

World Cultural Heritage
ANCIENT BUILDING COMPLEX
IN THE WUDANG MOUNTAINS
State of Conservation Report
(No. 705)

February 2023

Abstract

Since the beginning of 2023, the state party of China has submitted the *SoC Report on the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains in 2022*, the *Report on the Restoration Project of Yuzhen Palace in the Wudang Mountains*, the *Plan for the Protection and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2019-2035)*, the *Report on the Impact of Tourist Carrying Capacity on Cultural Relics in the Wudang Mountains Scenic Area*, and the *Evaluation Report on the Implementation of the Master Plan for the Wudang Mountains Scenic Area (2012-2025)*.

China has also actively implemented the Resolution 42 COM 7B.1 delivered at the 44th World Heritage Conference, accomplishing the lift-up process for the Yuzhen Palace at an expected level of quality and preparing a life-up process report upon project acceptance by the expert team.

In strict accordance with the resolution requirements, China has completed the preparation of the *Plan for the Protection and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2019-2035)* and submitted all relevant materials to the World Heritage Center.

China has strengthened research on the tourist carrying capacity of heritage sites and pressed ahead with the construction of the tourist

management system to protect the world cultural heritage from damage by the tourism industry. They include defining the tourist carrying capacity of different scenic spots, limiting and diverting tourist traffic in strict accordance with relevant regulations, monitoring and inspecting the impact of tourist behaviors, and working out regulations to restrain tourist behaviors.

China has remained committed to law-based construction and improvement in management, main body protection and the protection system. As a result, sustained progress has been witnessed in the protection and management of heritage sites. In terms of heritage protection, China has continuously recommended efforts to promulgate, improve and act in strict accordance with relevant laws and regulations. We have also pushed forward main body protection and strengthened heritage site management and capacity building of the management personnel. In order to facilitate better protection of surrounding environment, China acted in strict accordance with relevant laws and regulation to ensure standardized examination and approval of construction activities. We have continuously advanced the renovation of the built environment, strengthened pollution control, and actively protected the ecological environment and natural resources. Both the Ancient Building Complex of the Wudang Mountains and the wider surrounding environment have been effectively protected.

The scope of heritage areas and buffer zones remains in line with the existing heritage protection zoning given that no agreement has been reached on the protection zoning of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains between the state party of China and the World Heritage Center, the International Council of Monuments and Sites, and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property.