

II.1 Introduction

(See Section 1 of the current Nomination Form and Section 1, 2 and 3 of the original Nomination Forms)

1a) *State Party:*
USA

1b) *Name of World Heritage property:*
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

1c) *Please provide geographical coordinates for the site to the nearest second. (In the case of large sites, please give three sets of geographical coordinates.)*

Geographical coordinate: UTM Northing 15/4283000

Geographical coordinate: UTM Easting 15/755700

1d) *Give date of inscription on the World Heritage List.*

date (dd/mm/yyyy): 17/12/1982

1e) *Give date of subsequent extension(s), if any.*

1f) *List organization(s) responsible for the preparation of this site report.*

Organization #1

Organization Name: Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Historic Preservation Agency, State of Illinois

Last Name: Esarey

First Name: Mark E.

Title: Site Director

Address: 30 Ramey Street

City: Collinsville

State/Prov: Illinois

Postal Code: 62234

Telephone: 618-346-5160

Fax: 618-346-5162

Email: cahokiamounds@ezl.com

II.2 Statement of Significance (see Section 2 of the current Nomination Form and Section 5 of the original Form)

2a) When a State Party nominates a property for inscription on the World Heritage List, it describes the heritage values of the property which it believes justifies the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List. Please summarize the justification for inscription as it appears in the original nomination of the property.

According to the 1981 nomination, as a significant power that held control and influence within one of the world's largest river valleys (i.e., the Mississippi), Cahokia contains answers to many questions that shed light on why such a large scale aggregation of people took place and how it functioned. New social orders demanded new solutions to the problems they create. Town planning, for example, attempts to reconcile competing functions within a circumscribed area. Problems must have also arisen regarding the new social relationships among people when they became more stable in terms of residence and group membership. Finally, sustaining the community of Cahokia must have involved establishing relationships with many smaller communities both nearby and throughout the eastern and Midwestern United States. These problems are of universal significance to the global study of man's adaptation both to the natural environment and to other people.

The site of Cahokia marks the center of a 325-square-kilometer (125-square-mile) area that contained one of the largest concentrations of people in the pre-Columbian New World north of central Mexico. This area, known as the American Bottom, is a flood plain formed below the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers and includes their alluvial terraces and the low bluffs along the eastern side of the Mississippi River near the modern city of St. Louis, Missouri. Within this area, at circa AD 800, there were over a dozen important habitation sites, including Cahokia. Between AD 900 and AD 1050, the population increased dramatically to occupy about 50 sites. Cahokia first became a dominantly large, formally organized site at this time. From AD 1050 to AD 1250, many other sites appeared and grew to be large and complex towns. During this time, Cahokia became the largest pre-Columbian community within what would become the United States.

The maximum dimensions of Cahokia extended 4.85 km (3 miles) on an east-west axis, and 3.6 km (2.25 miles) north to south. The site covered about 1620 hectares (4,000 acres), providing space for over 10,000 residents, at least 120 mounds, 5 plazas, a palisade (built at least 4 times), and an astronomical observatory known as Woodhenge -- a structure that had a function analogous to England's Stonehenge. Dominating the entire town was Monks Mounds, one of the largest earthen structures ever built in the world.

The 1981 nomination included documentation for World Heritage listing under Criterion ii -- a site that "has exerted great influence, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture, monumental arts or town planning and landscaping." ICOMOS did not accept Cahokia's significance under this criterion.

The following description of Cahokia is quoted from the original World Heritage nomination. ICOMOS approved the nomination for original criteria iii and iv.

Criterion iii: "bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a civilization which has disappeared."

Cahokia and sites in the adjacent American Bottom sustained one of the largest and densest populations in prehistoric North America. Cahokia alone may have supported over 10,000 people at its height, with an estimated 30,000 people inhabiting the American Bottom region. The site formed the core of a hierarchical regional settlement system in which people were concentrated in large ceremonial town centers - such as Cahokia - and ringed by smaller ceremonial villages and rural farmsteads, with goods and services passing between the sites. The spatial arrangement of this system can be seen in Photo 1. Here Cahokia (large solid circle), at the highest level, was surrounded by multiple-mound town sites of several hundred acres (large stars). Third line communities usually had one platform mound and surrounding village areas of 10 to 30 acres (triangles). These in turn were surrounded by farmsteads (dots).

The natural environment of the Cahokia site was considerably different than the environments associated with other prehistoric population centers throughout the world. Because of the more temperate climate and abundant resources at Cahokia, its public works projects did not function to support the subsistence economy (as would an irrigation system, for example). The following site features relate to this discussion:

- Natural environment of the American Bottom;
- Conical, ridgetop, and platform mounds; and
- Settlement pattern.

The American Bottom consists of flood plain, alluvial terraces, and low bluffs along the eastern side of the Mississippi River. It extends from Alton, Illinois, in the north, to Chester, Illinois, in the south. In and around the American Bottom are a number of biotic zones containing a variety of natural resources. The soils consist largely of silts, sands, and clays and are some of the richest agricultural soils in the world. The combination of fertile soils, a long growing season, diverse biotic zones, and abundant natural food resources provided an important stimulus to the location and development of Cahokia. Because of the richness of the environment, little effort was required for the construction of public works projects designed to control or redirect the natural environment. Instead, projects focused on the religious and control aspects of social life, as evidenced by the complementary functions of the conical, ridgetop, and platform mounds, the Woodhenge, and palisade.

The development of Cahokia is characterized by numerous and extremely large mounds of various types on the site. These mounds are products of an organized labor force using intensive labor techniques and show evidence of several construction stages.

Cahokia exerted influence over a vast area of the North American continent – an estimated three million square kilometers (over 1.25 million square miles). It dominated a system of trade until Cahokia's decline and the development of other regional trade centers in the Midwestern North America. Cahokia is located near the confluence of communication and transportation corridors to the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, and Ohio rivers. Cahokia's central location played a dominant role in the regional trade system.

Raw materials used to produce artifacts found at the site came from as far away as the Gulf of Mexico, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. These include whelk shell from the Gulf of Mexico, copper from the Lake Superior region, mica from North Carolina, and galena, ochre, and Missouri flint clay from the Ozarks.

Criterion iv: be an outstanding example of a type of structure which illustrates a significant stage in history.

Cahokia possesses outstanding structures that illustrate the evolution of political and social organization and technical thought in prehistory: including for example:

- Monks Mound;
- Mound 72; and
- The Woodhenge.

Monks Mound, located at the center of Cahokia, dominates the site. It is the largest earthen structure in the New World. Constructed in fourteen stages from about AD 900-1200, the mound measures about 304.8 meters (1,000 feet) by 213 meters (700 feet) at its base (larger than the base of the pyramid of Cheops in Egypt), covers about six hectares (14 acres), rises in a series of four terraces to a height of approximately 30 meters (100 feet), and contains about 623,000 cubic meters (22 million cubic feet) of earth. The remains of a public building were found on its summit. This building, at least 32 meters (105 feet) long and 15 meters (48 feet) wide, had clay floors and posts 75 centimeters (30 inches) in diameter to support the roof. This mound appears to have functioned as a seat of religious and social power.

Mound 72 contains at least six separate episodes of burial involving a total of more than 300 individuals. Some burials are typical of high-status burials found throughout the southeastern United States. One individual was placed on a platform of marine shell beads. Not far from these burials were the skeletons of three men and three women accompanied by a wealth of grave goods, including chunky stones (gaming pieces), copper, mica, and hundreds of projectile points apparently resulting from quivers of arrows. Other burials are unusual and include the interment of four men without heads or hands, pits containing 53, 24, 22, and 19 women between the ages of fifteen to twenty five, and individuals carried to the grave site in litters.

The Woodhenge, a large circular arrangement of posts, has been identified from post holes at the site. The circle consisted of large posts, each 0.6 meters (two feet) in diameter, evenly spaced around its circumference to form a precise circle, with a viewing post at its center. The structure was an astronomical observatory, similar to Stonehenge, and was used to observe solstices, equinoxes, and other important phase of the calendar. The Woodhenge appears to have been rebuilt 5 times; and ranged in diameter from 73-146 meters (240-480 feet). The earliest circle had 24 posts, with each rebuilding the number of posts in the circle increased by 12.

In summary, the American Bottom is unusual in its ecological abundance, allowing one of the largest concentrations of prehistoric people to occur in North America. The resulting social, economic, and political system that arose reached its peak at Cahokia. Elite groups rose in power and status. Labor forces were organized to construct large public works projects, of which Monks Mounds represents the most conspicuous example. Trade materials from thousands of miles away were processed and distributed from Cahokia, indicating the extent of Cahokia's influence over vast areas of the United States.

2b) *At the time of initial inscription of a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates the property's outstanding universal value(s) (or World Heritage value(s)) by agreeing on the criteria for which the property deserves to be included on the World Heritage List. Please consult the report of the World Heritage Committee meeting when the property was listed and indicate the criteria for which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List. (Choose one or more boxes.)*

Cultural Criteria

- i
- ii
- iii
- iv
- v
- vi

Natural Criteria

- i
- ii
- iii
- iv

2c) *At the time of initial inscription, did the World Heritage Committee agree upon a Statement of Significance for the WHS? (Consult the report or minutes of the World Heritage Committee meeting when the property was listed.*

NO

2c1) *If YES, please cite it here.*

2c2) *If NO please propose a Statement of Significance for the World Heritage Site based on the consideration given the property by the Committee when it inscribed the property on the World Heritage List. (Note: Following the completion of the Periodic Report exercise, the State Party, in consultation with appropriate authorities, will determine whether to proceed with seeking a Committee decision to approve any proposed Statement of Significance. The Committee must approve any proposed Statement of Significance through a separate, formal process. See 7g.)*

Criterion iii: bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a civilization which Has disappeared.

The site of Cahokia Mounds in Collinsville, Illinois, 15 km to the northeast of St. Louis, Missouri, serves as a focal point for the study of Pre-Columbian civilizations in central and eastern portions of the North American continent. It was the largest Pre-Columbian settlement north of Mexico, and it existed from approximately AD 800 to AD 1350. It is the preeminent example of a cultural, religious, political, and economic center for the Mississippian cultural tradition throughout the Mississippi Valley and the Southeast United States. It was the earliest big Mississippian culture site. It included the largest mound complex (about 120 mounds). The largest earthen mound in the Americas, 30 meter (100 foot) high Monks Mound was at the center of the site. At its peak between AD 1050-1150, Cahokia was home to 10-20,000 people. This prehistoric incipient urban complex covered about 1620 hectares (4000 acres), including zones of habitation, ceremonial mounds and plazas, and ritual and workshop areas. These areas often changed in form and function through time. A political and social hierarchy organized labor forces and public work projects, managed communal agricultural fields to feed the populace, and administered the surrounding mound centers, villages, and farmsteads that formed the greater Cahokia complex. Trade networks brought in exotic materials from the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, the southern Appalachians, the Great Lakes, and the Ozarks to be made into ornaments, ceremonial objects, and prestige goods that were controlled and redistributed by the elite. Artifacts related to the Southeast Ceremonial Complex on site appear to show that the complex probably began here. This complex dominates the iconography at other large Mississippian culture sites such as Moundville (Alabama), Spiro (Oklahoma), and Etowah and Ocmulgee (Georgia), from circa AD 1200 to European contact and beyond. Further, it is an early and eminent example of pre-urban social-political structure that provides an opportunity to study a type of social organization on which written sources are silent.

Criterion iv: be an outstanding example of a type of structure which illustrates a Significant stage in history.

Cahokia possesses outstanding structures that are a testimony to the evolution and complexity of the political and social organization and technical thought, and at a scale unmatched in prehistoric America north of Mexico. These include:

a) The massive Monks Mound, covering over 6 hectares (over 14 acres), 30 meters (100 feet) high, and with a volume of 623,000 cubic meters (22,000,000 cubic feet). It supported large ceremonial structures on its terraces and was probably the home of the paramount chief and/or the major "temple." It is the largest Pre-Columbian earthen structure in the Americas.

b) The Woodhenge, large post-circle monuments that served as sunrise horizon calendars and ceremonial areas, built at least five times and ranging in size from 73 meters (240 feet) to 146 meters (480 feet) in diameter. The first circle had 24 posts, with each rebuilding the number of posts in the circle increased by 12.

c) The Palisade/Stockade walls, built four times and nearly 2.8 kilometers (1.75 miles) long, enclosing 70-80 hectares (180-200 acres) of the Central Ceremonial Precinct, including Monks Mound, the Grand Plaza, and 17 other mounds. It required over 20,000 logs with each construction. The evenly spaced bastions along walls estimated to have been 3.0-3.6 m (10-12 feet) tall, indicate a primarily defensive structure, but it would also serve as a social barrier within Cahokia society during "peacetime."

d) The Grand Plaza, a 16 hectare (40 acre) ceremonial area in the center of the complex, was artificially raised and leveled and surrounded by many mounds. It would be used for public gatherings, festivals, games, markets, and other communal activities. This was the "heart" of the community.

e) Mound 72, with its complex series of mortuary activities, including high status burials and offerings, as well as sacrificial burials in mass graves.

f) Over 120 platform, conical, and ridgetop mounds ranging greatly in size, most exhibiting several stages of construction or renewal, and nearly all aligned with the major north-south, east-west axes of the site. It is estimated that over 1.5 million cubic meters (55 million cubic feet) of earth were hand-carried in baskets to build these mounds.

2d) Since the original inscription of the property on the World Heritage List, has the World Heritage Committee agreed with a proposal by the State Party that the property be recognized for additional World Heritage values and added additional criteria to the inscription as a result of a re-nomination and/or extension of the property?

NO

*2d1) If YES, please indicate which new criteria were added and the date.
(dd/mm/yyyy)*

II.3 Statement of Authenticity / Integrity
(See Section 2 of the current Nomination Form and Section 4 of the original Form)

3a) *In addition to meeting one or more of the criteria, which justify inscription on the World Heritage List, a natural or cultural property must meet the appropriate conditions of authenticity and/or integrity, as defined in clauses 24b and 44b of the Operational Guidelines for Implementing the World Heritage Convention. If at the time of inscribing the property on the World Heritage list, the State Party and the International Council on Monuments and Sites, ICOMOS and/or the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, IUCN, evaluated the authenticity and integrity of the property, please cite those evaluations here. (Please quote directly from the nomination, Committee minutes and the Advisory Body's evaluation.)*

ICOMOS found that :

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site is a well-maintained State Park, with picnic tables placed on the grassy areas between the mounds. Visitation is regulated and access to the mounds is controlled to protect the site. It has received the benefits of careful and comprehensive studies and expert technical advice in the execution of their findings.

A portion of the palisade has been reconstructed. Housed temporarily in a structure built in the 1920s, a museum - staffed by professional archaeologists - serves as an interpretive center. Approximately sixty mounds are included in the property being nominated. Although several mounds have been damaged by cultivation or development, many are merely truncated, and the mound bases remain for investigation and possibly restoration.

Contemporary structures and roads are being removed as the State acquires the properties. Most contemporary structures have been erected on concrete slabs which have not disturbed the subsurface archaeology.

The most permanent intrusions are US Interstate Highway 55/70, old US 40, and the railroad right-of-way. The highway traverses the floodplain of Cahokia Creek, an area of the site that is about 20 feet below the ground elevation of the main site. Old US 40 (the National Road) runs east-west right through the center of the site, only a few feet south of the base of Monks Mound. Original construction effects to the site due to the Interstate and old US 40 are unknown due to the passage of time, but both have been stable in the same roadbed for quite some time. Both are visible from large areas of the site. The railroad right-of-way is built on an embankment, thus reducing its effect on subsurface archaeological values. Moreover, it is visually isolated from most areas of the site by dense woodlands.

3b) *Have there been significant changes in the authenticity or integrity of the property since inscription?*

YES

3b1) *If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity or integrity and name the main causes.*

Since 1981, the following changes have occurred:

a) The State of Illinois transferred the site out of the State Park system and established the property as a State Historic Site, establishing its primary function as site protection and public interpretation; consequently most recreation areas were concentrated or removed.

b) New 33,000 sq. ft. (3066 sq. m) Interpretive Center and parking lot; old museum and parking lot removed.

c) The Woodhenge was reconstructed.

d) The state now owns over 2100 acres (850 hectares) of the site, including nearly all of the northern, central, and southern areas – a 60% increase in state ownership over the 1300 acres (540 hectares) owned at the time of the inscription in 1982. The state now owns over half of the site as defined by the US National Historic Landmark boundary, including 70 mounds.

e) One entire 40-acre housing subdivision consisting of 68 houses acquired and restored as Grand Plaza area. Six mounds along the east side of the plaza that were destroyed during construction of the subdivision were recreated to approximate original dimensions.

f) As more property was acquired and protected, old park and subdivision roads and buildings were removed and landscape restored: trees and buildings blocking landscape view of mound layout and site organization were removed from central part of site; small and remote mounds were removed from agricultural production; trees were removed from other mounds - dense erosion resistant grasses were planted on the mounds; and 40 hectares (100 acres) were taken out of cultivation and established in native prairie plants and grasses. Interpretive and hiking trails were established.

II.4 Management

(See Section 4 of the current Nomination Form and Section 2 and 4 of the original Form)

Management Regime

4a) *How can the ownership/management of the property best be described? (Select all that apply.)*

- management under protective legislation
- management under contractual agreement(s) between State Party and a third party
- management under traditional protective measures
- other

Please describe.

State of Illinois – Historic Preservation Agency
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site
30 Ramey Street
Collinsville, Illinois 62234

4b) *Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed*

State/provincial/territorial

Please describe

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, an agency of the State of Illinois, manages the entire World Heritage site as a State Historic Site.

4c) *Please describe the legal status of the property. For example, is it a national, provincial or territorial park? A national or provincial historic site?*

Currently, the sole authority for management of the World Heritage site is vested in the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The World Heritage Site comprises about 540 hectares (over 1,300 acres) owned by the State of Illinois at the time of the World Heritage nomination in 1981. The World Heritage site primarily consists of the central core of the site. By early 2004, the state-owned property – Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site - had expanded to over half of the 850 hectares (2,100 acres) encompassing nearly all of the northern, central, and southern portions of the site designated by the circa 1620 hectare (4,000 acre) US National Historic Landmark boundary.

4d) *Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the agency(ies) directly responsible for the management of the property.*

Contact #1

Agency Name: Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
First Name: Maynard
Last Name: Crossland
Address: 1 Old State Capital Plaza
City: Springfield
State/Prov: Illinois
Postal Code: 62701
Telephone: 217-785-7930
Fax: 217-785-7937
Email:

Contact #2

Agency Name: Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site
First Name: Mark E.
Last Name: Esarey
Address: 30 Ramey Street
City: Collinsville
State/Prov: Illinois
Postal Code: 62234
Telephone: 618-346-5160
Fax: 618-346-5162
Email: cahokiamounds@ezl.com

4e) *Please provide a list of key laws and regulations, which govern the protection and management of the cultural and natural resources of the property.*

The most significant protective measure has been acquisition of property. The State of Illinois acquired 144 acres, including Monks Mound in 1925, and operated it as a State Park. Several large tracts were added in the 1960s and 1970s. Designation of Cahokia Mounds as a State Historic Site in the early 1980s (20 Illinois Compiled Statutes 3410) provided the site the highest level of protection available under state law. The site is open for visitation by the general public, but State law prohibits intensive recreational use at State Historic Sites. The State Historic Site nearly doubled in size in the 1980s. In 1997, the IHPA annexed most of the state property, including Monks Mound and the Interpretive Center, into the City of Collinsville. This provided the site with local police, fire, and water service, as well as tourism promotion.

Most State of Illinois archaeological protection laws were revised in 1989 and 1990. Current laws and implementing regulations are: (1) Protection of archaeological sites on public lands, required curation of artifacts from public lands, established professional qualifications for archaeologists working on public lands = Archaeological and Paleontological Resources Protection Act (20 Illinois Compiled Statutes 3435, 1990) Implementing Rule 17 IAC 4190; (2) Protection of human burials and burial artifacts on all public and private lands = Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 Illinois Compiled Statutes 3440, 1989), Implementing Rule 17 IAC 4170; (3) Review potential effects to cultural heritage sites by State Funded or Permitted development projects = the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Protection Act (20 Illinois Compiled Statutes 3420, 1990 as amended), Implementing Rule 17 IAC 4180.

Should any proposed development within the National Historic Landmark boundary use or require United States government-agency funds, permits, or licenses, then federal historic preservation laws would apply. National Historic Landmark's are afforded the highest protection available to historic sites under US law.

4f) Please describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organizations that have management authority over the property and the arrangements that are in place for any necessary coordination of their actions. Make special reference, if appropriate, to the role of First Nations in managing the property.

State of Illinois – Illinois Historic Preservation Agency - has sole management authority.

The primary objective of the State Historic Site is "to preserve, restore, and interpret the cultural development of the sites for the mutual benefit of the citizens of Illinois and the world." Secondary objectives include the "protection and enhancement of natural heritage and significant wildlife areas within the site to illustrate the inter-relationships that existed between the site's prehistoric inhabitants and their environment, provision of service facilities, and provision of limited day-use support facilities."

4g) Please also note whether there have been any significant changes in the ownership, legal status, contractual or traditional protective measures, or management regime for the World Heritage Site since the time of inscription.

At the time of inscription in 1982, Cahokia Mounds Historic Site was managed by the State of Illinois Department of Conservation. In 1985, the State legislature established the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA). IHPA took over management of State historic sites, including Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, from the Department of Conservation. There was a major transformation of the site in the middle 1980s - away from the recreation focus of a State Park towards the protective and interpretive purposes of a State Historic Site.

As of December 2003, IHPA Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site owns over 2100 acres (850 hectares) of the site, including nearly all of the northern, central, and southern portions of the site – a 60% increase in state ownership over the circa 1300 acres (540 hectares) owned at the time of the 1981 nomination that is the basis for the 1982 World Heritage site inscription. IHPA now owns over half of the circa 4000 acre (circa 1620 hectare) site as defined by the US National Historic Landmark (NHL) archaeological site boundary. Over the past two decades, the State of Illinois itself purchased 99 percent of the newly acquired land at the site. Within the past few years, a local not-for-profit site support group – the Cahokia Mounds Museum Society – acquired over 25 house lots (about 5 acres) within the NHL boundary and donated them to the State Historic Site.

Approximately 125 additional hectares (300 acres) within the NHL boundary are owned and managed by other public entities, including the State Department of Transportation, two county governments, and local drainage districts. Recently, the Archaeological Conservancy - a national non-profit archaeological site preservation organization - acquired, and now manages, a small tract of land on the west side of the site.

In 2002, the State Treasurer was instrumental in the passage of a new state law that allows banks doing business with the state to set aside a portion of interest earned to support the site, including such purposes as planning documents, land acquisition, and operational support.

Parts of the site were removed from till agriculture, especially nearly all of the mounds. Six interpretive and nature trails were established, and several sample native prairie plant restoration plots were established. Archaeological investigations conducted with remote sensing equipment and small scale test excavations have documented original sizes and shapes of many mounds and even documented the presence of several previously unknown mounds.

4h) *Is there a management plan for the property?*

YES

4h1) *If YES, please summarize the plan, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when, and the URL where the plan can be located, if available. (A copy of the plan should be submitted in December 2004. See Section 8)*

The Master Management Plan was established in 1980, and reviewed by ICOMOS with the 1981 WHL nomination. Currently, the plan is not available on the internet.

4h2) *If NO, is a management plan under preparation or is preparation of such a plan foreseen for the future?*

Financial Resources

4i) *What is the annual operating budget for the property in the current fiscal year? (For sites consisting of more than one property provide the budgets of constituent parts.)*

In State fiscal year 2004, IHPA received about \$950,000 (USD) from the State of Illinois for salary and operating expenses. A local not-for-profit support group – the Cahokia Mounds Museum Society – donates about \$100,000 each year for support of education, public events and programs, archaeological research, and land acquisition.

Sources of Expertise and Training in Conservation and Management Techniques

4k) *Please describe any sources of specialized expertise, training, and services that come from sources off-site (e.g., training centers, museum conservation facilities).*

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency holds annual statewide meetings with training sessions for both site managers and interpretive staff. The St. Louis area has a Facility Managers association, an Interpreters association – both offer training opportunities. The state Department of Central Management Services offers a wide variety of State of Illinois training classes. The state Department of Natural Resources offers training classes for maintenance personnel.

4j) *Please provide information about the number of staff working at the World Heritage Site (enter figures).*

Full Time: 13 (Value must be a number)
Part Time: 1 (Value must be a number)
Seasonal: 4 (Value must be a number)
Other: 140 (Value must be a number)

Please list the job categories of these staff (e.g., Park Superintendent, Historian, Ecologist, Interpreter, General Works/Maintenance Manager) and describe the specialized skills and expertise of the World Heritage Site's staff members.

Job categories include professional archeologist, interpretation/publication relations supervisor, maintenance supervisor, volunteer coordinator, maintenance workers, technical interpretation worker, and clerical.

There also are over 140 part-time volunteers working under the direction of the Volunteer Coordinator. They help the state site staff with daily public interpretation and at events. The site offers an Interpretive Internship on an occasional basis.

The Cahokia Mounds Museum Society is a local not-for-profit group whose sole purpose is to support public education, research, and events at the site. It has 2 full time employees – an Executive Director and a Gift Shop Manager - and 5 part-time sales assistants.

Visitation

4l) *Are there any visitor statistics for the site?*

YES

4l1) *If YES, please provide the annual visitation for the most recent year it is available, indicating what year that is, a brief summary of the methodology for counting visitors, and briefly describe the trends in visitation. (In describing these trends, please use the year of inscription as a baseline.)*

Attendance was 362,000 for state FY 03 (July 2002 to June 2003). Prior to the opening of the new Interpretive Center in 1989, site visitation was about 80,000 persons per year. The first two full years after the new center was open, attendance was about 500,000. Thereafter, site visitation settled into a range of 350,000 to 400,000 per year. An electronic beam at the front door counts visitation at the Interpretive Center. Visitation to the site grounds is estimated monthly, based on a percentage of the door count at the Interpretive Center.

4m) *Please briefly describe the visitor facilities at the property.*

The site has :

- a 33,000 sq. ft. Interpretive Center opened in 1989, includes an orientation theater, auditorium, education-activity room, temporary exhibit area, gift shop, food and soda vending machines, restrooms, staff offices, library, conference room, and staff lounge.
- Picnic grounds, including 2 large and 3 small shelters, picnic tables, children's play equipment, vault toilets.
- 6 trails.
- stairway to allow visitors to ascend Monks Mound, with parking lot.
- reconstructed Woodhenge, with parking lot.
- reconstructed section of the central palisade, near Monks Mound parking lot.
- web sites = www.cahokiamounds.com and

www.state.il.us/iHPA/sites/cahokiamounds

4n) *Is there tourism/visitor management plan for the property?*

NO

4n1) *If YES, please briefly summarize the plan, and provide a URL where the plan can be located.*

Scientific Studies

4o) Please list key scientific studies and research programs that have been conducted concerning the site. (Please use the year of inscription as a baseline.)

A link to the full bibliography of research concerning the site consisting of several hundred entries can be found at www.cahokiamounds.com. Since 1981 nomination, there have been many important excavation and research projects held within the WHL boundaries. These include:

Interpretive Center Tract I: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale (SIUC); examining area for potential Interpretive Center construction

Interpretive Center Tract II: Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (SIUE); full excavations of final location selected for construction of Interpretive Center

Woodhenge: Cahokia Mounds Museum Society (CMMS); located final three post locations needed for reconstruction of Woodhenge III.

Mound 50: CMMS. Two test trenches into sides of mound to determine age, form and function of this low domed mound at east edge of Grand Plaza.

Mound 49: Oklahoma University. Two test trenches into mound edges to determine age, form and function of this ridgetop mound in the Grand Plaza.

Mound 48: SIUE. Several test pits dug around mound to determine possible age and function of mound and surrounding activities.

Mound 56: SIUE. Reopened part of 1922 Moorehead excavation trench to reexamine mound profiles.

Mound 34: Washington University (WU) and Northwestern University (NU). Reopening 1950s excavation trenches to better determine age, form and function of this mound, which were not well documented in earlier work, and its relationships to the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex.

Little Twin Mounds: SIUE. Determined age of mounds and identified shared platform upon which these two mounds sit and a small causeway that connects them.

Twin Mounds: SIUE. Did GPS surveys and mapping, coring of portions of the mounds to determine age of construction. Confirmed they were built on a shared platform of earth.

Roach Mound (70): SIUE. Contour mapping of main mound and two smaller ones (69, 71); soil coring and shovel testing to determine age and extent of occupation zones around mounds.

Tippets Mound Group: SIUE. Test excavations, soil coring of three mounds (61, 62, 95) and an artificially shaped peninsula extending into the borrow pit between them; to determine age, form and function of these mounds and areas around them.
Promontory Mounds: SIUE. Testing of several small mounds that extend into borrow pits or wet areas: Mounds 94, 93, Boy Scout Mound; to learn more about these unusual mounds.

Monks Mound: SIUE/Illinois State Museum (ISM); examination of modern slumping on mound to determine cause and examine exposed features; testing on Second Terrace slump for cultural features and mound stratigraphy. SIUE: testing and excavations in conjunction with installation of new stairways up front of mound and mitigation of the west slump area associated with stabilization and directional boring projects used to install horizontal drains. Detailed GPS and contour mapping of mound; remote sensing on First Terrace and Second Terrace along with SIUC to help identify cultural features, mounds construction stages, etc.

Mound 72/Mound 96: UWM. Using remote sensing and excavations to identify another possible Woodhenge in this area of site.

Kunneberg Mound Tract: SIUE. Controlled surface collection of large area to identify distribution and extent of habitation zones and possible shell bead making workshop areas.

East Stockade/Palisade: CMMS. Tracing the locations of the four constructions of the defensive Stockade wall to the east of Monks Mound.

Southeast and South Palisade: SIUE. Southeast: Mitigation project for installation of septic system at Asst. Site Manager's house identified several palisade trenches.

South: extension of 1968 excavations behind Twin Mounds located several additional segments of the palisade trenches running east-west.

West Palisade: Central Mississippi Valley Archaeological Research Institute (CMVARI), University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), Henderson State University (HSU). Tracing the palisade trenches along the west side of the Grand Plaza.

Drive-In Tract: SIUE. Excavations prior to installation of pit toilets at picnic grounds, identifying several house constructions.

Grand Plaza: SIUE. Remote sensing and excavations revealed the artificial filling and leveling of this 40 acre tract in the center of the community.

Water Line Project: State University of New York-Buffalo (SUNY). Mitigation work for the installation of new waterlines along Collinsville Road, through the Grand Plaza, and by the Monks Mound parking lot.

Remote Sensing Projects: SIUE and independent projects by Rinita Dalan and Michael Hargrave. These have helped determine how certain areas of the site have been used or disturbed (or not) by cultural activities, what the original shapes of mounds may have been, how borrow pits have silted in, etc. The results will help direct future excavations (ground truthing) to determine what some of these tests have identified.

Reanalysis Projects: Materials recovered from earlier excavations at Cahokia are being reexamined with today's technology to better understand cultural sequences and activities at these locations, including sub-Mound 51, Tract 15-A, and Kunnemann Mound. These have resulted in new publications and reports.

4o1) Please describe how the results of these studies and research programs have been used in managing the World Heritage Site.

Archaeological research projects conducted over the years have helped direct site development and usage. The Interpretive Center Tract I & II projects helped determine the best location for the building in relation to the archaeological complexity of the areas examined and even helped determine the footprint of the building to avoid some of the more complex zones. Three unrecorded mounds were also identified; two were reconstructed near the entrance of the Center and the parking lot was reconfigured to avoid the third, which was determined to be a burial mound.

Archaeological testing on the slump areas of Monks Mound helped to determine the geophysical nature of the slumps and the best methods to stabilize the mound with minimal impact to it.

Several areas of the site determined to have mounds or other cultural deposits have been removed from cultivation and native prairies established. Other areas outside the state-owned boundaries are known to have cultural resources, including mounds, and the Cahokia Mounds Museum Society, our support group, has used some of their own funds and state grants to acquire over 25 lots, including two mounds and part of a third, which are then turned over to the State to be included as part of Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site.

The City of Collinsville, IL, has recognized the World Heritage Status and the archeological importance of the site, and they have annexed a large portion of the site into the city limits. This provides the site with better water, police, and fire services than before and aids in the preservation and protection of the site.

The remote sensing projects at the site have no impact on the archaeology but do provide vital information about subsurface disturbances and anomalies and this will help direct future research into the areas tested to learn more about site use.

All of the research and excavations projects provide vital data that will help us update and revise exhibits with the new information, or develop new exhibits that focus on those project results.

4o2) What role, if any, has the property's designation as a World Heritage Site played in the design of these scientific studies and research programs? For example, has there been a specific effort in these programs to focus on the recognized World Heritage values of the property?

World Heritage status provides another layer of importance in focusing archaeological research at the site, with emphasis given to projects that help to provide information about the urban nature of Cahokia, one of the attributes that helped Cahokia become a World Heritage Site. World Heritage status was been instrumental in getting funding for research projects at the site.

Education, Information and Awareness Building

4p) *Is there a plaque at the property indicating that it is a designated World Heritage Site?*

YES

4q) *Is the World Heritage Convention logo used on all of the publications for the property?*

NO

4r) *Are there educational programs concerning the property's World Heritage values aimed at schools?*

YES

4r1) *If YES, please briefly describe these programs.*

For teachers looking for an educational experience for their students, beyond the usual field trip visit, the staff offers a variety of special "hands-on" educational programs. Teachers must first participate in a Teachers' Workshop. They are given a detailed introduction to the Cahokia Site and Mississippian culture, a special tour of the Interpretive Center, and packets of information they can take back to the classroom for pre- and post-visit activities. Recent classes were:

"Journey To Cahokia:" 5th grade to high school students learn about the various types of mounds found at Cahokia, their form and function; the uses of plazas as places of trade, ceremonies and games.

"Clothes and Jewelry:" (pre-school-3rd). Students learn what the Indians wore, how they made their clothes, the kinds of jewelry they made and wore, and from what materials they were made; how they wore their hair and decorated their bodies and clothing. Replicated clothing and jewelry are utilized to reinforce the experience.

"Games of the Indians:" (all grades). Students gather in the plaza, where they play games the Indians played, which help develop speed and dexterity and were an integral part of the social life of the Indians.

"Building of the Mounds:" (3rd-high school). Includes a tour of mounds and mound types on site and explanations of how they were built and used, and information provided by excavation. Weather permitting, students actually fill baskets with soil dug with a stone hoe and carry it to a mound to help repair erosion scars.

4s) *Are there special events and exhibitions concerning the property's World Heritage values?*

YES

4s1) *If YES, please briefly describe them.*

Events are held year-round at Cahokia and are free, unless otherwise noted.

"Kids Day." This one-day event is held in May and has hands-on activities for kids, such as flintknapping, pottery making, playing Indian games, grinding corn with mortar and pestle, throwing spears with an atlatl, identifying animal furs and tracks, fingerweaving, and interpretive Indian dance performances.

"Contemporary Indian Art Show." This major event held the second weekend of July features Indian artists from across the nation in this juried contemporary fine art show. Works include paintings in oil, watercolor, pastels, gouache; pen and ink and pencil drawings; sculpture in metal, stone, wood, antler, and ceramics; silver and stone jewelry; flute making; ceramics in many styles; paper art, and more. There is an invitation preview party when the judges select winners in two- and three-dimensional art, and the public selects a people's choice award.

"Native Harvest Festival." This one-day event held in early August exhibits foods the Indians harvested from their environment, including how they obtained and processed them, items made from food byproducts, how crops introduced by the Indians influenced the world diet, and items made today from by-products of corn. There are some hands-on activities games.

"Rediscover Cahokia Days." A fall ancient-crafts festival with expert craft persons demonstrating how to make pottery, bows and arrows, fire, arrowheads, baskets and mats, carve and decorate gourds, engrave shell and bone ornaments, tan deer hides and work leather, fingerweave sashes and belts from natural fibers, and several other crafts. Demonstrations of traditional social dancing and Plains-style fancy dancing. The Missouri Atlatl Association holds its annual competition and demonstration of this ancient spear throwing device. Canceled for 2004 due to budget cuts.

"Cahokia Mounds Pow Wow." This event is usually held in September, often in conjunction with Rediscover Days. The Pow Wow has generally been sponsored by a local American Indian non-profit group in the St. Louis area. This is a competitive pow wow with dancers from many areas and tribes competing in several men's and women's categories. Trader booths and refreshment stands are set up around the dance circle. Dancing takes place Friday evening through Sunday afternoon.

Temporary Exhibits. Several times a year we bring in temporary exhibits, or create them ourselves. They often relate to other mound sites, archaeological excavations, photographic or art displays, craft exhibits, etc. Most relate to Indian, archaeological, or historical themes.

4t) *Please briefly describe the facilities, visitor center, site museum, trails, guides and information material that are available to visitors to the World Heritage Site.*

“Cahokia Mounds”: This brochure gives general information about the prehistory of the site, including Monks Mound and Woodhenge. It also includes information on hours, visitor policies, and directions to the site. “Cahokia Mounds”: A four-color brochure provides information on the prehistory of the site, emphasizing its World Heritage Site status. It includes color illustrations of the site, and Interpretive Center exhibits. “Interpretive Center Guide”: A guide to the exhibits and facilities of the 33,000 sq. ft. (3066 sq. m) Interpretive Center. Details are given for the seven exhibit islands, site model, and life-size diorama. “Calendar of Events:” A listing of upcoming events at the site, including festivals, performances, lectures and workshops. The calendar of events is available on the web site www.cahokiamounds.com.

Detailed handout pages are available for Monks Mound, the Grand Plaza, the central Stockade, Mound 72, Woodhenge, and the Historic period at Cahokia Mounds, including early efforts to preserve the site. Additional handouts are Gallery Mural Walk; Cahokia Mounds, A Short Bibliography for teachers; A Selected Partial Bibliography of Cahokia Mounds; Archaeological Periods; Mound Sites, a list with addresses and telephone numbers of major mound sites in the eastern United States; and the Cahokia Mounds Fact Sheet. Information about natural resources is included in the following handouts: Illinois Prairie Plants, Birds of Illinois, Tree Trail, Prairie for the Prairie State, and Nature-Culture Trail Guidebook, which describes various ecological and cultural areas along a 10 kilometer trail. A handout lists local campgrounds for tent or recreational vehicle camping.

Tour Guidebook: A booklet available in 13 languages that describes three short walking trails (Plaza, Monks Mound, and Woodhenge). The archaeological features seen and general history of the prehistoric site is explained. Also available, to be checked-out, on a cassette tape (available in 3 languages).

Field Trips, Group Visits, Educational Programs, Speakers Bureau and Web Site: A booklet explaining educational opportunities available through the site. Procedures and policies for group visits are outlined.

Cahokia Mounds Volunteers: The opportunities and benefits of volunteering at Cahokia Mounds are described. An application form is included.

Cahokia Mounds Museum Society: This color brochure describes benefits of membership in the support organization of the historic site.

Cahokia Archaeological Society: The opportunities and benefits of membership in this local archaeological organization are featured in this leaflet.

4u) What role, if any, has the property's designation as a World Heritage Site played with respect to the education, information and awareness building activities described above? For example, has the World Heritage designation been used as a marketing, promotional, or educational tool?

The site's World Heritage status is mentioned prominently in the first paragraph on all brochures and advertisements aimed to the public. The status is also mentioned in all grant applications.

II.5 Factors Affecting the Property (See Section 5 of the current Nomination Form)

5) Please briefly identify factors affecting the property under the following headings: Development Pressures, Environmental Pressures, Natural Disasters and Preparedness, Visitor and Tourism Pressures, Number of Inhabitants Within Property and Buffer Zone and Other - major factors likely to affect the World Heritage values of the property. First discuss those that were identified in the original nomination, in the same order in which they were presented there, then those that have been discussed in reports to the World Heritage Committee since inscription, and then other identified factors.

This section should provide information on all the factors which are likely to affect a property. It should also relate those threats to measures taken to deal with them, whether by application of the protection described in Section 4e or otherwise.

Not all of the factors suggested in this section are appropriate for all properties. The list provided is indicative and is intended to assist the State Party in identifying the factors that are relevant to each specific property.

(In describing these trends, please use the year of inscription as a baseline.)

For EACH Factor, please specify the following:
key actions taken to address factor
any plans that have been prepared to deal with factor in the future
whether the impacts of factor appears to be increasing or decreasing, and
the timeframe for which the comparison is being made.

Development Pressures

5a) Provide information about Development Pressures on the following: demolitions or rebuilding; the adaptation of existing buildings for new uses which would harm their authenticity or integrity; habitat modification or destruction following encroaching agriculture, forestry or grazing, or through poorly managed tourism or other uses; inappropriate or unsustainable natural resource exploitation; damage caused by mining; and the introduction of invasive nonnative species likely to disrupt natural ecological processes, creating new centers of population on or near properties so as to harm them or their settings.

There are two short references to development pressures in the original nomination. Both mention (a) the continuing damage to the site's archaeological resources on privately owned portions of the site where commercial, residential, industrial, and agricultural activities continue on a daily basis, and (b) the potential damage that construction projects for similar purposes would have on the site resources.

Actions taken, since nomination, to address development pressures include continued purchase of additional parts of the site as funds are available, a new stronger state law to protect mounds, human burials, and burial artifacts on all land in the state, and a new state law that requires archaeological review of state-funded or permitted projects.

The Master Management Plan addresses development pressures and set priorities for property acquisition based on known archaeological importance, visual effects to interpretation, and in-holdings. With latitude for variable funding and willingness of landowners to sell property, the State has attempted to follow the plan.

The acquisition of 800 acres additional property by the Historic Preservation Agency within the larger National Historic Landmark archaeological site boundaries since the World Heritage nomination thus decreased the threat for those parcels. For the remaining privately owned parts of the site, the danger to the site's resources has increased as development has continued. The site itself has no control over land it does not own. State and Federal laws protect burials, mounds, and burial artifacts even on private land, and offer protection to archaeological resources from development if public funding or state or Federal agency permits or licenses are required.

Various flood control plans have been proposed by various agencies in the region over the past century as well as recently. These plans might help secure parts of the site from potential flooding, while having the unintended adverse effect of increasing the development potential of some parts of the site, or damaging part of the site to accomplish some bigger picture flood protection goal.

Some local communities have offered incentives and subsidies for development near, but outside, the site boundaries. This has been of concern but has not had any direct effect at this point.

Environmental Pressures

5b) Environmental pressures can affect all types of property. Air pollution can have a serious effect on stone buildings and monuments as well as on fauna and flora. Desertification can lead to erosion by sand and wind. What is needed in this section is an indication of those pressures which are presenting a current threat to the property, or may do so in the future, rather than a historical account of such pressures in the past.

This is not addressed in the nomination. Two issues have arisen since then.

The spread of trees or other deep rooted plant species across the site would likely damage subsurface archaeological features. To the extent possible most areas of the site are kept in grass or hay. Existing forest areas have not been allowed to expand and the staff has tried to avoid planting any deep rooted species. Nearly all of the mounds have had the trees removed. The situation appears to be stable at present.

In the early to middle 1980s and the middle 1990s, major slumps occurred on the sides of Monks Mound. The cause is not clear but in both instances; there were major rises in the regional water table. In the early 1980s, a large slump occurred on the central east side of the mound. After some archaeological study a large scale restoration program using construction equipment was completed. It has remained stable to date. The slump on the middle west side started in the early 1980s and then increased rapidly in the middle to late 1990s. In the late 1990s, open gaps in the surface of the upper west terraces were filled, and drains were drilled into the side of the mound with direction drilling equipment. It is now stable as well.

Natural Disasters and Preparedness

5c) *This section should indicate those disasters which present a foreseeable threat to the property and what steps have been taken to draw up contingency plans for dealing with them, whether by physical protection measures or staff training. (In considering physical measures for the protection of monuments and buildings it is important to respect the integrity of the construction.)*

This is not addressed in the nomination. The site is on the flood plain of the Mississippi River, and while a large sophisticated Federal levee system is in place to protect the entire flood plain, a major flood in 1993 (classified as a 500 year frequency flood) initiated updates in the State's Emergency Management Agency's plans. Without serious damage to the integrity of the mounds, archaeological features, and the ability of visitors to visually grasp the organization and layout of the site, little can be done within the site boundaries to protect the site from a large scale flood.

Visitor and Tourism Pressures

5d) *In completing this section what is required is an indication of whether the property can absorb the current or likely number of visitors without adverse effects (i.e., its carrying capacity). An indication should also be given of the steps taken to manage visitors and tourists. Possible impacts from visitation that could be considered include the following:*

- i. damage by wear on stone, timber, grass or other ground surfaces ;*
- ii. damage by increases in heat or humidity levels;*
- iii. damage by disturbance to the habitat of living or growing things; and*
- iv. damage by the disruption of traditional cultures or ways of life.*

This is not addressed in the nomination. The site staff has planted short, thick, erosion resistant grasses on the mounds, and prohibited visitors from walking on mounds, except Monks Mound which has stairs. Visitors and weather were wearing out the wooden stairs on Monks Mound at too high of frequency and erosion was occurring underneath them, so the Historic Preservation Agency replaced them with concrete steps. There is no visible deterioration of the new steps to date, but they are only three years old.

In order to accommodate the expected increase in visitation with the new Interpretive Center in the late 1980s, the site relocated the picnic ground to a former drive-in theater property and limited recreational activities to that location. Several site roads were removed, and new cultural trails established.

Tourism pressure was about 25% higher than currently in the first few years after new Interpretive Center was open in 1989 with relatively little damage to the site. However based on that experience, it appears that 500,000 visitors a year is the maximum visitation the site can sustain with its current infrastructure. Tourism pressure to the site appears to be stable over the last decade. The site staff recognizes that the issue should be addressed in any update of the Master Management Plan.

Number of Inhabitants Within Property and Buffer Zone

5e) *Include the best available statistics or estimate of the number of inhabitants, if any, within the property and any buffer zone and describe any activities they undertake which affect the property.*

The current population within the inscribed World Heritage boundary is 3 persons; this is at a house owned by the state that is there to protect the site.

We consider the US National Historic Landmark boundary (the whole site boundary, rather than just the part owned by the State of Illinois at time of inscription) to be the buffer zone for the World Heritage site property. An estimated 3,000 persons currently live within the NHL boundary.

The State of Illinois owns all of the land within the World Heritage site. Within the National Historic Landmark boundary 35-40 percent of the land still is in private ownership. Residential use predominates, but substantial tracts are in agricultural, commercial and industrial use. Construction activities on the private land are persistent and nearly always damaging to the archaeological resources of the site. The rate of development varies from decade to decade depending upon the local economy and other factors.

5f) *List Other Factors*

II.6 Monitoring
(See Section 6 of the current Nomination Form)

Administrative Arrangements for Monitoring Property

6a) *Is there a formal monitoring program established for the site? In this case, "monitoring" means the repeated and systematic observation and collection of data on one or more defined factors or variables over a period of time.*

NO

6a1) *If YES, please describe the monitoring program, indicating what factors or variables are being monitored and which partners, if any, are or will be involved in the program.*

Key Indicators for Measuring State of Conservation

6b) *At the time of inscription of the property on the World Heritage list, or while in the process of reviewing the status of the property at subsequent meetings, have the World Heritage Committee and the State Party identified and agreed upon key indicators for monitoring the state of conservation of the property's World Heritage values?*

NO

6b1) *If YES, please list and describe these key indicators, provide up-to-date data with respect to each of them, and also indicate actions taken by the State Party in response to each indicator.*

6b2) *If NO key indicators were identified by the World Heritage Committee and used so far, please indicate whether the World Heritage Site management authority is developing or plans to develop key indicators for monitoring the state of conservation of the property's World Heritage Values.*

Beyond daily observation of the site by staff, not Currently.

Results of Previous Reporting Exercises

6c) *Please describe briefly the current status of actions the State Party has taken in response to recommendations from the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription or afterwards, through the process known as "reactive reporting." (Note: The answer to this question will be "not applicable" for many sites.)*

Not Applicable

II.7 Conclusions

World Heritage Values

7a) Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above).

In the two decades since the World Heritage inscription of the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, the state of the values the nomination is based upon have generally been improved, some of them dramatically so.

The features of the site that bear testimony to the civilization that was centered at Cahokia have been enhanced. Significant additional portions of the site have been bought and restored, including acquisition of several large tracts with mounds and an entire residential subdivision in the center of the site. The public interpretation of the site has improved both in terms of the visual grasp that a visitor can make of the site's organization and layout and the understanding of the culture as a whole through the programs and exhibits at the new Interpretive Center. As a result of these improvements visitation to the site and participation in the public education programs have increased at least five fold since the site's World Heritage listing. Much of the success of the efforts to improve the site can be attributed to the ease with which people understand the publicly recognized importance of the site that is inherent in its World Heritage site status.

Some specific improvements include: the reorientation away from recreation as an important purpose of the property, acquisition of over 800 acres additional land within the site including 10 more mounds and an area identified as a shell bead workshop, reconstruction of the Woodhenge, new stairs on Monks Mound, repairs to slumps on Monks Mounds, removal of a residential subdivision and restoration of the Grand Plaza, improved parking at Monks Mound, the Woodhenge, and the picnic grounds, changes in landscape management that allow enhanced visual sense of place in the central part of the site, improvements to public education about the importance of the site through construction of a new Interpretive Center and interpretive trails.

Management and Factors Affecting Site

7b) Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the management of and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above).

The State Legislature enacted stronger state laws to protect archaeological heritage sites, including additional protection for archaeological site on public lands, curation of artifacts from public lands, protection for ancient burials and burial artifacts, established professional qualifications for archaeologists, and required consideration for cultural heritage sites in State funded or permitted development projects.

Over the last two decades, the site staff has accomplished several important objectives identified in the Master Management Plan and those have enhanced the site. The staff reduced and concentrated recreation activities remaining from former State Park management focus, reoriented primary purpose of site to Historic preservation and interpretation. The staff made landscape changes, including ending till agriculture in parts of site especially mounds, removal of trees and other deep rooted plants from broad areas of site to preserve archaeological features, remove buildings and other visual impediments to the visitor's ability to visually understand the site landscape organization. The staff restored the main plaza; instituted soil erosion control practices in maintenance of the mounds and grounds in general, reconstructed the Woodhenge and a section of the palisade, and began or improved public education and interpretive programs, especially those for school children.

Archaeology research by academic institutions has continued on an annual basis. This has led to enhance interpretation of site, including some of the specific features mentioned in the World Heritage nomination, such as the palisade, form of the mounds, and organization of activities at the site.

Increased site visitation after opening of new Interpretive Center in 1989 has not impacted protection of the site, but potential degradation of the site would need to be addressed as part of any future activity or plan that would increase visitation significantly beyond levels experienced within the last decade.

Proposed Future Action(s)

7c) Please describe briefly future actions that the State Party has approved to ensure the conservation of the World Heritage values of the property.

These sample headings can be used as a checklist.

*Modification of legal or administrative structure
Changes to financial arrangements
Increases to staffing level
Provision of training
Modification of visitor facilities
Preparation of a visitor management plan
Studies of public knowledge of the World Heritage Site
Emergency preparedness
Establishment or improvement of a monitoring program.*

Several portions of the site in private ownership have been identified as high priorities for future acquisition, including the remaining small section of the Woodhenge (ca. 1 acre/0.4 ha), the one remaining small (1 acre/0.4 ha) in-holding in the west central section of the site, and several tracts on the east central side of the site where mounds or parts of mounds exist, including a trailer park partially upon a mound, and a vacant commercial building partially upon a mound. State capital project requests have been submitted for these locations.

In the Interpretive Center the highest priority for future improvement is establishment of a larger, flexible temporary exhibit space. A State capital project request has been submitted for this improvement that would transform a lightly used former café and patio space into temporary exhibit space.

A State capital project request has been submitted that would remove the remaining above ground utility lines from the central part of the site.

Archaeology research by qualified professionals will continued on an annual basis. As in the past this will focus on small scale, highly focused projects that enhance interpretation of site.

Due to budget cuts instituted during the current recession, the site's public hours were reduced to 5 days a week, three staff positions are open, and maintenance and operating budgets were cut roughly proportional to the two days closed. Prior to these recent cuts, the site was open to the public every day except a few holidays in the winter. We believe that the site will return to its previous schedule, staff, and operating budget as soon as improvements in the State funding situation allow.

Responsible Implementing Agency(ies)

7d) Please identify the agency(ies) responsible for implementation of these actions described in 7c, if different from those listed in Section II.4.

Timeframe for Implementation

7e) If known, or predictable, please provide a timeline for the implementation of the actions described in 7c.

Needs for International Assistance

7f) Is it anticipated that International Assistance, through the World Heritage Fund, will be requested for any of the planned actions described above?

NO

7f1) If YES, please state the nature of the request and when it will be requested, if known.

Potential Decisions for the World Heritage Committee

7g) Please indicate if the World Heritage Site management authority has preliminarily identified, as a result of this reporting exercise, an apparent need to seek a World Heritage Committee decision to change any of the following:

(Note: Following completion of the Periodic Report exercise, the State Party, in consultation with appropriate authorities, will determine whether to proceed with seeking a Committee decision on these changes. To request such changes, the State Party will need to follow a separate, formal process, subsequent to submitting the report.)

- change to criteria for inscription
- change to Statement of Significance
- proposed new Statement of Significance, where previously missing
- change boundaries or buffer zone

II.8 Documentation

(See Section 7 of the current Nomination Form and Section 3 of the original Nomination Form)

8a) Please review the original nomination for the property to determine whether it is necessary or advisable to supply, update or amend any of the following documentation for the World Heritage Site. Indicate what documentation will be supplied to supplement the information found in this report. (This documentation should be supplied at the time the Periodic Report is submitted to the World Heritage Centre, in December 2004.)

- a) Photographs, slides and, where available, film. This material should be accompanied by a duly signed authorization granting, free of charge to UNESCO, the non-exclusive right for the legal term of copyright to reproduce and use it in accordance with the terms of the authorization attached.
- b) Topographic or other map or site plan which locates the WHS and its boundaries, showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule.
- c) A copy of the property management plan.
- d) A Bibliography consisting of references to all the main published sources on the World Heritage Site, compiled to international standards.

URL: www.cahokiamounds.com

Description: Bibliography = A link to the full bibliography of research concerning the site consisting of several hundred entries can be found at www.cahokiamounds.com.

Addresses – Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street, Collinsville, IL 62234.

Illinois State Museum, Research and Collection Center, 1011 East Ash Street, Springfield, IL 62703.

Several dozen other museums and universities have some collections and documentation about the site.

8b) Do you have a digital map of the WHS, showing its location and boundaries?

Select

8bi) If yes, in what format(s) is the map?

8bii) *Is it published on a publicly-accessible website?*

Select

8biii) *If yes, please provide the URL of the site where the map can be found. Must be a valid URL.*