concepts and plans for the preservation and utilization to promote the identified and listed historical cultural resources are to be developed.

<Examples of a plan for the preservation and utilization of historical cultural resources>

[Basic Concept about History and Culture] (Agency in charge: Agency for Cultural Affairs)

○ Summary

This concept deals with and identify a wide range of cultural properties, whether officially designated or not, cultural and explores the possibilities of overall preservation and utilization including not only cultural properties but also their surrounding areas. It serves as local governments' basic concept for the administration for the protection of cultural properties.

○ Matters to be set out in the Basic Concept about History and Culture

1. Purpose of the development of the Basic Concept about History and Culture and administrative status
2. Characteristics of local history and culture
3. Policies for the identification of cultural properties
4. Basic policies for the preservation and utilization of cultural properties
5. Specific policies for groups of associated cultural properties
6. Specific policies for the Area for the Preservation and Utilization of History and Culture
7. Specific policies for plans for preservation and utilization (management)
8. Policies for the establishment and operation of an organization to promote the preservation and utilization of cultural properties

(Source: Agency for Cultural Affairs HP.

"Technical Guidance for the Development of the Concept about History and Culture")

[Plan for the Maintenance and Improvement of Historic Scenery]

(Ministry or agency in charge: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Agency for Cultural Affairs; Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

○ Summary

Based on the basic policies of the Historical Town Development Act (Act concerning the Maintenance and Improvement of Historic Scenery) concerning the maintenance and improvement of historic scenery, the plan is developed by municipal governments for the purpose of maintaining and improving buildings of high historical value and/or good environments in which people lead daily lives reflecting local history and tradition. If the plan is approved by the national government, assistance and/or special permissions are given from the national government.

○ Matters to be set out in the Plan for the Maintenance and Improvement of Historic Scenery

1. Policies
2. Location and extent of priority areas
3. Matters concerning the preservation and utilization of cultural properties
4. Matters concerning the installation and maintenance of facilities for maintaining or improving historic scenery
5. Policies for the designation of buildings important for the development of historic scenery
6. Planning period etc.

(Source: Historical Town Development Act HP)

*Reference: Nanjo City Basic Concept about History and Culture (Nanjo City, March 2011)

In the Nanjo City Basic Concept about History and Culture adopted in March 2011, thirteen Areas for the Preservation and Utilization of History and Culture are set up in the city, including one around Sêfa-utaki, for each of which characteristics of history and culture are described and policies for the utilization of cultural heritage are specified.

[Policies for the Cultivation of History and Culture in the Area for the Preservation and Utilization Around Sêfa-utaki]

1. Prevention of further deterioration of resources through coordination (dispersion) of utilization at Sêfa-utaki and the surrounding area
 - The number of visitors to Sêfa-utaki increased as a result of World Heritage inscription. As a result, the deterioration of resources and the degradation of the environment have risen as issues of concern. In response to this, measures to control utilization are to be strengthened, including the creation of new rules.
 - Within the buffer zone, there are cultural heritages that are historically associated with Sêfa-utaki, such as old roads and the Uroka spring. They are to be preserved as the historical environment in unity with Sêfa-utaki and also actively utilized as a measure to disperse the excessive concentration of use at Seta-fuki.
 - In addition to the realization of planned environmental improvement based on the "Basic Plan for the Environmental Improvement of the Surrounding Area of Sêfa-utaki", historical routes leading to Sêfa-utaki are to be reproduced, including the Oaraori road starting from this site in the direction of Kudenken Village. Within Kudenken Village, historical environments such as stone walls, pathways, and wells are to be conserved, together with the development of roadside landscapes and the installation of signs, with a view to increasing the accessibility from Sêfa-utaki to the village.
 - Circular networks connecting to the cultural heritage of Kudaka Island are to be created by means of the boat routes from the neighboring Azama ward.
2. Establishment of viewpoints and the maintenance and improvement of the surrounding landscapes
 - The buffer zone (12.1 ha) that surrounds the property area of Sêfa-utaki (4.5 ha) is designated as a "priority protection area" based on the Nanjo City Ordinance concerning the Procedures for Development Projects. Measures are taken in accordance with this designation and efforts are made to maintain and enhance landscapes characterized by abundant green space through the strict enforcement of the control measures in the scenic zone based on the new city planning.
 - The views of Kudaka Island from Sêfa-utaki are important not only as tourist resources but also from a historical point of view. Measures to maintain the scenic beauty of the entire area are to be taken.
3. Promotion of citizens' activities and community activities making use of cultural heritage
 - Activities to provide guidance about cultural heritage and historical experiences to tourists who visit Sêfa-utaki are to be promoted. Efforts to enhance the attractiveness are to be made in both hardware and software by creating opportunities for local communities to participate in the utilization of Sêfa-utaki, including the establishment of a mechanism to facilitate the participation of local communities in the aforementioned activities.
 - More opportunities are provided for local communities and citizens to feel attached to cultural heritage, by providing the cultural heritage as the stage for local traditional performing arts and other cultural activities of citizens etc.

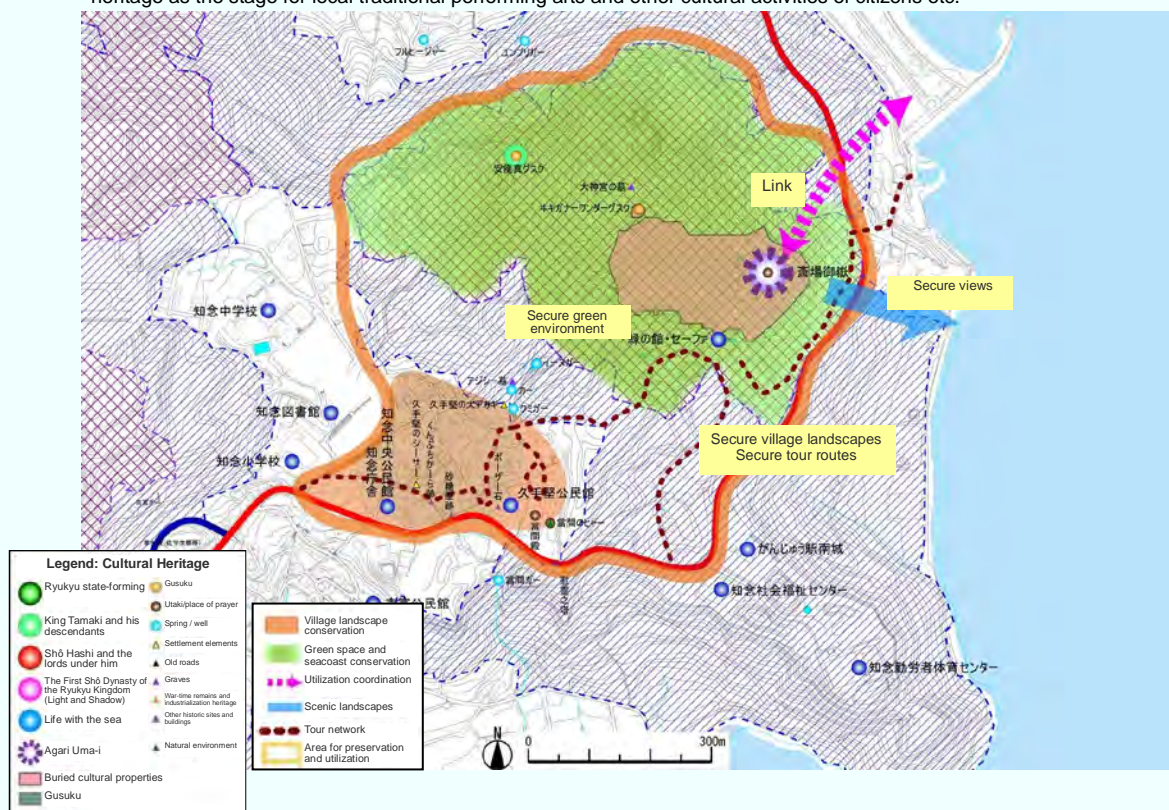


Figure: Conceptual Map of the Preservation and Utilization Area Surrounding Sêfa-utaki

(Source: Nanjo City Basic Concept about History and Culture / Preservation and Utilization Plan (Nanjo City Board of Education, 2011))

Chapter 8

Infrastructure, Interpretation, and Utilization

1. Principles

Based on basic policies [5] and [6] to “put in place proper infrastructure for preservation to ensure the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property” and “put in place the environment and promote programs for interpretation and utilization to provide visitors with valuable experiences” in Chapter 3 (“Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization are set forth as follows.

<Preservation>

[1] Preserve and restore the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

Many component parts of this property suffered damage not only due to deterioration and destruction over time but also because of the Second World War, but have been preserved in good condition nevertheless as a result of the subsequent repair and restoration efforts, so as to exhibit the Outstanding Universal Value as one whole heritage. Repair and restoration of the various elements that constitute the Outstanding Universal Value of the property such as archaeological remains and historic buildings continue to be promoted for the purpose of providing a valuable experience to visitors through this Outstanding Universal Value.

[2] Maintain and improve techniques for restoration of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. and pass them on to future generations

The archaeological remains and historic buildings that are the elements constituting the Outstanding Universal Value of this property have been maintained, using techniques that were born out of the culture unique to Ryukyu, resulting in good condition of authenticity. In order to ensure the authenticity of these archaeological remains and historic buildings, measures are to be taken to maintain and improve techniques for restoration and to establish a mechanism to train and increase human resources with necessary techniques.

<Utilization>

[3] Promote the appropriate interpretation and utilization of the property

When cultural heritage such as this property is opened to the public, it is effective if visitors can imagine the original shape, environment, landscape, etc. or make vicarious experiences in their understanding the Outstanding Universal Value and special characteristics of the property.

Also, in terms of utilization, it is necessary to promote appropriate use of the property in order to prevent visitation from deteriorating archaeological remains or disturbing the sacred atmosphere of the property. In this respect, efforts are to be made to promote the installation of facilities and the provision of information and guidance to facilitate visitors' understanding and appropriate use of the property.

[4] Create and promote tourism programs making use of the property

After World Heritage inscription, various efforts for interpretation and utilization have been made at the individual component parts, producing a certain level of achievement in raising awareness on the Outstanding Universal Value of this property. In order to further the awareness of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, new tourism programs building upon the results of the past efforts are to be created and promoted which allow visitors to experience the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a new concerted action of the whole property.

[5] Build capacities to receive visitors to the property

When the property is interpreted and utilized, it is necessary not only to explain the value and characteristics of the property to visitors but also to provide various services such as drinks, foods, shops, and events, necessitating the involvement of varied individuals and organizations with a certain type of professional and technical expertise. Therefore, human resources and organizations are to be trained to be able to provide visitors with services of high quality.

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Preserve and restore the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

Based on principle [1] to “preserve and restore the elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Preserve underground archaeological remains etc.

In order to ensure the preservation of archaeological remains that are buried underground as part of the elements exhibiting the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, the existing state in which protective soil is placed above the archaeological remains is to be maintained in principle. Also, when new archaeological remains are discovered, measures are taken to ensure their preservation in consideration of the specific methods for the presentation of the archaeological remains.

b. Restore above-ground elements, including stone walls, gardens, and historic buildings

The restoration of the aboveground elements such as stone walls, gardens, and historic buildings, which have already been conducted at many component parts, is to be continued. When restoration is undertaken, authenticity in terms of form/design, materials/substance, traditions/techniques, location/setting, etc. should be maintained as a matter of principle.

(2) Maintain and improve techniques for restoration of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. and pass them on to future generations

Based on principle [2] to “maintain and improve techniques for restoration of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. and pass them on to future generations” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set out as follows.

a. Establish a research organization about conservation techniques for the property

The aboveground archaeological remains and historic buildings, which are part of elements exhibiting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, are vulnerable to damage or deterioration due to natural and anthropogenic impacts. In order to ensure their preservation, techniques for restoration play essential roles. Also, in the case of this property, unique traditional skills and techniques were employed on the archaeological remains and historic buildings. Therefore, technicians with a thorough knowledge of these are needed. However, at present, there is a shortage of specialized technicians who possess conservation techniques particularly for stone walls.

In light of this, the possibilities are to be explored of establishing the Conservation Technique Research Center for “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*” (provisional name) as a new organization that aims to maintain and improve the special techniques concerning the restoration of the archaeological remains and historic buildings of this property and to train technicians in the special techniques.

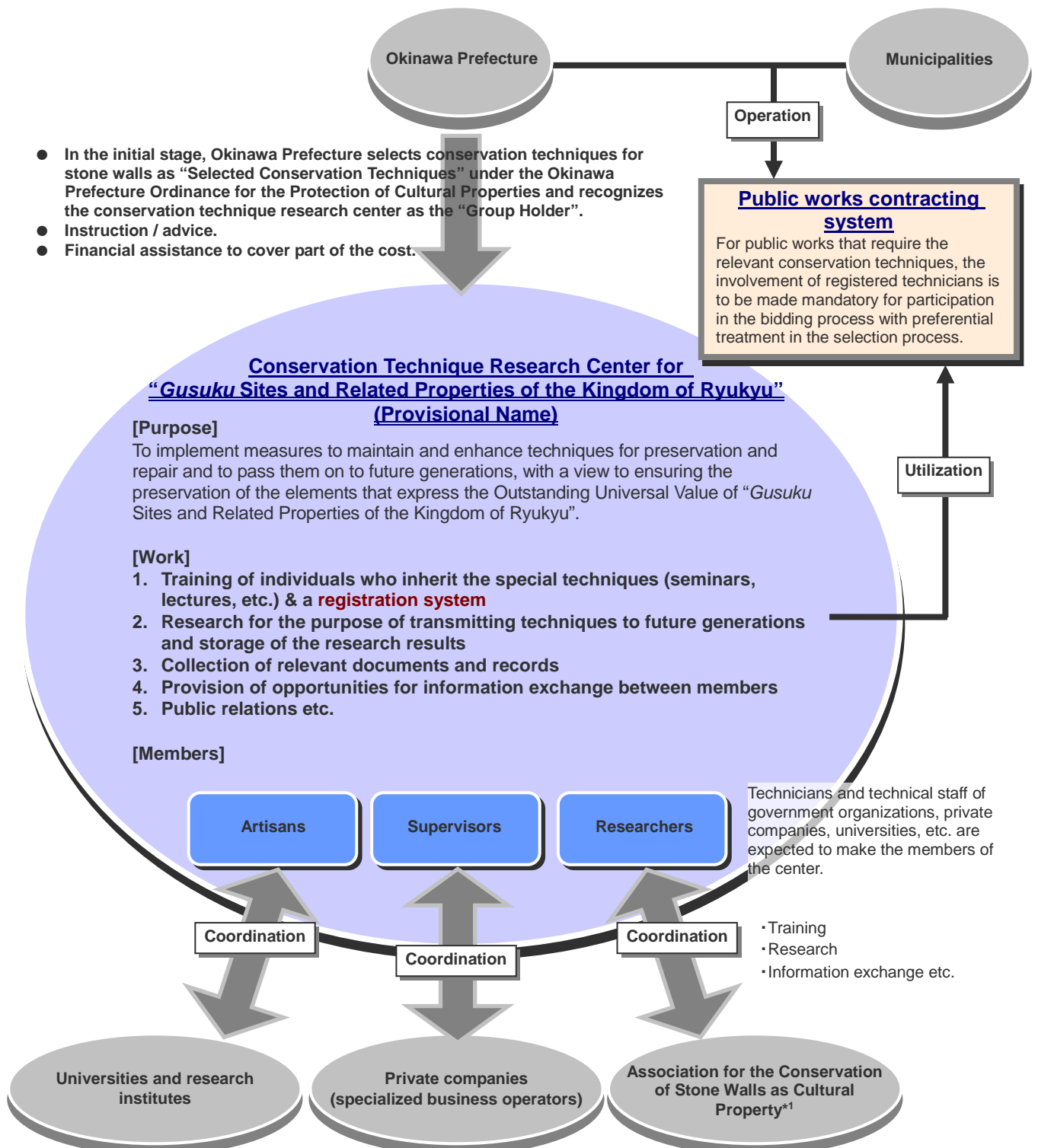
This research center is intended to study conservation techniques for a wide range of fields in the future. However, in the initial stage after its establishment, conservation techniques specifically for stone walls, which is an imminent issue at present, is to be taken up as the priority theme and the measures relevant to it are to be promoted.

b. Establish a public works contracting system using the specialized technician registration system

As an effective measure to provide specialized technicians with expertise for the restoration of archaeological remains and historic buildings with more opportunities to work in practice, a public works contracting system that uses the registration system of specialized technicians is to be established. The indicative system is to work as is outlined below.

<An indicative public works contracting system that uses the registration system of specialized technicians -- how it works>

- Those who meet certain standards such as the completion of training courses or seminars at the Conservation Technique Research Center for “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*” (provisional name) are registered as specialized technicians.
- The registration as above-mentioned specialized technicians is adopted as the required qualification for participate in the bidding process of public works. Preferential incentives are also provided to differentiate them from ordinary technicians.
- The target public works projects are not necessarily limited to those related to this property. Rather it is desirable to extend the scope of the system to include all projects that require the use of the same specialized techniques.
- As such, this system not only includes cities and/or municipalities where the component parts of the property are located, but also relate to all the municipalities of Okinawa Prefecture.



*1 The group holding "conservation techniques for stone walls as cultural property", which is a national "selected conservation technique". Its members as of 10 February 2011 are 116 skilled members, 58 technical and research members, 8 council members, 12 ordinary members, and 15 support members (companies). Its secretariat is located within the Japanese Castle Research Center.

Figure 7-1: (Provisional Name) Relationship between the Conservation Technology Research Center for "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" and the Public works contracting system (Image)

(3) Promote the appropriate interpretation and utilization of the property

Based on principle [3] to “promote the appropriate interpretation and utilization of the property” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set out as follows.

a. Make presentations of archaeological remains

Although archaeological remains that are buried underground cannot be seen, the presentations of archaeological remains and other elements are to be made in consideration of the specific conditions of each of the archaeological remains, while care is taken to maintain the authenticity of the property based on the results of research on accurate interpretation of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property to visitors.

<Examples of presentations of archaeological remains>



Photo 7-1: Example of presentation after the restoration of the main building at the Shuri-jō site



Photo 7-2: Example of presentation (2-dimensional display) of structural remains (Archaeological remains of a building at the Nakijin-jō site)

b. Enhance information provision

In order to share information regarding the Outstanding Universal Value and special characteristics of this property with various kinds of visitors accurately and effectively, the existing tools continue to be used and further enhanced. Up to the present, the transmission and provision of information has been carried out individually for each of the component parts; in the future, the concerted and overall transmission and provision of information for the property as one whole will be promoted. Also, information to be transmitted and provided is to be adjusted on the account of both the timing of information reaching the visitors (before, during or after visitation) as well as the demographics (age, nationality, etc.) of visitors.

<Indicative methods of information transmission and provision>

● Website and pamphlets for the whole property

Pamphlets and a website will be made available for the whole property, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”, providing information useful for those planning visit this property.

● Common symbols and logos for the whole property

Each of the individual component parts of the property is part of the whole World Heritage property, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”. As an effective measure to indicate this to visitors, logos to be shown on the websites and pamphlets of each of the individual component parts will be designed in consistency.

● Standard specifications for language use

The standard specifications for language use will be worked out in consideration of the present and future compositions of visitors from other countries.

● Use of mobile information devices

As tools that can provide information to visitors on the site, mobile information devices such as smart phones will be used. The possibilities of making use of visual information such as old paintings, photographs, and AR (augmented reality) will be explored.

<Examples of interpretation and information >



Image 7-2: Symbol (left) and logo (right) of the Cultural Heritage of Hiraizumi

For the serial nomination of “Hiraizumi – Temples, Gardens and Archaeological Sites Representing the Buddhist Pure Land”, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2011, a common symbol and logo were created for the purpose of building a sense of unity in advertising and raising awareness on the Cultural Heritage of Hiraizumi in a concerted effort toward inscription.



Photo 7-3: On-site explanatory signboard for “Kamakura, Home of the Samurai”

For “Kamakura, Home of the Samurai” nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List in 2012, signboards explaining the nominated property in four languages -- Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean -- were made the standard for the relevant component parts. The photo is the sign installed at one of the component parts of the nominated property, the remains of Tokiwa Residence of Hojo Family. From top-left clockwise: Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean.



Photo 7-4: “AR Naniwa no Miya”

For the historic site of Naniwa no Miya (lit. “Naniwa Palace”) located in Osaka, an app called AR Naniwa no Miya was developed and provided by the Osaka Museum of History, enabling users to see the image of CG reconstructed buildings overlaid over the actual vision. Users can see the recreated image pop up when they hold their phones and other mobile devices over specified markings. The picture on the left is Naniwa no Miya Historical Park and on the right is the image of inside the historical museum. (Osaka Museum of History Collection Material)

c. Establish central facilities for management and utilization and enhance interpretation and guidance

Facilities are to be established that serve as the center for visitor management by site managers of the individual component parts and also for visitors' use. The said facilities are to function as guidance facilities that provides interpretation and information about the value and characteristics of the property and its component parts, disseminates information about warnings and rules that are essential for the realization of appropriate use by visitors, and provides services such as guided tours. After World Heritage inscription, such central facilities have been put in operation at many component parts. In consideration of the appropriate manners of interpretation and utilization at the individual component parts, further installation and enhancement of central facilities will be made, including the possibilities of the introduction of or coordination with convenience functions such as drinks, foods, and shops in addition to the above-mentioned basic functions.

d. Develop appropriate tourism programs in harmony with the preservation of this property

At some component parts of this property, problems have been identified such as damage to the archaeological remains, the loss of scenic beauty (atmosphere) of the heritage due to tourism pressures. In particular, at Sêfa-utaki, it is pointed out that the disturbance to the sacred atmosphere due to overuse is negatively affecting the local people who use the place for religious purposes.

Such influence of tourist use on the property needs to be addressed not on a piecemeal basis but in consideration of varied foreseeable impacts by drawing up appropriate countermeasures, taking into account opinions of both visitors and local communities.

With respect to the balance between tourist use and preservation of historical cultural resources, Okinawa Prefecture has already been conducting studies of “capacity” such as environmental capacity and carrying capacity. Therefore, based on the results of these studies, indicative measures to strike a balance between tourism and the preservation of this property and to avoid or mitigate the deterioration of heritage quality due to tourism below.

<Indicative measures to avoid and/or mitigate the deterioration of heritage quality due to tourism>

1) Clarification of “quality to be protected”

As is sorted out in Chapter 3 of this plan, the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value and characteristics of the property as World Heritage is the most important. Particularly from the perspective of tourist use of this property, the following three conditions are considered to be “quality to be protected”.

1. Archaeological remains, historic buildings, and other aboveground elements are maintained in sound condition.
2. The historical and scenic landscapes of the property and the buffer zone are maintained.
3. The scenic beauty (atmosphere) specific to the characteristics of the individual component parts are maintained.

2) Selection of indicators

Indicators are to be selected for quantitative measurement of the above-mentioned indicators.

The 2009 Report on the Implementation of the Project (Study) to Support the Creation of Sustainable Tourist Destinations (Okinawa Prefecture, March 2010) proposes the following five indicators for Sêfa-utaki.

1. Sacred atmosphere
2. Opinions of spiritual and religious users
3. Sense of congestion perceived by visitors
4. Degree of wear-out of the approach pathway
5. Level of fitness of the vegetation along the approach path

3) Determination of the appropriate range for indicators

Surveys are to be carried out based on the indicators; the appropriate range of indicators are to be determined based on the results of the surveys and based on the consensus of the stakeholders. The examples of surveys that may be conducted are listed below.

[Examples of surveys]

- Surveys on actual use (to collect data on the number of visitors by time band)
- Perception of visitors (tourists)
- Perception of local communities
- Situation of damage to archaeological remains etc.

4) Development of measures

Effective measures will be developed to maintaining the appropriate range for indicators. It is desirable to clarify both expected effects and weak points of each measure.

[Examples of measures]

- Limit to the number of visitors
- Limit to the extent/area to be used
- Setting of fees
- Setting of closure dates
- Surveillance and guidance
- Information provision
- Facility installation

* Reference: Study on capacity

Report of the Survey concerning Carrying Capacity of Okinawa for Tourism (March 2007, Okinawa General Bureau, Cabinet Office)

○ Summary

The idea of tourism capacity and the methods to study and discuss environmental capacity are sorted out as the basic information that contributes to the efforts toward the realization of sustainable tourism promotion, preventing problems such as impact on the natural environment, water shortage, large amounts of waste, and insufficient infrastructure that are foreseen as tourism pressures increase as a result of the promotion of tourism and resort industries as the leading business of Okinawa Prefecture.

○ Definition

Carrying capacity has been studied in Japan for its application and quantification in various fields based on the definition as “the maximum population that can permanently exist in the environment”. Based on the latest developments of studies, special attention is paid to the concept of “the amount of human activity (or the extent of human activities) that do not decrease the carrying capacity” and the term “environmental capacity” is used to distinguish the concept from the conventional definition.

○ Environmental capacity in the context of tourism

Environmental capacity is a product of the relationships between human activities on the side of visitors who makes “tourism use”, local economy and society consisting of the social infrastructure, history, culture, natural environment, and people (local communities) on the side of people who receive them and are impacted by them, and perception of people (tourists) on side of visitors. It is conceived as something to be looked into for each of the targets to be impacted in consideration of the local characteristics of the receiving side.

Report on the Implementation of the Project (Study) to Support the Creation of Sustainable Tourist Destinations (Okinawa Prefecture, 2008-2009)

○ Summary

The methods to qualify the carrying capacity of tourist destinations are studied and measures to strike a balance between tourist resource conservation and utilization are proposed for the purpose of promoting tourism while conserving and utilizing abundant tourist resources as the foundation for the sustainable development of tourism in Okinawa.

○ Concept of carrying capacity of tourist destinations

Many studies have been conducted about the calculations of carrying capacity in the field of tourism and recreation so far, but it is the conclusion at present that it is difficult to make a quantitative expression of it as one specific number, because factors that influence the resources are too complex to analyze and also because subjective judgements of people come into the process, which makes it difficult to make objective calculations of any numbers. This study concludes that, if an indicator is set up about the number of people, its target number is construed as “the optimal number of people within the area” or “the appropriate number of people”, which is proximate to “carrying capacity”. However, it is important to note here that it is not the number that can be calculated but is only to be set based on the vision of the local community that has been drawn up through dialogue among local people.

(4) Create and promote tourism programs making use of the property

Based on principle [4] to “create and promote tourism programs making use of the property” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set out as follows.

a. Organize events, including the World Heritage Week

Various activities for promotion have been carried out so far at many component parts, making use of the attractiveness of the individual component parts. Also, in 2010 projects to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the World Heritage inscription were carried out, with successful results in advertising and raising awareness about this property.

In light of this, further effort will be made to carry out advertisement and awareness-raising of the whole property on a continual basis. To be specific, as an event to be organized for the whole property, as was the case with the tenth anniversary project, on the momentum that has been built by the past activities at individual component parts, the “World Heritage Week” will be started and carried out periodically. The indicative menu of the major activities is given below, with the intention of making a menu of multiple activities that make use of the mutual linkages between the component parts and the distinctive characteristics of the individual component parts.

<Indicative menu of multiple activities for World Heritage Week>

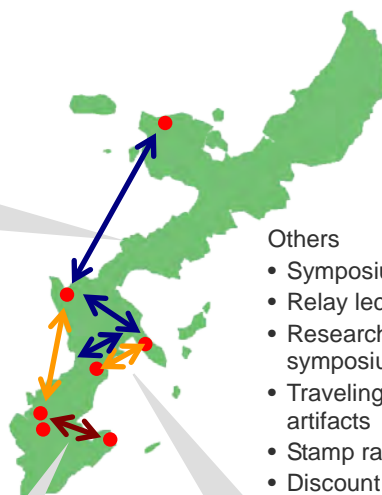
Events making use of historical linkage

- Relay opera featuring key persons



Photo 7-5: Relay opera (image)

(Source: “Case Examples for Zakimi-jō Site Utilization Vol. 2: Castle Became a Theatre” Yomitan Board of Education, 2003)



Others

- Symposium
- Relay lecture
- Research result reporting symposium
- Traveling exhibition of unearthed artifacts
- Stamp rally
- Discount tour ticket etc.

Events to follow historical pilgrimage routes

- Oaraori walking



Photo 7-6: Waking event (image)

Events making use of mutually visible locations

- Smoke signal



Photo 7-7: Smoke signal making event (image)

b. Develop model courses for tourists

The possibilities of setting model tourism courses are to be explored in order to make more effective interpretation and dissemination of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property. This property possesses the historical backgrounds related to the formation, prosperity, and end of the kingdom of Ryukyu and cultural backgrounds related to faith, exchanges, and so on. If visitors can experience these backgrounds as one story, the Outstanding Universal Value of this property becomes easily and meaningfully understandable.

It is desirable to ensure coordination between the model tourism courses to be set up and the aforementioned web site and pamphlets for the whole property as well as guided tours. Coordination with the existing model courses of the individual component parts is also desirable.

<Indicative model tourism courses >

As indicative model tourism courses for this property, the following two stories based on the content of the World Heritage nomination dossier are proposed.

● The Sanzan Period to the Unified Dynasty

The story that follows the historical vicissitudes from the late Sanzan period in the late 14th century to the unification of the kingdom of Ryukyu in the mid-15th century.

● The Second Sho Dynasty of the Kingdom of Ryukyu: Birth of the Kingdom of Ryukyu and the Maturation of Ryukyu Culture

The story that follows the Ryukyu culture, including exchange and faith, which matured in the second Sho dynasty of the kingdom of Ryukyu born out of the political turmoil in 1469.

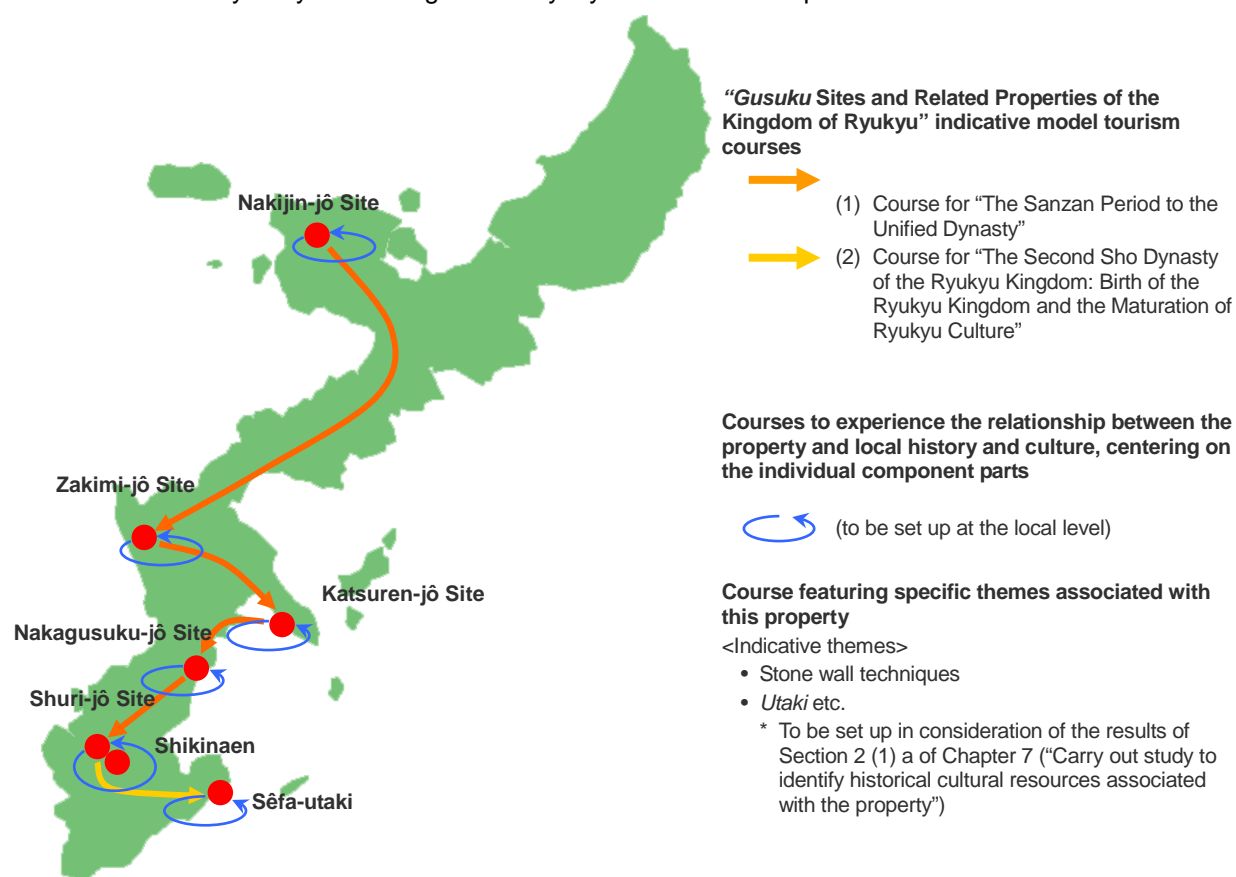


Figure 7-3: Model Tourism Courses Development Image

(5) Build capacities to receive visitors to the property

Based on principle [5] to “build capacities to receive visitors to the property” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set out as follows.

a. Train and increase guides

After the World Heritage inscription, activities related to guides have been carried out at many component parts by volunteers of local people. In some cases, guides are required to have completed seminars and/or practical training courses by the local boards of education and/or tourism associations, as a measure to enhance the expertise as guides. This initiative is to be expanded to all component parts and the measures will be taken to train and increase guides on a continual basis. Also, the guides will be trained to be able to provide guidance for the model tourism courses mentioned in (4) b of the previous section (“develop model courses for tourists”).

b. Train and increase research staff

At the Nakijin-jô site, the Nakijin Village Historical Culture Center has been playing a central role in promoting the studies of historical cultural resources in the surrounding area of the property, rituals, and traditional events. The outcome and information obtained as a result of these studies contribute to enhancing the local historical characteristics and can lead eventually to the further dissemination of the special characteristics of this property.

In light of the above, the enhancement of human resources to conduct studies as is to be promoted at each location of the individual component parts.

c. Ensure coordination with various service providers

Currently, events such as wedding ceremonies are organized at some component parts in coordination with specialized private companies. These kinds of activities are to be encouraged since they can provide people with special experiences of the property. Among the actions related to utilization that are indicated in this plan, there are some actions that require a certain degree of specialized knowledge or expertise. Thus, in order to continue to provide high-quality services to visitors, coordination with appropriate specialized business operators are to be made, depending upon the content of the action.

d. Ensure coordination with school education and lifelong learning

In cooperation with Okinawa Prefecture and the municipal boards of education, the Okinawa Prefectural General Education Center provides on its website the learning materials on the subject of this property. By taking up this property as a subject for school education and lifelong learning throughout Okinawa Prefecture, not just in the municipalities where component parts are located, greater effect is to be expected not only in disseminating understanding about this property, but also in building potential human resources who work for preservation and management of the property in the future. From this perspective, activities in coordination with school education and lifelong learning are to be encouraged, including the use of this property in school education materials, extracurricular programs, and seminars.

Chapter 9

Monitoring

1. Principles

Based on basic policy [7] to “monitor the impact on the property on a regular basis and update information on the situation concerning preservation and utilization on a continual basis” in Chapter 3 “Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for monitoring are set forth as follows.

[1] Monitor the impact on the property

The elements that constitute the Outstanding Universal Value of this property (particularly aboveground elements) are always subjected to the risks of damage and/or deterioration due to natural factors, such as natural disasters and climate change, and anthropogenic factors, such as development and tourist use. In order to ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, it is important to make an early and accurate detection of such negative impact on the property and to make prediction and prevention of the negative impact. In light of this, monitoring is to be carried out to keep an eye on the impact of various factors on the property.

[2] Update the basic information about the preservation and utilization of the property on a continual basis

In the past ten years since the World Heritage inscription of this property, this property witnessed changes not only due to the above-mentioned damage and/or deterioration but also in relation to the circumstances for preservation and utilization and the conditions of the surrounding area. Also, for the purpose of periodic reporting, which requires the submission of the latest information about the whole property and the surrounding area every six years, it is necessary to collect and record information over time and keep it up-to-date as business as usual. In light of this, monitoring records and basic information about the preservation and utilization of the property are to be updated.

<Main purposes of periodic reporting on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention>

- a) To provide an assessment of the application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party;
- b) To provide an assessment as to whether the Outstanding Universal Value of the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List is being maintained over time;
- c) To provide up-dated information about the World Heritage properties to record the changing circumstances and state of conservation of the properties;
- d) To provide a mechanism for regional co-operation and exchange of information and experiences between States Parties concerning the implementation of the Convention and World Heritage conservation.

(Source: “Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention”)

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Monitor the impact on the property

Based on principle [1] to “monitor the impact on the property” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Monitor the individual component parts by monitoring indicators

For the purpose of the preservation and management of this property, it is necessary to monitor and prepare for various kinds of potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value within the property and the buffer zone. In this section, potential impacts and their factors are sorted out by four categories, i.e. development pressures, environmental pressures, natural pressures, and visitor/tourism pressures, in accordance with the World Heritage nomination dossier, and the monitoring indicators and the measurement methods are given accordingly.

<Potential impacts>

1) Development pressures

As is explained in a previous section, within the property and the buffer zone, thorough protection measures are in place under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties and other laws and regulations. Therefore, it is basically unlikely that developments that affect negatively the Outstanding Universal Value of the property could take place. Nevertheless, it is also impossible to rule out completely the possibility of special types of development or developments outside but in the immediate vicinities of the buffer zone affecting the Outstanding Universal Value negatively beyond our expectation.

In this recognition, indicators to monitor impacts due to development are set forth.

2) Environmental pressures

At present, in the property and the buffer zone, there are no changes in the natural environment that would undermine the Outstanding Universal Value of this property significantly. Potential factors that might affect the property in the future include acid rain, which may corrode the aboveground elements such as archaeological remains and historic buildings, and climate change, which could influence the groundwater vein, springs, and vegetation. Indicators to monitor these impacts are set forth.

3) Natural pressures

Natural disasters that are foreseeable in the areas where this property is located include typhoons, torrential rains, earthquakes (including tsunamis, landslides, and tree falls caused by earthquakes), and animal and insect-caused damage. Particularly, typhoons and torrential rains are natural disasters that hit this region several times every year, requiring special attention. Also, attention must be paid to earthquakes as there was a case of stone wall collapse at the Katsuren-jō site when an earthquake took place in February 2010.

4) Visitor/tourism pressures

Potential visitor/tourism pressures include damage and deterioration of archaeological remains due to the physical impact of tourists, damage and graffiti on archaeological remains due to bad manner, and disturbance to the scenic beauty (sacred atmosphere as a place of worship) of this property. Particularly, visitation by excessive numbers of tourists (overuse) aggravates the above-mentioned impacts, as is already seen at Sêfa-utaki, which is suffering disturbance to its scenic beauty in reality. In light of this, indicators to monitor the impacts of visitor/tourism pressures are set forth.

Chart 8-1: Factors affecting the property and monitoring indicators

Item	Potential factors affecting the property	Potential impact on the property
Development pressures	1. Development (construction of buildings and structures, landform change, cutting of trees or bamboo, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disturbance to historic, scenic landscapes
Environmental pressures	1. Acid rain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weathering of archaeological remains and historic buildings
	2. Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in ground water veins and springs Changes in vegetation
Natural pressures	1. Typhoons and heavy rain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destruction of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. Destruction and collapse of natural landform Decay of vegetation
	2. Earthquakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destruction of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. Destruction and collapse of natural landform
	3. Animal/insect damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc.
Visitor/tourist pressures	1. Tourist use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. (including graffiti, theft, vegetation removal, and damage to buildings) Loss of scenic beauty of the property (atmosphere as a place of worship etc.)

Monitoring indicators		Content and methods for measurement	Frequency	Record-keeping organization
Items concerning development pressures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Existence of landscape-disturbing elements 	To check and record the situation (existence) of disturbing elements by means of observation from fixed viewpoints (photography).	Every 6 months	Manager
Items concerning environmental pressures and natural pressures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of acid rain 	To check and record the acidity of rainwater by measuring pH.	Yearly	Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of ground water veins and springs 	To check ponds etc. existing in the component parts and record water quantity and quality and the habitation of wildlife by means of observation, photography, etc. (Target: 2-f.Shikinaen)	Yearly	Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of vegetation 	To check and record the situation of vegetation in the component part (tree species, growth, etc.) by means of observation, photography, etc.	Yearly (*)	Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of archaeological remains and historic buildings 	To check and record the presence of weathering, damage, or collapse of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. in the component parts by means of observation, photography, etc.	Yearly (*)	Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of natural landform 	To check and record the presence of collapse of natural landform by means of observation, photography, etc.	Yearly (*)	Manager
Items concerning visitor/tourism pressures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of archaeological remains and historic buildings 	To check and record damage (graffiti, theft, loss of vegetation, damage to buildings, etc.) of archaeological remains, historic buildings, etc. in the component parts by means of observation, photography, etc.	Yearly	Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scenic beauty of the property (atmosphere as a place of worship) 	To check and record scenic beauty (atmosphere as a place of worship) of the component parts by observation, photography, etc. (The appropriate season, day, or time of the use as a place of worship should be selected and monitoring should be conducted under the same conditions.)	Yearly	Manager

(*) To be measures as appropriate even after natural disasters such as typhoons, heavy rains, and earthquakes.

(2) Update the basic information about the preservation and utilization of the property on a continual basis

Based on principle [2] to “update the basic information about the preservation and utilization of the property on a continual basis” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Prepare and store reports on preservation and utilization measures

Activities for the preservation and utilization of this property are not only for the purpose of ensuring the transmission of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property to future generations. Also, the recording of the content of those activities and the collection of that information does not only constitute the recording of history of this property. These initiatives are very important in providing knowledge and technology to individuals who are involved in the preservation and utilization of this property in later years.

As such, when research survey, repair business, environmental maintenance business and use of this property for events and other actions are carried out, the creating of reports and other documentation concerning those businesses will be compiled along with the conducting of assured collection and panoptic administration thereof.

b. Update the basic information on the property on a continual basis

Since nomination for World Heritage inscription, various changes taking place are not limited to repairs of archaeological remains and historic buildings and the like; when it comes to the situation surrounding this property; there are also research surveys, maintenance etc. of facilities having to do with interpretation and utilization of this property as well. While these are not changes that have a negative influence on the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, it is desirable that basic information about this property is organized in a precise manner for when there is going to be a period report taking place to the UNESCO World Heritage Center, which takes place every 6 years. Also, the ascertaining of the situation of progress for these activities is desired, as various activities related to preservation and utilization are going to be promoted based on this Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan in the future.

As such, information updates will take place continuously with respect to the below items; this will constitute basic information concerning this property and will be based on the items recorded in the World Heritage nomination dossier.

Chart 8-2: Basic information to be updated periodically

Items	Description
(1) Geographical Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Basic geographical information of the property and the buffer zone should be provided.
Location of the property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This information does not change usually, but the administrative address may change in case of a merger between municipalities.
Area of the property and the buffer zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (This information does not change usually.)
Map indicating the extent of the property and the buffer zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent does not change usually, but the topographic map used as the base map should be updated, as appropriate.
(2) State of elements that are subject to comprehensive preservation and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The condition of the elements identified in Section 2 of Chapter 3 “Scope of Comprehensive Preservation and Management” should be explained with a list and maps. <Note> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Historical cultural resources closely associated with the property”, “natural elements” and “cultural elements” should be identified, as necessary, from the buffer zone and the surrounding area, too. • With regard to the facilities for interpretation and utilization that play a central role such as guidance facilities, information is provided about the content, size, capacity, and so on.
(3) State of protection and conservation under applicable laws and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Zoning and designations based on the applicable laws and regulations in the property, the buffer zone, and the surrounding area should be shown with the maps indicating the extent of legal protection and the summary descriptions of the legal instruments.
(4) Status of related plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The status of plans related to the preservation and utilization of this property should be provided with the summaries of those plans.
Preservation and management plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a preservation and management plan for a component part of the property is newly developed or revised, information should be provided about the date, the responsible organization, and the summary of the plan or revision.
Plans concerning infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With respect to plans concerning the infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property, information should be provided about the date of adoption, the responsible organization, and the summary of the plan.
Related plans of the local governments where the property is located	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With respect to various plans of Okinawa Prefecture and municipal governments of the locations of individual component parts, information should be provided about the date of adoption, the responsible organization, and the content of the plan that is relevant to this property.
(5) Status of management, utilization, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The status relating to the management and utilization of this property should be described.
Number of visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of visitors to individual component parts should be provided. In addition, the number of visitors to specific events is useful. (Refer to Section 2 (4) of Chapter 8 “Develop and Promote Tourism Programs Making Use of the Property.”)
Number of residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of residents in the property and that in the buffer zone should be provided and updated for each of the individual component parts.
Property owners / managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information of owners and managers of the individual component parts should be provided and updated.
Financial source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information should be provided and updated about the annual budget allocated for the preservation and utilization of this property.
Number of specialized technicians etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of registered technicians should be provided and updated (refer to Section 2 (2) of Chapter 8 “Maintain and Enhance Techniques for Restoration of Archaeological Remains and Historic Buildings and Pass them on to Future Generations”). • The number of volunteer guides and research staff should be provided and updated (refer to Section 2 (5) of Chapter 8 “Build Capacities to Receive Visitors to the Property”).
Opportunities to use specialized technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information should be provided and updated about the operation of the Public works contracting system in terms of the registration system for specialized technicians (frequency and content).
(6) Records of alterations to the existing state etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Records of alterations to the existing state permitted in the property should be provided. • Alterations to the existing state of this property should be recorded, including restoration of archaeological remains and historic buildings, installation of facilities for utilization, and archaeological excavations.
(7) Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documents and publications related to this property should be listed (as a bibliography).

Chapter 10

Organization for Comprehensive Preservation and Management

1. Principles

Based on basic policy [8] to “establish the organization for preservation and management to promote this plan in coordination with diverse stakeholders” in Chapter 3 (“Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management”), the principles for establishing an organization for comprehensive preservation and management are set forth as follows.

[1] Clarify the roles of stakeholders engaging in preservation and management

For the purpose of the preservation and management of this property, the participation of experts, academia, local communities, universities, research institutes, and specialized businesses in addition to the national, prefectural, and municipal governments and relevant departments of other government organizations is essential. In light of this, the roles to be played by each of the stakeholders should be clarified in order to ensure their due contribution to the preservation and management of this property.

[2] Provide opportunities and put in place an organization to enable diverse stakeholders to promote the implementation of the plan in coordination

In order for diverse stakeholders to work effectively to achieve the common goal of the preservation and utilization of this property, it is necessary to have coordination and consultation among the stakeholders and to share the same understanding. In light of this, appropriate opportunities are to be provided for coordination and consultation among the stakeholders, depending upon the specific themes of coordination or consultation, such as a committee and a task force. In addition, an organization that plays a central role in promoting this plan is to be put in place.

2. Direction of Action (Guidance)

(1) Clarify the roles of stakeholders engaging in preservation and management

Based on principle [1] to “clarify the roles of stakeholders engaging in preservation and management” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. The Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture / overall coordination of the comprehensive preservation and management by

The Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture has been working up to the present in close communication with the managers of the individual component parts, providing administrative instructions and advice for the preservation and management of the property. At the same time, it has been organizing periodical consultation meetings as opportunities for consultation and information exchange concerning the preservation and management of the property as one whole.

Along the line with this historical role, the Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture plays a role as an overall coordinator for the preservation and management of the property as one whole and promotes various activities to that end. In particular, for the issues concerning the whole property that are difficult to address or solve at the level of individual component parts, the Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture takes the lead in making efforts toward the implementation of concrete measures, in coordination with the relevant departments of Okinawa Prefecture, managers of the individual component parts, and so on.

b. The managers of the individual component parts / preservation and management

Currently, the management of the individual component parts of this property are in the charge of the cultural property departments of the relevant municipal governments and Okinawa Prefecture and the Okinawa General Bureau of the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan; these managers are responsible for basic preservation and management work (refer to the table below).

This will continue to be the basic system for the preservation and management of the individual component part, tin the future. Also, in accordance with the policy of this plan to promote the conservation of the buffer zone and landscapes of the surrounding area, community building, tourism promotion and so on in addition to the preservation and management of component parts, the managers of the individual component parts promote relevant activities in consultation and coordination with the relevant departments inside and outside their own governments.

Table 11-1: Managers of the individual component parts of “*Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu*”

Component part name	Owner	Manager of the component part
1-A Tamaudun	Okinawa Prefecture Naha City	Naha City Board of Education
1-B Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon	Naha City	Naha City Board of Education
2-A Nakijin-jō site	Nakijin Village	Nakijin Village Board of Education
2-B Zakimi-jō site	Yomitan Village	Yomitan Village Board of Education
2-C Katsuren-jō site	Uruma City	Uruma City Board of Education
2-D Nakagusuku-jō site	Nakagusuku Village Kitanakagusuku Village	Nakagusuku Village Board of Education “Kitanakagusuku Village Board
2-E Shuri-jō site	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Okinawa Prefecture	Okinawa General Bureau, Cabinet Office Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, Department of Civil Engineering and Construction
2-F Shikinaen	Naha City	Naha City Board of Education
2-G Sêfa-utaki	Nanjo city	Nanjo City Board of Education

c. Relevant departments of Okinawa Prefecture / preservation and management

In order to make an effective implementation of the comprehensive preservation and management of this property, it is essential that not only the Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture but also other relevant departments in charge of tourism, city planning, and so on should play active roles.

Therefore, the relevant departments of Okinawa Prefecture work closely with the Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture and take measures that contribute to the preservation and management of this property based on the common understanding about the Outstanding Universal Value and characteristics of the property. Particularly, when issues extending beyond the municipality boundaries are addressed, including the conservation of the buffer zone and landscapes of the surrounding area, the relevant department of Okinawa Prefecture in charge of the field in question plays the role as a coordinator in implementing concrete measures in coordination with the Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture.

d. National government / financial and technical assistance

National government organizations, centering on the Agency for Cultural Affairs, have been working up to the present in close communication with Okinawa Prefecture and the relevant municipalities, providing financial and technical assistance concerning the comprehensive preservation and management of this property, including research, infrastructure, utilization, and awareness-raising. Also, the Agency for Cultural Affairs is the responsible national government agency that makes and supervises the nominations of cultural heritages for inscription on the World Heritage List and supervisory agency which nominates the registrant of cultural heritage sites on the World Heritage List. It collects information about the preservation and management of World Heritage properties inside and outside Japan and other useful information including the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in other countries. It also disseminates the collected information. These activities will be continued in the future.

e. Coordination with local communities, specialized businesses, etc.

At the individual component parts, activities such as daily cleaning and volunteer guides are promoted with the participation of local people. In some component parts, projects (business models) to contribute to the utilization of the property are implemented in coordination with private companies with special expertise. Varied opportunities have been created for visitors to experience more than simple sight-seeing.

Such opportunities for coordination with local people and specialized business operators will be continued and expanded in the future. Activities to ensure the preservation and management of the property and to explore the possibilities of multi-faceted interpretation and utilization will be promoted.

f. Coordination with experts, academic researchers, universities, research institutes, etc.

Preservation works that require technical and/or academic verification, such as the restoration of stone walls and historic buildings, have been conducted with the instruction and advice from experts and academic researchers. Also, universities and research institutes have been conducting various studies on such technical subjects.

Coordination with such experts, academic researchers, universities, and research institutes is to be continued in the future. In addition, the focus of the work is to be expanded to deal with not only preservation but also interpretation and utilization.

g. Visitors / appropriate use of the property

In the years since the World Heritage inscription up to the present, there have been not a few cases of damage to archaeological remains due to visitation and disturbance to the sacred atmosphere of this property.

In light of this situation, the managers of the individual component parts will provide necessary and accurate information and guidance to encourage visitors to understand the Outstanding Universal Value and characteristics of this property, support the efforts of local communities for the preservation and utilization of this property, and make appropriate use without damaging the property.

(2) Provide opportunities and put in place an organization to enable diverse stakeholders to promote the implementation of the plan in coordination

Based on principle [2] to “provide opportunities and put in place an organization to enable diverse stakeholders to promote the implementation of the plan in coordination” in Section 1, the direction of action (guidance) is set forth as follows.

a. Establish and operate the Council for the Preservation and Management of the World Heritage, “Gusuku sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (provisional name)

In order to ensure the preservation and management of this property, the Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture, responsible for the development of concrete measures, will re-organize the existing “council for the communication among the municipal officers in charge of World Heritage” into the Council for the Preservation and Management of the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (provisional name), consisting of directors of the responsible departments of Okinawa Prefecture and relevant municipalities, and operate it effectively and functionally to achieve its goal with the cooperation of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

b. Establish and operate the Scientific Committee for the Preservation and Management of the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (provisional name)

The Council for the Preservation and Management of the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (provisional name) sets up the Scientific Committee for the Preservation and Management of the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (provisional name) consisting of academic experts as an academic and technical advisory body concerning the preservation, management, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property and operates it with the cooperation of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Also, this committee monitors the progress of the projects that are proposed in this plan and its action plan and develop or propose concrete measures that are necessary for the preservation and management of the property in consideration of the evaluation and prediction based on the monitoring.

c. Establish and operate task forces

The Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture establishes a task force or recommend the establishment of a task force for themes that require highly technical or detailed discussions pertaining to the preservation, management, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property. The following two categories of task forces are envisaged.

<Categories of tasks forces to be established>

1) Task forces for specific themes

This category of task force deals with themes that are common to several component parts and discuss concrete measures to address the issue. Members are relevant municipalities, experts, academic researchers, universities, research institutes, etc.

2) Task forces for individual component parts

This category of task force deals with issues confronting the preservation and management of individual component parts and discuss concrete measures to address them. The municipal government of the location of the component part in question operates the task force with the participation of relevant departments of the municipal government, experts, academic researchers, local people, etc.

d. Explore the possibility of establishing a World Heritage Center (provisional name)

The Education Bureau of Okinawa Prefecture explores the possibility of establishing a World Heritage Center (provisional name) that promotes activities for the preservation, management, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property as one whole, including the possibility of establishing it as a leading implementing agency of the preservation and management of this property that delivers research for the entire property, capacity building, proposal and operation of events, and accumulation of the latest information about the component parts.

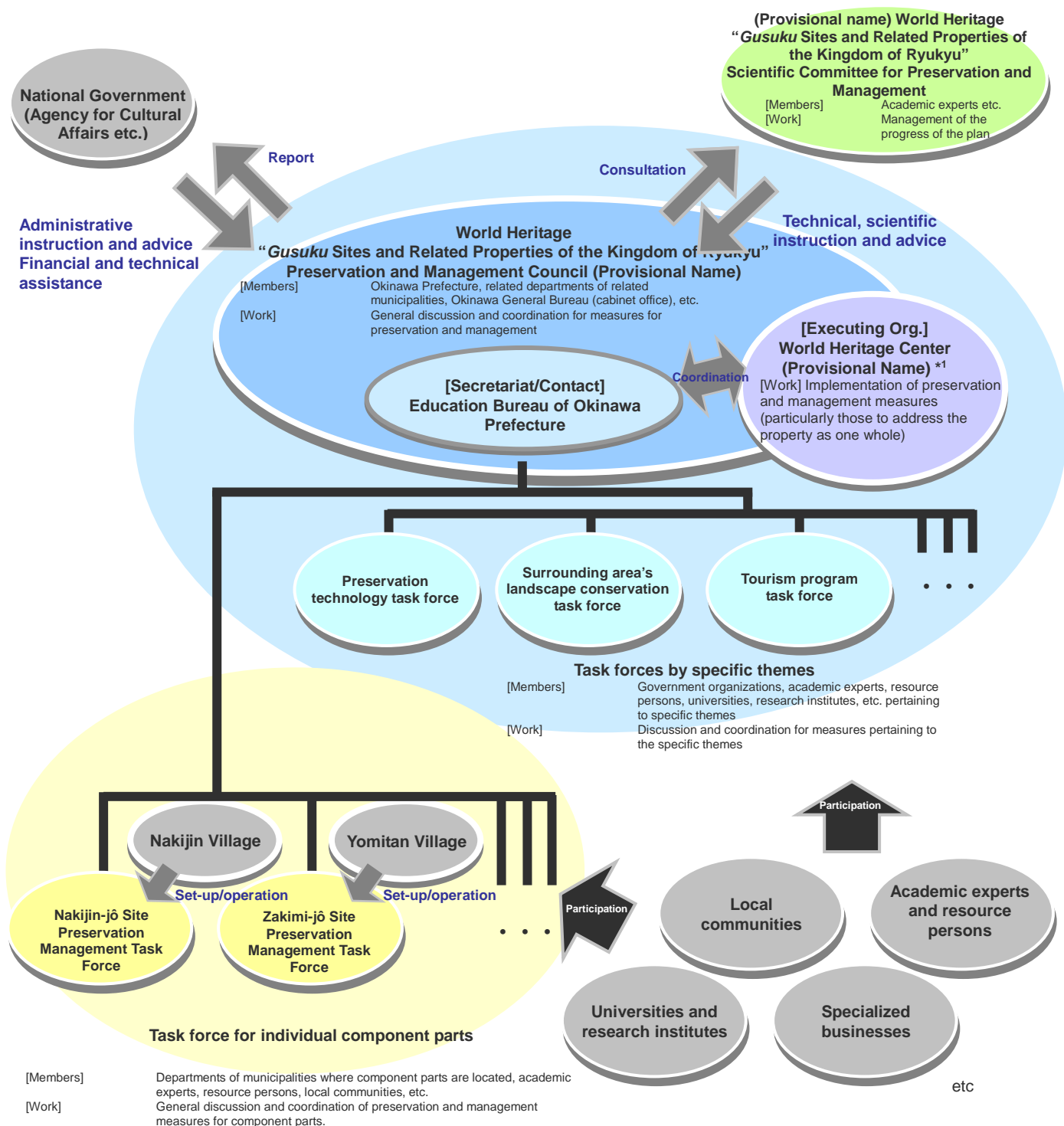


Figure 9-1: Framework for comprehensive preservation and management of this property (image)

*1 The "World Heritage Center" (provisional name) is still in the conceptualization stage. Detailed discussion and coordination among stakeholders will be made in the future and then its concrete shape as an organization will be clarified (administrative status, work content, etc.). Also, the possibilities will be explored of making it a lead implementing agency for the comprehensive preservation and management of World Heritage properties in Okinawa Prefecture, including "Amami/Ryukyu", for which preparation of nomination is currently underway.

Chapter 11

Revision of the Plan

About the Revision of this Plan

This plan is formulated in order to respond to various changes in the circumstances encompassing the World Heritage, “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” that have occurred in the past ten years since the World Heritage inscription. In comparison with the time of the nomination for World Heritage inscription, many have been done and much progress has been made in terms of research, restoration of archaeological remains and historic buildings, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization. At the same time, the social environments surrounding the property have changed significantly.

In the future, the situation of this property itself is expected to change as various measures and activities based on this plan are implemented. Also, whether these measures are implemented or not, the social environments surrounding this property will change. Because the purpose of this plan is to pass on the Outstanding Universal Value of this property to future generations, it is required to respond to these changes flexibly.

Therefore, after a certain period of time has passed after the completion of this plan, it is desirable to make accurate analysis of the trends of the property itself and the social environments surrounding this property and revise the plan as appropriate in order to ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property and promote the appropriate use of the property. Although this plan does not give any fixed date for revision, it is appropriate and effective to evaluate and review various measures at an interval of 5 years, which is a usual practice of administrative plans in Japan, since many of these measures are implemented as projects of Okinawa Prefecture and relevant municipalities. The revision of this plan and its necessity will be considered in light of the evaluation and review of those measures.

About Modifications to the Extent of the Property and the Buffer Zone

In this plan, no modification is made to the extent of the property or the buffer zone, because there has been no need for it. However, if a factor that affects the Outstanding Universal Value of this property significantly is identified as a result of the future progress in research or monitoring, it is necessary to consider the possibility of modifying the extent of the property and/or the buffer zone. (*1)

<Examples of situations in which the extent of the property or the buffer zone is modified>

- When an important archaeological site associated with the Outstanding Universal Value of this property is discovered as a result of research including archaeological excavation, the extension of the property area should be discussed.
- When it is confirmed as a result of monitoring or research that development activities etc. at a specific location in the surrounding area of the property (outside the buffer zone) disturb the physical environment and/or historical, scenic landscapes of the property, the expansion of the buffer zone should be discussed.

*1 In the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, modifications to the extent of the property are categorized into “minor modifications” and “significant modifications”. Minor modifications do not affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Significant modifications require the same procedure to be taken as a new nomination.

Action Plan

About the Action Plan

In Chapters 4 through 10 of this plan, the principles and directions of action (guidance) are set forth for various items pertaining to comprehensive preservation and management based on Chapter 3 ("Vision and Basic Policies for Comprehensive Preservation and Management"). In order to ensure the comprehensive preservation and management of this property based on this plan, concrete actions that are planned to be taken in the future in accordance with Chapters 4 to 10 are presented below as the action plan (*1).

Table: Action Plan (1/3)

Relevant chapter	Direction of action (guidance)	Action	Description
Chapter 4 Preservation and Management of the Property	○ Develop individual preservation and management plans of component parts	Development of the preservation and management plans of individual component parts	Preservation and management plans of the individual component parts are developed after the completion of the Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu".
	○ Carry out maintenance work based on inspection and maintenance interventions	Maintenance work by the Nakagusuku-jō Site Joint Management Council	Maintenance work by the Nakagusuku-jō Site Joint Management Council, which was set up by the two relevant villages in 1994, including cleaning for the purpose of opening the component part to the public is carried out on a continual basis.
		Project for the management of cultural properties associated with Agari-Umai	Maintenance work including weeding of the area designated as a historic site of Sēfa-utaki is carried out on a continual basis (to be consigned to a private company).
Chapter 5 Conservation of the Buffer Zone	○ Introduce new control measures	Designation of specified use restricted area	For the purpose of imposing land use restrictions necessary for the development and maintenance of a good environment, the designation of the specific use restricted area is enforced to control buildings and other structures for specified uses.
		Development of landscape plans and enactment of landscape ordinances etc.	Landscape plans are developed or landscape ordinances are enacted as a measure to conserve historical, scenic landscapes that are produced by the component parts in unity with the buffer zone.
	○ Implement measures for visual harmonization (to improve historic, scenic landscapes)	Nakagusuku Park project	The surrounding area of the Nakagusuku-jō site is installed as a city park that serves as the center for tourism promotion in harmony with the conservation of local natural, historical, and cultural resources and the center for the revitalization of local economy.
		Landscape development promotion project	Within the area designated as the Urban Landscape Development District, subsidies are provided to the buildings for which measures have been implemented for historical landscape development (use of red roof tiles, stone walls, etc.).
	○ Purchase land ownership	Land purchasing project	The ownership of the land additionally designated as the historic site of the Nakijin-jō site in 2009 and 2012 is purchased by the government.
		World Heritage "Sēfa-utaki" environment improvement project	The land ownership of the buffer zone of Sēfa-utaki is to be purchased by the government.
Chapter 6 Conservation of Landscapes of the Surrounding Area	○ Implement landscape conservation measures based on laws and regulations	Development of landscape plans and enactment of landscape ordinances etc.	Landscape plans are developed or landscape ordinances are enacted as a measure to conserve the landscapes that illustrate the characteristics of the location / setting of the property.
		Designation of landscape area based on the landscape plan (Katsuren Haeburu settlement)	The future vision and policies for the development of good landscapes that are appropriate for the Katsuren-jō site as (a component part of) World Heritage are discussed and the designation of the landscape area is enforced.
		Designation of propriety areas for townscape development	Based on the landscape plans, designations of priority areas for townscape development are made (including the buffer zone).
Chapter 7 Preservation of Historical Cultural Resources Associated with the Property	○ Implement protective measures based on laws and regulations	Selection of cultural landscapes of the Imadomari settlement	As a measure to ensure the sustainable conservation of the landscapes of old folk houses and and Fukugi tree lines of the Imadomari settlement adjacent to the Nakijin-jō site, the selection as cultural landscapes is enforced. And efforts are made for public relations for that purpose.
	○ Develop and implement plans for preservation and utilization	Conservation of the old road, "Hanta Road", and selection as a "historic road".	Efforts are made toward the designation of a section of the old road, "Hanta Road", by Nakagusuku Village (approx. 6 km from the border with Nishihara Town to near the Nakagusuku-jō site) and major cultural properties in the surrounding area as a national "historic road".
		Enhancement of the historical environment of the surrounding area of the world heritage based on the general plan for the surrounding area of the world heritage.	Measures to promote the tourism of Okinawa further are taken, including the installation of facilities, through the coordination among the historical, cultural, and natural heritages unique to Okinawa that are distributed in the surrounding area, centering on Tamaudun, Sonohyan-utaki Ishimon, the Shuri-jō site, and Shikinaen.

*1 The actions presented in the table are the potential projects identified by Okinawa Prefecture and relevant municipalities for the purpose of this plan, which are to be considered when respective governments develop projects and request the approval of the budget by the parliament. It should be noted that the actions indicated here do not necessarily have the financial resources necessary for their implementation at the time of the formulation of this plan.

	Implementing agency								Implementation period		
	Okinawa Prefecture	Nakijin Village	Yomitan Village	Uruma City	Nakagusuku Village Kita-nakagusuku Village	Naha City	Nanjo City	Related bodies	Continuous implementation	Short term (5 years)	Middle term/long term (more than 5 years)
		●	●	●	●	●	●			●	
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				●						●	
		●	● (completed)	● (completed)	●	● (completed)	●		●	●	
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		●	● (completed)	● (completed)	●	● (completed)	●		●	●	
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Table: Action Plan (2/3)

Relevant chapter	Direction of action (guidance)	Action	Description
Chapter 8 Infrastructure, Interpretation and Utilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restore above-ground elements, including stone walls, gardens, and historic buildings Make presentations of archaeological remains 	Shuri-jō Park project	In response to the increasing interest of the people of Okinawa Prefecture in history and culture and the diversification of recreational use, efforts are made to produce the graceful historical environment and to make Shuri-jō Park as the center history and culture that is used by not only the people of Okinawa Prefecture but also tourists.
		Nakijin-jō site preservation repair project	Restoration is made, maintaining authenticity as World Heritage based on the results of archaeological excavations.
		Katsuren-jō site preservation repair project	Landscaping work for the stone work at the fourth enclosure and the east enclosure of the Katsuren-jō site, the installation of facilities within the fourth enclosure, the construction for maintenance roads, and the installation of signs are carried out.
		Project for the research and utilization of cultural properties in the city	Three-dimensional data of the stone walls of the Katsuren-jō site are obtained and disclosed. The data are stored with the photographs of the stone walls as the basic data to be referenced in an unlikely event of collapse.
		Nakagusuku-jō site preservation project	Restoration of high degrees of accuracy is conducted by examining several options at a committee based on the results of archaeological excavations and measurement of archaeological remains.
		Shikinaen preservation repair project	According to the annual plan, preservation repair work is carried out, including the re-roofing of the main building of Shikinaen, cleaning of the pond, and replanting of the turf.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a research organization about conservation techniques for the property 	Establishment of Conservation Technique Research Center for “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” (provisional name)	A research organization concerning conservation techniques is established for the purpose of passing on techniques for the conservation of this property to future generations and training specialized technicians.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a public works contracting system using the specialized technician registration system 	Establishment of public works contracting system that uses the registration system of specialized technicians	A registration system for specialized technicians of preservation and restoration is established and a public works contracting system that uses that system is established.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance information provision 	Web site and pamphlets of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”	A website and pamphlets that provide and transmit information of the entire property of “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” are created.
		Common logo for “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu”	The common symbol and logo are made as an effective measure to indicate to visitors that the component parts are part of the property as one whole.
		Standard specifications for the languages in which information is transmitted and provided	The standard specifications are set out for the languages in which information about this property is transmitted and provided, including those for multi-language information.
		Enhancement of information provision with mobile devices	In order to enhance the satisfaction of visitors, a smartphone app is developed to provide information about different archaeological remains at the Nakijin-jō site.
		Project for the revitalization of tourism by means of the creation of information content for cultural heritage of Nakagusuku Village	The information contents (in multi-languages) about the Nakagusuku-jō site, the old road, “Hanta Road”, and cultural properties in the village are created. A system is established to transmit the information to PCs, smart phones, and tablet terminals.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish central facilities for management and utilization and enhance interpretation and guidance 	Project for the installation of the surrounding area of the Katsuren-jō site as a cultural tourism center.	The installation of a center for cultural and tourist promotion is made in order to revitalize the local economy, centering on the Katsuren-jō site.
		Construction of a <i>Gusuku</i> museum	A guidance facility for the Nakagusuku-jō site is constructed within the prefectural park (outside the area designated as a historic site).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop appropriate tourism programs in harmony with the preservation of this property 	Observation of the Sabbath for Sēfa-utaki	“Sabbath” is observed for a total of six days from 1 to 3 May and from 1 to 3 October, closing Sēfa-utaki to the public for the purpose of nature conservation and silence at Sēfa-utaki.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize events, including the World Heritage Week 	World Heritage week event	The World Heritage week is created as an periodical event for which all the component parts of the property are involved for the whole.
		Nakijin Gusuku cherry blossom festival	The Nakijin Gusuku cherry blossom festival is organized. Cherry blossoms and castle walls are lit in the night-time.
		Wakateda-watching gathering	An event is organized on 23 December every year or on the holiday closest to it. Classic traditional dances and music are performed, including the song of “Omoro” and the performance of “Kuenta”. A special event to watch the sunrise from the <i>Gusuku</i> is organized.
		Festival for Lord Gosamaru of Nakagusuku	A festival featuring the historical hero, Gosamaru, is organized every 3 years at Nakagusuku Village.

	Implementing agency								Implementation period		
	Okinawa Prefecture	Nakijin Village	Yomitan Village	Uruma City	Nakagusuku Village Kitanakagusuku Village	Naha City	Nanjo City	Related bodies	Continuous Implementation	Short term (5 years)	Middle term /long term (more than 5 years)
	●								●		
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		●									●
					●			● Executive committee for projects to revitalize cultural heritage tourism at Toyomu Naka Gusuku.		●	
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Table: Action Plan (3/3)

Relevant chapter	Direction of action (guidance)	Action	Description
Chapter 8 Infrastructure, Interpretation and Utilization	○ Develop model courses for tourists	Support to the creation of tourism products making use of "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu"	Assistance is provided to tourism products that can convey the Outstanding Universal Value of this property to visitors accurately.
		Nakijin-jō site trekking tours	Guided tours are provided to visit the archaeological sites associated with the Nakijin-jō site and the buffer zone where the valuable natural environment still remains in many places.
		Uruma-i	Courses to make a tour of cultural properties in the city, centering on the Katsuren-jō site, are set up. Guidance is provided.
		Lord Gosamaru walking	An event is organized to walk the old road, "Hanta Road", learning about the nature and cultural properties along the road (in November every year with the participation of people from inside and outside the village).
		Naha Machima-i guided walk: guide to Naha City streets (trip to Naha fragrant with history and culture)	Guided walking tours of the city of Naha are provided to learn the history and culture (currently provided by the Naha City Tourism Association and the NPO, Naha City Street Corner Guide).
		Sports festival in Naha	An event is organized to walk to enjoy landscapes and places that can be discovered only at a walking speed, including special courses within Shikinae.
	○ Train and increase guides	Training courses for cultural property guides	In order to improve the satisfaction of tourists, guides who provide detailed interpretation about the historical value of Nakijin Gusuku to tourists free of charge. A total of 10 lectures are given to recruit new guides and train the successors.
			Training courses are organized for cultural property guides with a focus on the Katsuren-jō site.
	○ Ensure coordination with various service providers	Events featuring traditional dress of Okinawa	Lectures are given to train guides who serve visitors to the Nakagusuku-jō site every few years (those who have completed the lectures join the "Gusuku-no-Kai" and are working as guides.)
			Events featuring traditional dress and clothing of Okinawa are organized at the component parts of the World Heritage, including wedding ceremonies and location filming at Shikinae (major building).
	○ Ensure coordination with school education and lifelong learning	Visiting lectures on the administration of Okinawa Prefecture	Explanation is given about priority projects of Okinawa Prefecture pertaining to the key issues of Okinawa Prefecture and measures of high interest to the people of Okinawa Prefecture. Lectures are given about World Heritage.
		Archaeological excavation experiential program at the Nakijin-jō site	Experiential programs of archaeological excavations at the Nakijin-jō site are provided as an opportunity for elementary school children to learn about the history of the world heritage, Nakijin-jō site, and to build human resources.
		Coordination with school education	General learning programs are provided, taking up the subject of World Heritage or the Katsuren-jō site. Training courses for first-year teachers are also organized.
		Coordination with lifelong learning	Lecturers are dispatched to PTA training seminars and community center seminars about World Heritage and the Katsuren-jō site.
		Project to learn about the history and culture through Lord Gosamaru and the Nakagusuku-jō site	Educational curricula are adjusted to teach elementary school children and junior high school students in the village about the local history and culture through Lord Gosamaru and the Nakagusuku-jō site. Side readers and other teaching materials are published.
		Organization of seminars at community centers	Seminars about the history of the kingdom of Ryukyu are organized at community centers as part of the learning program for the elderly people.
Chapter 9 Monitoring	○ Monitor the component parts by monitoring indicators ○ Update the basic information on the property on a continual basis	Establishment of methods and systems for monitoring and basic information updating	Concrete methods and systems are established to implement the proper monitoring of the property and updating of the basic information about the property.
Chapter 10 Organization for Comprehensive Preservation and Management	○ Establish the World Heritage "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" Preservation and Management Committee (provisional name) ○ Establish the Scientific Committee for Preservation and Management (provisional name) ○ Establish task forces		The Preservation and Management Committee, the Scientific Committee for Preservation and Management, and task forces are established to provide opportunities to develop measures for preservation, management, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property, monitor the progress of measures, and carry out monitoring.
	○ Explore the possibility of establishing a World Heritage Center (provisional name)		The possibility of establishing a World Heritage Center (provisional name) is explored as an organization that implements concrete measures for the preservation, management, infrastructure, interpretation, and utilization of this property as one whole.

	Implementing agency								Implementation period		
	Okinawa Prefecture	Nakijin Village	Yomitan Village	Uruma City	Nakagusuku Village Kitanakagusuku Village	Naha City	Nanjo City	Related bodies	Continuous implementation	Short term (5 years)	Middle term /long term (more than 5 years)
ledle	●									●	
		●						● Nakijin Gusuku Learning Meeting	●		
				●						●	
					●				●		
						●		● Naha City Board of Tourism ● Naha City Street Corner Guide NPO	●		
						●			●		
		●						● Nakijin Gusuku Learning Meeting	●		
				●					●		
					●			● Tour guide club for Nakagusuku Village cultural properties (Gusuku no Kai)	●		
						●		● Private sector companies	●		
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