WHV – ANCIENT MONASTERY OF CALPAN

Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl, Mexico

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1994

The Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl is a serial property with 15 component parts located in the states of Morelos, Puebla and Tlaxcala in Mexico, built as part of the evangelisation and colonisation of the northern territories of Mexico. They are in an excellent state of conservation and are good examples of the architectural style adopted by the first missionaries – Franciscans, Dominicans and Augustinians – who converted the indigenous populations to Christianity in the early 16th century.

Project objectives:

Building on the experience of the previous campaign, the project aims to engage a wider network of local and international volunteers towards the conservation of the site. Additionally, it plans to raise the awareness of young children from the local community, towards the importance of World Heritage.

Project activities:

Under the guidance of the site management authorities, the volunteers will help remove invasive flora on the walls of the monasteries, cover them with plaster, paint the upper cloister of the convent, and consolidate the atrial wall. As awareness raising activities, they will engage in various discussions with the local community, and present the importance and values of World Heritage to children at the local schools, through the aid of the UNESCO Patrimonito’s World Heritage Adventures Cartoon Series.

Partners:

National Institute of Anthropology and History – Centro Inah Puebla; Municipality of Calpan Tourist Office; Guardianes de Sabores; Fundacion Majocca; Mexican Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO (CONALMEX); Clerical Authorities of the Church

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