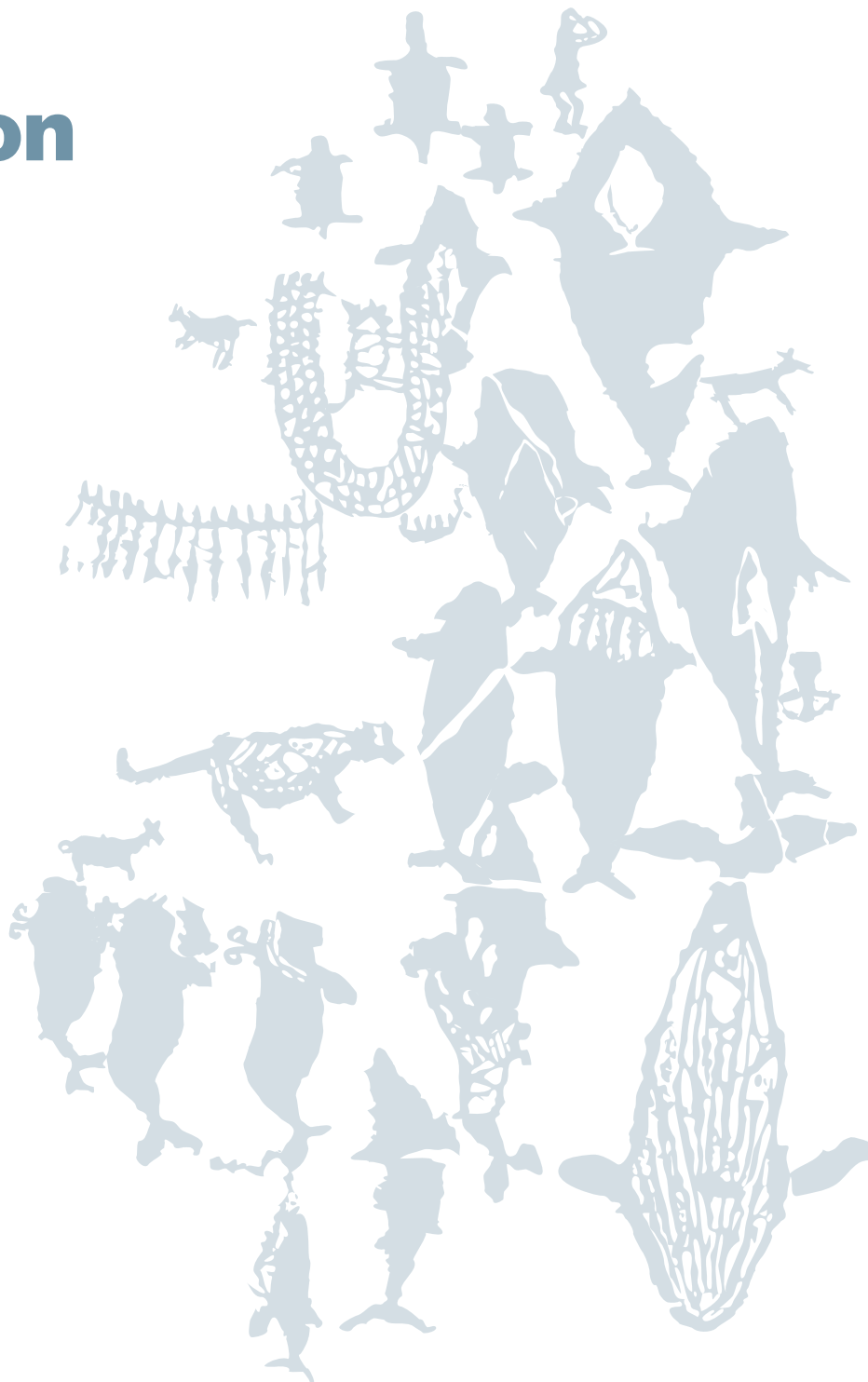

Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream

**Nomination for Inscription
on the World Heritage List**

Executive Summary

Republic of Korea



PETROGLYPHS ALONG THE BANGUCHEON STREAM

0

Executive Summary

0. Executive Summary

- **State Party**
Republic of Korea
- **State, Province or Region**
Ulju County, Ulsan Metropolitan City
- **Name of Nominated Property**
Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream
- **Geographical Coordinates to the Nearest Second**
N35°36′30.42″, E129°10′26.39″



■ Textual description of the boundary of the nominated property

The nominated property is located along the Bangucheon Stream on the southeastern coast of the Korean Peninsula. The property area and its buffer zone have been delineated in a way that demonstrates the authenticity and integrity of the nominated property and the major attributes conveying its Outstanding Universal Value.

The nominated property is composed of a three-kilometer stretch along the meandering Bangucheon waterway. Two rock panels with concentrations of rock carvings are found respectively at its northern and southern ends. These two rock panels flanked with screens of ragged rock cliffs are respectively known as the Petroglyphs of Bangudae Terrace in Daegok-ri and the Petroglyphs of Cheonjeon-ri.

The property area has been delineated along the rock cliffs standing to either side of the Bangucheon waterway. The designated area features a distinctive landscape where a rock carving tradition was transmitted for millennia. It encompasses the carvings of diverse pictorial images and writing from different eras that have resulted from this time-old artistic tradition. The property area mostly corresponds with the Heritage Area of a Scenic Site, a protected area under the Cultural Heritage Protection Act.

The buffer zone was designated based on the closest ring of mountain ridges. The integrity of the landscape was taken into consideration as well as the distant and nearby views from the property. The buffer zone corresponds with Zone 1 of the Historic and Cultural Environment Conservation Area, an additional protective area created around a state-designated heritage site based on the Cultural Heritage Protection Act (Figure 0-1 and -2).

■ A4 or A3 size map(s) of the nominated property, showing boundaries and buffer zone

(unit: ha)			
Nominated property	Area of nominated property	Buffer zone	Total
Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream	43.69	144.15	187.84

Figure 0-1. Map of the property area and its buffer zone (1:10,000)

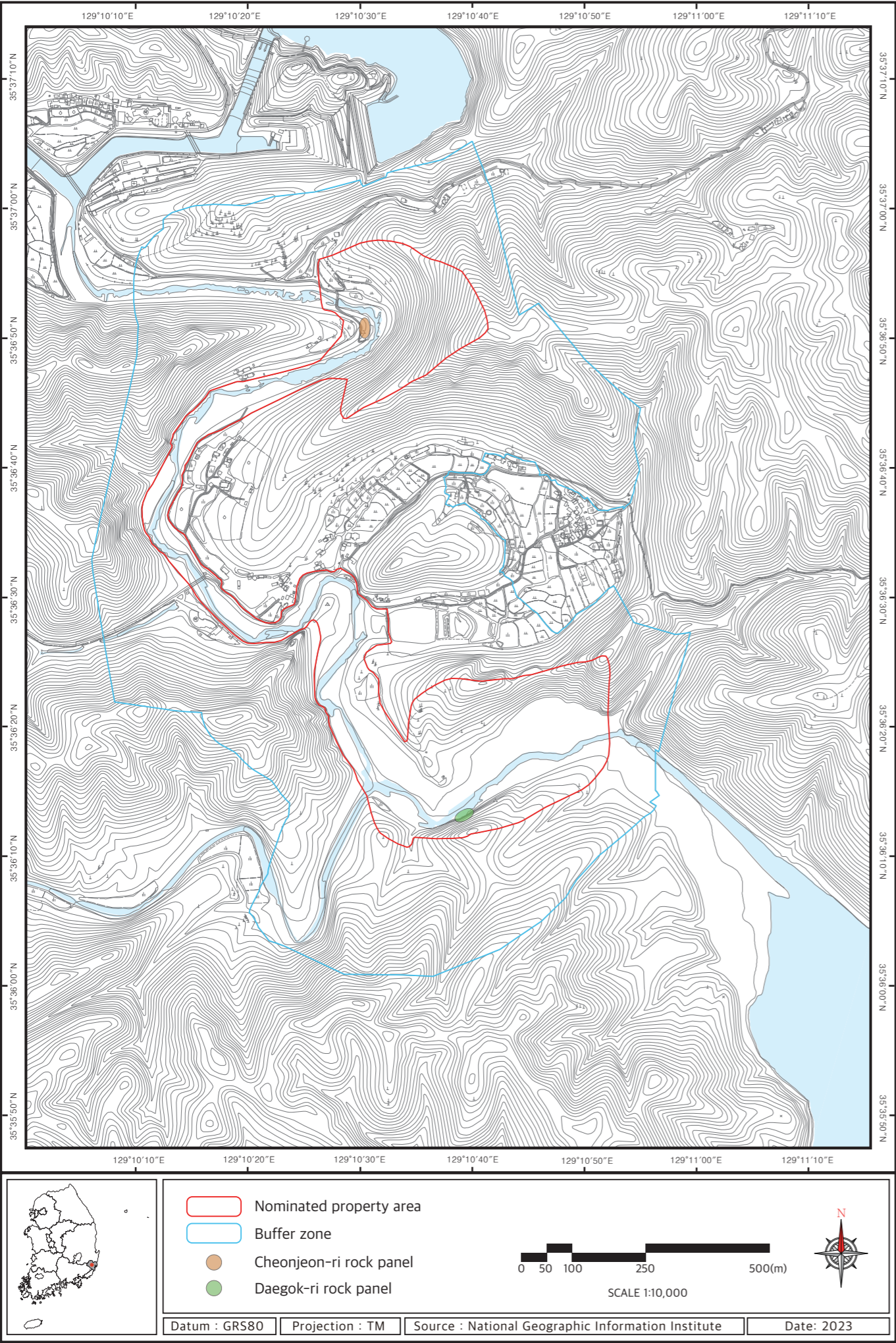
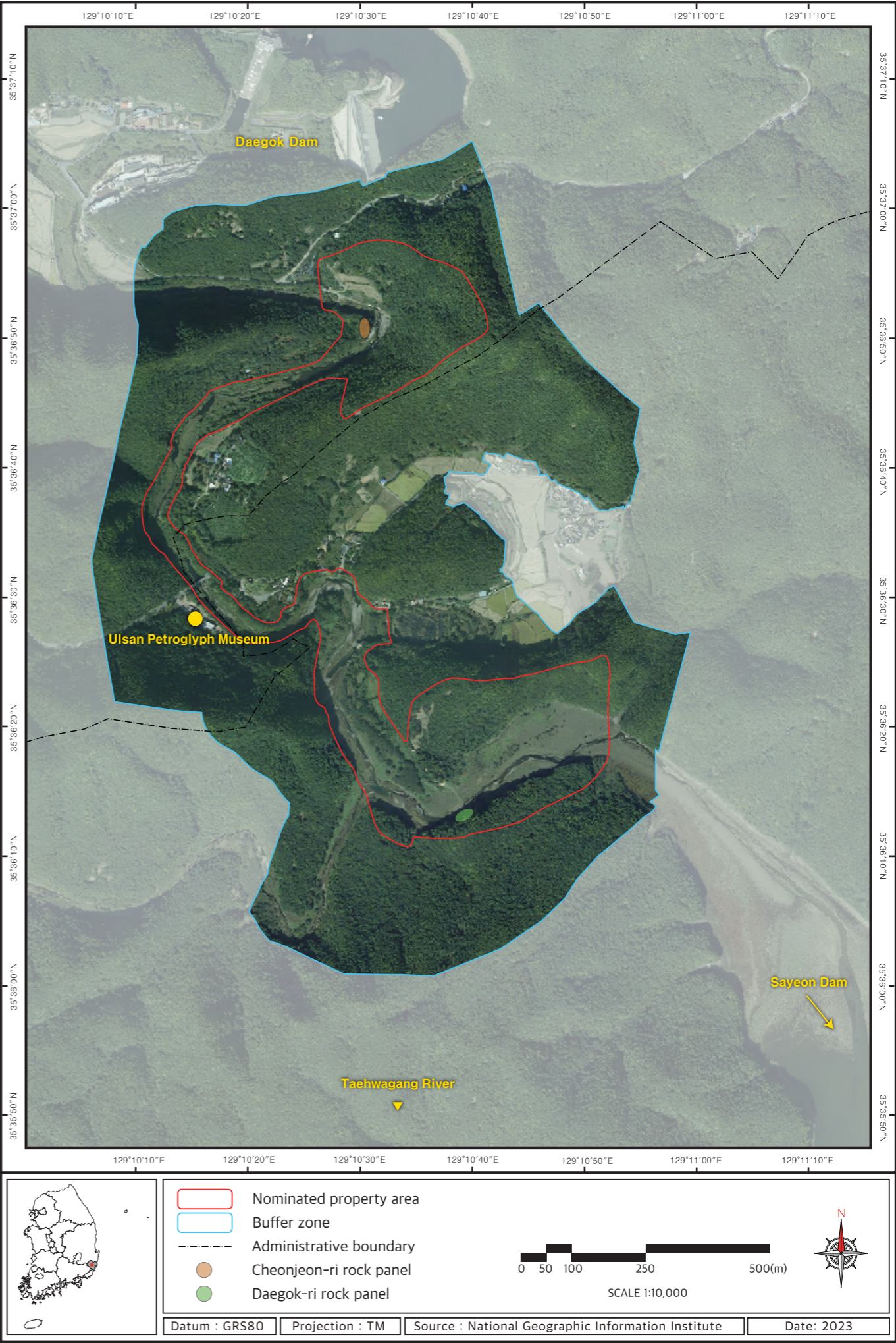


Figure 0-2. Satellite image of the property area and its buffer zone (1:10,000)



■ Criteria under which property is nominated

Criterion (i) The nominated property represents a masterpiece of human creative genius

Criterion (iii) The nominated property bears a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to civilization which is living or which has disappeared

■ Cultural Landscape

Not applicable

■ Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

a) Brief Synthesis

The nominated property is located along the Bangucheon Stream on the southeast coast of the Korean Peninsula. It occupies approximately three kilometers along the meandering water channel of the Bangucheon through a magnificent landscape complete with stratified cliffs and columnar jointing. Within this distinctive setting there can be found two rock panels with remarkable concentrations of petroglyphs, namely the Daegok-ri petroglyphs and the Cheonjeon-ri petroglyphs.

The petroglyphs at the nominated property show a diverse range of images carved by countless generations of local artists using stone and metal tools spanning both prehistoric and historic eras from 5,000 BCE through the ninth century CE. The animals, human figures, hunting scenes, concentric circles, rhombuses, and writing cut into the rock by these coastal inhabitants from East Asia exhibit high levels of realism and dynamism while manifesting a distinctive composition of figurative images and epigraphs. In particular, the animal images, both aquatic and terrestrial, are so detailed that the precise species of each animal can be discerned. The whales and different stages of whale-hunting depicted at the nominated property are the earliest evidence of prehistoric marine fishing in East Asia. The carved images and inscriptions at the nominated property display the art and culture of their producers and their superb creativity.

The nominated property attests to a rock-carving tradition that persisted for approximately 6,000 years within the distinctive landscape created by the Bangucheon Stream and the other natural features surrounding the winding water channel. The diverse images and inscriptions found at the nominated property offer exceptional testimony to this longstanding tradition. The rock-carving tradition of the Bangucheon emerged at the Daegok-ri rock panel during the Neolithic period with a focus on animal images and spread upstream toward the Cheonjeon-ri site, where figurative motifs and writings were carved from the Neolithic through the Bronze Age and into the Silla period. The confined area of about three kilometers along the Bangucheon Stream shows diverse motifs and subjects dating to different temporal periods that capture important aspects of the culture and society at the time they were executed. The nominated property is an exceptional piece of evidence offering a condensed picture of how coastal inhabitants of East Asia developed from a hunter-gatherer society through an agricultural society and on

to the ancient state stage.

The nominated property possesses Outstanding Universal Value since it provides a condensed summary of how these coastal inhabitants expressed their aesthetics and achieved cultural advancement as they progressed from the Neolithic through the Bronze Age and into the Silla period.

b) Justification for Criteria

(i) The nominated property represents a masterpiece of human creative genius

The Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream show a wide range of images executed with high levels of artistry over the millennia by residents of coastal East Asia. The keen observation reflected in the realistic and voluminous representations of diverse motifs and their distinctive compositions demonstrate the exceptional aesthetic sense of these artists. Their creativity is most eloquently delivered in the prehistoric images depicting whales and the major steps of whale hunting, a subject that is only rarely found in rock art worldwide.

(iii) The nominated property bears a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared

The Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream attest to a rock-carving tradition that was practiced for approximately 6,000 years within the distinctive landscape created by the Bangucheon and the other natural features surrounding the winding water channel. The layers of diverse images and inscriptions found here offer exceptional testimony to this age-old tradition that persisted through several stages of human development spanning both prehistoric and historic eras. These rock carvings are outstanding for how succinctly they demonstrate the progression of coastal inhabitants on the Korean Peninsula in East Asia over this vast time frame.

c) Statement of Integrity

The property encompasses all the major attributes that convey its Outstanding Universal Value. The boundary of the property has been drawn to clearly demonstrate the significance of the nominated property as the home of an enduring rock-carving tradition.

As the property area and its buffer zone have been placed under government protection based on the Cultural Heritage Protection Act, the nominated property is unlikely to be exposed to adverse impacts due to ignorance or development. A dam constructed outside the southern boundary of the property area once created significant environmental pressures on a portion of the petroglyphs at the nominated property, but its negative impact has been greatly mitigated at present and is unlikely to affect the efforts to maintain the integrity of the property going forward.

d) Statement of Authenticity

The nominated property maintains high levels of authenticity in its form and design, materials and substance, use and function, traditions, techniques, location and setting, and spirit and feeling.

The nominated property exists in the same location where it was created. The geology of the property and its setting underwent a certain degree of change compared to its paleoenvironment, but this was long before the initiation of the rock-carving tradition. The dam outside the buffer zone caused some topographical transformation, but this has been restored. All in all, the attributes conveying the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property have been maintained mostly intact to the present.

e) Requirements for protection and management

The nominated property is rigorously protected from the impact of urban development and from other threats in accordance with the Cultural Heritage Protection Act and other relevant laws, such as the Water Supply and Waterworks Installment Act and the Forest Protection Act. The property area and its buffer zone are nationally designated as protected areas (under the category of Scenic Site). The two rock panels showing a high concentration of petroglyphs are additionally registered on the list of National Treasures.

Conservation and repair projects at the nominated property are carried out by expert institutes and nationally certified professionals with a view to maintaining its integrity and authenticity. Budgets for the conservation and management of the nominated property are provided by the central and local governments. The government is operating a monitoring system for protecting the nominated property from the impacts of potential natural disasters and other threats.

The local government has established a dedicated organ for the nominated property through which it prepares an integrated management plan, coordinates opinions among diverse stakeholders, and carries out other tasks for the management of the nominated property. The local government is making efforts to permanently remove the environment pressures being imposed on a portion of the nominated property. For this purpose, it has consulted with local residents and, after identifying shifts in local opinion, has built cooperative partnerships with relevant authorities with a view to establishing an optimal environment for the conservation of the nominated property.

■ Name and contact information of official local institution/agency/organization

Organization: Cultural Heritage Administration

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