

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:*
Taos Pueblo

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: N36° 28' 08" W105° 33' 37"

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

date (dd/mm/yyyy): 14/12/1992

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: Taos Pueblo
Last Name: Mirabal
First Name: John A.
Title: Governor
Address: Taos Pueblo, Post Office Box 1846
City: Taos
State/Prov: New Mexico/USA
Postal Code: 87571
Telephone: (505) 758-9593
Fax: (505) 758-4604
Email: governor@taospueblo.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.

Taos Pueblo is among the few remaining communities where the traditional [Indian] Pueblo building style has been preserved and maintained into the 20th century. Although Oraibi and Acoma can lay claim to greater antiquity, neither presents a clearer, more striking picture than Taos [Pueblo] of what most observers view as the archetypal multi-storied Pueblo architectural style. The size and height of Taos [Pueblo's] five-storied North house surpass those of any other present-day multi-storied Pueblo dwelling. Other [Indian] Pueblos also remain well-integrated communities retaining strong identities as Pueblos with distinctive social, cultural, and religious traditions. None however, combine the exceptional architectural qualities of Taos [Pueblo] with this integrity of traditional secular and religious organization.

The structures in the walled village, at the heart of the Pueblo, are the most obvious tangible evidence of the preservation and protection of the Taos [Pueblo] community and culture in the face of centuries of contact with European-Americans and resulting changes in the economy and ecology of the Taos Valley. Of the [Indian] Pueblo communities in the United States, the Taos [Pueblo] people are among those most vigilant and successful at maintaining a social structure and a belief system that set them apart from European-Americans, as well as distinctive architectural traditions. As a vibrant, living culture, [Taos] Pueblo embodies a community that has preserved traditional cultural values that reach back centuries and have withstood numerous threats over the past 500 years. Within the walled area, the Pueblo has long maintained controls designed to protect the community's traditions. For example, the community allows neither electrical power lines nor piped-in running water.

The people of Taos [Pueblo] have added European-American items to their material culture, such as linoleum and automobiles. While adapting and adopting some Hispano and Anglo ways and goods, they have, at the same time, rejected outside influences that they considered a threat to the integrity of their culture and community. The buildings of the Pueblo within the community wall, as described in the nomination of the site, mirror these processes. Additions, and some use of non-native materials, have not fundamentally altered the visual impact of the Pueblo or its striking evidence of ancient building traditions.

Taos [Pueblo] has been recognized by the U.S. Federal Government as a National Historic Landmark since 1960. It is also listed in the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. Under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, its historic and cultural significance must therefore be addressed by any federal agency involved in undertakings that affect Taos Pueblo and its cultural interests. When a federal agency is involved in an undertaking that will have an effect on Taos [Pueblo], adverse or not, that agency must take into account the historical or cultural values of the Pueblo and afford a reasonable opportunity to comment on the

undertaking; these comments are reviewed by a federal body known as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The U.S. National Park Service monitors the condition of Historic National Landmarks through periodic assessments. By law, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior must prepare an annual report to U.S. Congress on endangered National Historic Landmarks. Landmark status is designed to encourage the preservation of significant properties by their owners, and to increase public awareness of the importance of Landmarks.

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.)

Taos Pueblo was nominated under Cultural Criterion (iv): "Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history." The ICOMOS report stated that ". . . Taos [Pueblo] is a remarkable example of a traditional type of architectural ensemble from the pre-Hispanic period of the Americas unique to this region which has successfully retained most of its traditional forms up to the present day." Through the efforts of the Taos Pueblo community, Taos Pueblo has maintained the integrity of the historic properties of these northern New Mexico pueblo buildings. They maintain the design and character of this pueblo community, and serve as a highly significant example of [Indian] pueblo life found in northern New Mexico. This historic integrity is maintained by methods derived from the living lifeways and culture of the Taos [Pueblo] people themselves. In the face of considerable forces of change throughout the past few centuries resulting from European-American settlement, the community of Taos [Pueblo] has successfully maintained their traditional way of life.

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.)

The ICOMOS evaluation states, "the two main adobe building complexes retain their traditional three dimensional layout. Certain features, such as doors and windows, have been introduced over the last century, which may with some justification be claimed to represent a natural evolutionary process, as the community has adjusted to a changed social and economic climate. In recent years there has been a deliberate policy of ensuring that all repair and reconstruction work has been carried out using traditional materials and techniques and of ensuring that discordant elements, such as inappropriate doors, have been replaced using more harmonious designs and materials."

The nomination states, "like all adobe structures, Taos Pueblo must be regularly maintained, through periodic replastering. For centuries, the people of the Pueblo have maintained the Pueblo as part of their community duties and in traditional ways. Taos [Pueblo] has a strong tradition of cooperation for community labor, including maintenance of the Pueblo buildings and irrigation ditches. This sense of obligation to the community is one of the striking features of Taos. However, as noted above, today fewer members of the Pueblo live full-time in the Pueblo. The Pueblo shows typical signs of adobe weathering, as a result. Should these problems go unchecked, they could lead to severe deterioration. Also, some unsympathetic materials, such as chicken wire, have been used in efforts to stabilize the adobe."

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

No. There has been normal deterioration, described below, that does not affect the authenticity or integrity of the structures.

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

Normal deterioration of the Pueblo structures, particularly from weather, occurs and the structure are repaired and replastered every one to two years. Sometimes individual homeowners are not able to provide yearly maintenance. When it is evident that a family cannot complete maintenance the tribal government stands ready to provide materials and labor for rehabilitation of structures. In recent

years the Governor's Office has taken the initiative to repair and re-plaster the two main building structures with Pueblo crews hired for the work.

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.

Taos Pueblo is a self-governing sovereign community that has resided at its present location and in its surrounding aboriginal area of occupation since time immemorial. The Village of Taos Pueblo is the spiritual and physical core of the people. Individual components of the Pueblo structures may be owned by or assigned to families or individuals but in its entirety, is owned by the community as a whole. The Pueblo's governing and cultural structure determines and makes decisions that affect the village, the facilities, the activities, and way of life in order to preserve the spiritual and physical integrity of the place as a whole. As such, management is under the Pueblo's governing body that includes the Tribal Council. Specifically, the Governor's Office is responsible for the day-to-day management and protection of the property. The cultural importance of the village and structures and their use for such purposes obligates the people and its governing body to ensure proper management.

Although the property is under the direct management of the Pueblo governing body, its protection is supported by its status as a National Historic Landmark and as a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places with protective measures outlined by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Any federal undertakings that may affect or impact the property must be carefully considered, and the federal agencies must consult with the Pueblo, before initiating any such action.

Taos Pueblo is also supported in the protection of its property through its inscription on the World Heritage List at the 16th session of the World Heritage Committee when the Committee took note of the agreement between the U.S. Government and Taos Pueblo Tribal Council on interpretation of the United States' trust responsibility for the protection of the Taos Pueblo as a World Heritage site. This responsibility includes appropriate legal, moral, and financial support necessary to assure respect for, and the protection of those cultural traditions, natural resources, and practices which the Pueblo's leadership considers sacred and necessary for the continuity of the community.

The Committee also took note, in this regard, of the additional agreement between the U.S. and Taos Pueblo on the latter's status as a self-governed community, and that any action undertaken by the United States in carrying out its trust responsibility for the protection and preservation of the Pueblo be conducted in a manner that involves the full knowledge, participation, and prior approval of the Pueblo's duly elected leadership.

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

Other

Please describe

Management and administration of the property is vested at the highest government and cultural authority at Taos Pueblo, a self-governing Indian community that is responsible for its people, lands, and its natural and cultural resources.

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?

The legal status of Taos Pueblo property falls under the ownership of the Pueblo itself. The Pueblo holds the status of limited-sovereign nation within the boundaries of the United States. As such, the larger Pueblo lands are composed of Spanish land grants (recognized by the U.S. government), trust lands (held by the United States government in trust for the tribe), and fee-simple lands owned and controlled directly by the Pueblo. The World Heritage Site of Taos Pueblo is part of the original Spanish Land Grant (within the Pueblo's aboriginal lands) which is held in trust by the U.S. government for the benefit of the Pueblo.

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: Taos Pueblo Governor's Office
First Name:
Last Name:
Address: Taos Pueblo, 120 Veterans Highway, Post Office Box 1846
City: Taos
State/Prov: New Mexico/USA
Postal Code: 87571
Telephone: (505) 758-9593 (Office of the Governor)
Fax: (505) 758-4604
Email: governor@taospueblo.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 important aspect for the protection and management of the cultural and natural resources of Taos Pueblo, that includes the World Heritage Site, is the unwritten laws and restrictions that have long been practiced to maintain Taos Pueblo culture and traditions. The success of these unwritten laws and restrictions is evident in what Taos Pueblo is today, a community with a culture that has changed very little over the centuries.

The structures within the walled village in the heart of the Pueblo are the most obvious tangible evidence of the preservation and protection of the community and its culture, in the face of centuries of contact with European-Americans and resulting changes in the economy and ecology of the Taos Valley. Of Pueblo Indian communities in the United States, Taos is among those most vigilant and successful in maintaining a social structure and belief system that set them apart from European-Americans, as well as distinctive architectural traditions. Within the walled areas, the Pueblo has long maintained controls designed to protect the community's traditions. In this area, the community allows neither electrical power lines nor piped-in running water.

The ordinance of Taos Pueblo Council governing the installation of electric service on Taos Pueblo lands demonstrates a continuing commitment to protection of the cultural and religious heritage of the Pueblo. Under this ordinance, no construction or installation of electrical facilities is permitted within the walled village area and a restricted zone around the village. In other parts of Pueblo lands, the ordinance requires that power lines be installed underground. The ordinance clearly states that this restriction is designed for the preservation of the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the Pueblo, and to give special protection to areas related to certain traditional activities. In 1975-76, this ordinance was challenged in a case before the United States District Court in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and upheld.

Taos Pueblo has been recognized by the U.S. Federal government as a National Historic Landmark since 1960. It is also listed in the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. Under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, its historic and cultural significance must therefore be carefully considered by any Federal agency involved in undertakings that affect the Pueblo. That act requires that if a Federal undertaking could adversely affect a National Historic Landmark, the responsible Federal agency must, to the maximum extent possible, undertake planning and other actions necessary to minimize harm to the Landmark. When a Federal agency is involved in an undertaking that might have an effect adverse or not, on a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places, that agency must also consult with the affected Indian tribe or Pueblo, take into account the historical or cultural values of the property, and afford a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking to a Federal body known as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The Act thus affords a significant degree of protection from Federal activities. At the same time, National Register and National Historic Landmark status are completely compatible with the self-governing nature of the Pueblo.

The U.S. National Park Service monitors the condition of National Historic Landmarks through periodic inspections. By law, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior must prepare an annual report to the U.S. Congress on endangered National Historic Landmarks. Landmark status is designed to encourage preservation of Landmark properties by their owners and to increase public awareness of the importance of Landmarks

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.

Governmental administration is composed of the Governor's Office and its ten appointed officials, the War Chief's Office and its 12 appointed officials, and the Tribal Council of over fifty cultural leaders and former tribal officials. The Governor and War Chief's Office staffs are appointed for one-year terms and Tribal Council membership is for life. The Taos Pueblo proper is under the jurisdiction of the Pueblo Governor's Office, and all decisions pertaining to the World Heritage Site as part of Pueblo fall under the Governor's office and the Tribal Council. The protection of tribal lands around the Site, and other Pueblo lands is the responsibility of the Taos Pueblo War Chief's Office, who traditionally has the responsibility for the physical protection of Taos Pueblo, its lands, resources and people. Individual and family property owners maintain the historic structures on a yearly basis, as is customary. The tribal government has overall responsibility to maintain historic and customary standards, but individuals are responsible for the maintenance of individual homes. Through Housing and Urban Development grants and other sources of funds, the tribal government assists in repair and rehabilitation work.

Tribal funds are also used to assist individual home owners in the repair and/or replacement of structural elements while maintaining the cultural and historic character of the property. Traditionally, the general upkeep of the structures would be scheduled by the Pueblo governor through organizing of communal work to maintain structures. This traditional system evolved into the hiring of tribal member work crews to work on structures. Because of the cultural significance of the structures it is also traditional that only tribal members can do the rehabilitation work.

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.

There have been no changes in ownership, legal status, or management. Taos Pueblo has developed a tourism program to help the Governor's Office protect the integrity of the cultural and historic character of the Pueblo. This program was upgraded and formalized from earlier efforts (federal grants for tourism developments in the 1980s) in 1999 and falls under the jurisdiction of the Governor's Office. Visitors are now more controlled with guided tours and by indicating areas that are off limits for visitation to maintain the integrity of the Pueblo and the World Heritage Site.

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

NO, there is no written plan, but see 4h2 below.

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)

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

Taos Pueblo has maintained unwritten traditions since time immemorial, and the management of its property, which now has a World Heritage Site designation, falls under those unwritten traditions and practices that have protected Taos Pueblo for centuries. There are plans to develop a written management plan for Taos Pueblo as a World Heritage Site and this plan will be developed with technical assistance from the National Park Service.

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.)

General maintenance of structures (\$30,000 USD/year; more is required if structures need major work.); support of traditional activities (\$15,000 /year); in-kind efforts by individual Pueblo members (minimum of 100 community members/day for community clean up - four times a year); and community contributions for the general upkeep and maintenance of the structures. Tourism program for the Pueblo (\$80,000.00 for staff, traffic and facility monitors, tour guides, and facilities.)

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 Pueblo has received significant but one-time funding from the Federal government for preservation and stabilization of historic Pueblo buildings. In addition, funds from private sources have been raised in the past. Currently, there are no private sources of funding to support this activity.

There has been some work for specific purposes and projects. For example, limited studies of vibration to measure effects on structures by local traffic or aircraft noise have been done.

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

Full Time: 10 (Value must be a number)
Part Time: (Value must be a number)
Seasonal: 12 (Value must be a number)
Other: (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.

Governor and staff of 10 (Implement decisions)
Pueblo councilmen (major decision makers)
Tourism director (Directs tourism program under Governor's Office.)
Tourism coordinator (tour group and visitor coordination)
Tour guides (provides tours to the visiting public)
Seasonal employees (to monitor traffic and parking and guide the visiting public into public areas)

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.)

Taos Pueblo's fame attracts large number of tourists; approximately 180,000 visit annually. The Tourism Program registers visitors and visitation numbers are derived from that data and the Taos County Chamber of Commerce. Visitations have decreased since September 11, 2001.

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

There are a number of tribal member-owned arts and crafts shops; individual vendors (tribal members) provide limited food items; the tourism office serves as a registration, fee collection and information facility; public restroom facilities are provided for the visiting public.

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

YES

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

Under a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) the tourism program was developed and the scope of work and other information is on file in the Central Management System office. (That grant is no longer in existence.) As part of the implementation of that grant the tourism office has put up signage for visitors, arranges and provides guided tours, develops brochures and website information, directs and monitors parking, provides visitor control, and registers visitors and collects visitor fees. Tourism and staff were previously supported through grants, but are now paid through tourism revenue. The Tourism office website, taospueblo.com, provides details about the program.

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.)

1. Ethnographic Study completed in 1999 in preparation for airport expansion (Prepared in conjunction with the federal compliance process for the airport project proposed by the municipality of Taos).
2. Cursory noise analysis (prepared to review FAA noise analysis)
3. Air Quality by Los Alamos Labs (1990s, in response to concerns for any radioactive emission from Los Alamos).
4. Blue Lake study in the 1960's to document Taos Pueblos aboriginal presence (Myra Ellen Jenkins, principal investigator).
5. Water rights (deep ground water studies).
6. Hydrographic survey (1997).

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

All of these studies are used to aid the Pueblo in protection of the environment, cultural and natural resources, and the living culture of the Taos Pueblo people.

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?

Changes, new activities, and plans are undertaken or proposed, from time to time within and off Taos Pueblo lands, that may potentially affect and impact Taos Pueblo's cultural sites, of which the living Pueblo, that is a World Heritage Site, is the core site where, and from which all cultural activities are conducted. The value of the Pueblo has been recognized through the World Heritage Site designation and this has been extremely important for the Pueblo's endeavors to protect and preserves the site and the cultural activities and practices, its unique structures, features, and qualities that make Taos Pueblo a World Heritage Site. (See section on Development Pressures, 5-a for further information.)

The ethnographic study was designed to help assess the effects of airport expansion on the living culture of Taos Pueblo for which it is recognized as a World Heritage Site.

The Noise Analysis was conducted as a result of the need to assess the impacts from the proposed airport expansion on the WHS.

Education, Information and Awareness Building

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

YES, there is a plaque in the Governor's Office.

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

The promotional and visitor brochures have the WHS logo on the front.

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

NO

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

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

YES, there are a number of events, some open to the public, that expound the Pueblo's value as a cultural, and as a World Heritage Site.

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

These are ceremonial, cultural and religious occasions and events that are open to the public:

January 1: Turtle Dance
January 6: Deer or Buffalo Dance
January: Winter social and ceremonial dances
May 3: Santa Cruz Dance (Spring corn dance and traditional foot race)
June 13: San Antonio Feast Corn Dance (summer corn dance)
June 24: San Juan Day Corn Dance (summer corn dance)
July, second weekend: Annual Taos Pueblo Pow Wow
July 25: Santiago Day Corn Dance (summer corn dance)
July 26: Santa Ana Day Corn Dance (summer corn dance)
September 29: San Geronimo Eve Vespers and dances
September 30: San Geronimo, traditional footrace and ceremonial Pole Climbing
December 24: Procession of the Virgin with bonfires
December 25: Deer ot Matachines Dance

The source for the above list of ceremonies is the Taos Pueblo Calendar of Events at www.taospueblo.com

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.

The Taos Pueblo Tourism office provides guided tours and general information for visiting public. Brochures and self-guided tour information are provided. Individually-owner shops provide visitors some limited access to interior of buildings.

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?

Tourism employees provide educational information on the Pueblo and its status as a World Heritage Site.

Promotional brochures for the Pueblo have the WHS logo on the front.

The Pueblo website provides information on the Pueblo (Taospueblo.com).

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.

*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.

From time to time changes, new activities and plans are proposed within and off Taos Pueblo lands that may potentially affect and impact Taos Pueblo's cultural sites, of which the living Pueblo that is a World Heritage Site is the core site where, and from which all cultural activities are conducted. Because of its aboriginal presence since time immemorial all the Pueblo's lands, and those that are no longer under Pueblo ownership, are of continuing cultural importance and significance. The Pueblo, the land, the people, and the cultural activities and practices are integral and are inseparable. The efforts of the Pueblo therefore are to protect the Pueblo, the land, the people and the cultural activities and practices, whenever changes and new activities that may affect and impact this integral relationship are planned. The Pueblo's sphere of cultural interest extends in all directions, including into the sky and into the earth. Because of the Pueblo's ages-old existence that is visible through its unique structures, features, and qualities it has received recognition as a World Heritage Site. The value of the Pueblo has been recognized through the World

Heritage Site designation and this has been extremely important when the Pueblo's endeavors to protect and preserves the site and the cultural activities and practices, its unique structures, features, and qualities that make Taos Pueblo what it has been, what it is and what it will continue to be.

Following are some development pressures and proposed undertakings that the Pueblo views as having potential to negatively affect or impact Taos Pueblo and its cultural interests, and Pueblo efforts to minimize or mitigate impacts:

1. Town of Taos:

The Taos Pueblo World Heritage Site is located near the municipality of Taos, New Mexico that is situated within the original Taos Pueblo land grant. This town has grown over the years and this growth has placed the pressures of modernization on the Pueblo.

2. Airport Expansion:

The town of Taos, with the involvement of the Federal Aviation Administration, plans an expansion of the existing Taos Regional Airport. The proposed expansion poses potential significant effect and impact to Taos Pueblo and its traditional cultural properties (identified in a 1999 ethnographic study) and activities, and as a World Heritage Site. As a result, due in large part, of Pueblo objections to the proposed expansion an Environmental Impact Statement process was began by FAA and is currently underway. In order to ensure the protection of the Pueblo's interests through direct participation in the proposed project the Pueblo joined the EIS process as a "Cooperating Agency", along with the National Park Service. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has recently conceded (April 13, 2004) that impacts to the Pueblo resulting from the airport expansion will be negative. The Pueblo has sought additional independent studies to define a baseline of information related to the natural sound levels of the Pueblo in order to more fully ensure that any mitigation measure undertaken by the Pueblo, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Federal Aviation Administration will protect the Pueblo's cultural and community interest. Such baseline information will also be needed now to prepare for any assessment of future threats to the integrity of the World Heritage Site and to the living culture of the Pueblo.

The following activities and studies have been done, or are in process as part of the EIS:

Ethnographic Study:

An ethnographic study was funded by FAA and designed by the Pueblo to add additional information on the importance of the living culture of Taos Pueblo and how it may be impacted by the proposed airport expansion.

Noise Analysis:

A Noise Analysis was conducted by FAA to assess impacts from the proposed airport expansion on the Pueblo as a World Heritage Site. This was a very limited study designed and conducted without Pueblo knowledge or involvement. The Pueblo, and also NPS, took issue with the Noise Analysis results because of the limited and cursory nature of study. The Pueblo has repeatedly asked FAA for funding to get its own technical analysis done of the study to help determine what additional work should be done to ensure the Pueblo's interests as described in the first paragraph of this section, and as a World Heritage Site, are protected. FAA has not provided funding for an

assessment of the Noise Analysis or for additional studies, but it has recently committed to provide funding for the Pueblo to hire a professional consultant to assist the Pueblo in technical aspects of the EIS process. The National Park Service conducted its own study to assess the FAA Analysis and invited the Pueblo to identify sites at, and around the Pueblo to collect noise data. As a result of its study NPS agreed with the Pueblo that the FAA Noise Analysis was not comprehensive enough to meet the Pueblo's concerns.

3. Aircraft overflights:

The Pueblo has been involved with efforts over the years, in some cases successfully, to protect the Pueblo and its natural and cultural resources from aircraft overflights, some that have resulted in crashes on Pueblo lands, and some that could potentially cause harm to these resources from spilled or dumped aircraft fuel.

4. Communication Towers:

In the past several years, initiatives for improve communications have led to erection of, and other planned placements of transmission towers. Some of these towers, although not on Pueblo land, are of a height and location to create negative effects and impacts on the cultural practices and cultural landscape important to the Pueblo. There are other towers, including on or adjacent to Pueblo land, that do not create similar effect and impact because of their limited height or location. A tower owned by the Pueblo was carefully situated in a less culturally sensitive area to avoid undesirable effects. Negotiations have been ongoing with the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) to have responsible parties relocate a particularly intrusive tower that was built on Taos County land near the Pueblo without prior consultation with the Pueblo or the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, to another less sensitive location. The Pueblo is trying to consult with a cell phone company and the FCC on other proposed towers. The Pueblo is making efforts to find non-intrusive locations and to determine a mutually suitable height for other proposed towers or antennae locations, and for other future structures in the vicinity to avoid similar effects and impacts. (A copy of the Pueblo's letter to FCC of July 30, 2004 is attached and incorporated by reference.)

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.

Fire:

Severe and long-term drought conditions increase the threat of forest fires in the forests that surrounds the WHS.

Air quality:

Due to heavy automobile traffic on local dirt roads air quality will continue to deteriorate. Past studies have showed lingering lead contamination from local vehicles.

Drought:

A regional lingering drought has affected the Pueblo. The village stream flow has significantly diminished. In 2002, for the first time in the Pueblo's history, the local stream - Taahtah bahnah - (Rio Pueblo) dried up completely due to irrigation uses of the limited water supply upstream.

Emergency response:

Response to natural and man-caused disasters needs coordination to ensure protection of the people, resources and the Pueblo.

Forest:

Tree parasites have infected surrounding forests and poses threat of forest fires.

Flooding:

The Encebado fire in 2003 burned over 5,000 acres in the forest southeast of the Pueblo/WHS. Since then rains cause heavier than normal run-off and has caused flooding in the areas south and east of the Pueblo and continues to pose a threat of stream overflow in the Pueblo/WHS area if heavier rains and run-off occur.

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.)

Fire:

Encebado Fire (4 July 2003): There was a lightning-caused forest fire, aggravated by drought conditions. The fire got within about a quarter mile from WHS boundaries. A fire management plan is already in place as part of the Forestry program for the Blue Lake Wilderness area. Efforts are underway to reinforce the river banks to hinder erosion. Heliports previously established aided in the fighting of this fire and improvements will help in future fires. The Pueblo also has three trained crews of fire fighters. The War Chief staff, Wilderness Protection Program Rangers and BIA Forestry crews conduct daily patrols to spot fires. The forest area adjacent to the WHS is designated as the Blue Lake Wilderness area, under the Blue Lake Act, which returned Blue Lake to the Pueblo in 1970. A federally-funded Blue Lake Wilderness Protection program is in place to protect the Wilderness area that has special cultural restrictions.

Air quality:

A Roads Department has been upgraded to develop plans and obtain resources to improve roads and find ways to mitigate the dust problem.

Drought:

A drought-contingency plan is currently underway that identifies drought response and mitigation actions.

Emergency Response:

An emergency response plan is in place that identifies processes and procedures, in the event of emergency incidents, to protect the Pueblo and local environment.

Forest Protection:

A forest management plan has recently been implemented.

Flooding:

Plans are underway to build up and reinforce the banks using rock and dirt as had been done in the past. Funding to do the work has been secured through federal fire rehabilitation assistance.

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.*

1. Visitor vehicles are no longer allowed in the main Pueblo area to reduce the potential of pollution and any damage to the historic structures.

2. There are periodic closures of the Pueblo to the public to preserve the traditional way of life of Taos.

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.

Full time residents number approximately 200 individuals that live within the boundaries of the WHS on any given day. This number can increase up to 1,500 + people on days for special occasions (feast days, ceremonials, etc.) that occur the year round. During some of these occasions, as many as 5,000 people visit the Pueblo on a temporary basis.

Local Pow Wows, though not held within the WHS, contribute substantially to the increase in visitation.

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.

YES

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.

Since the Pueblo operates under a traditional unwritten system the Governor's Office overall responsibility for the Pueblo is unwritten but "formal" and that responsibility includes daily observations and periodic inspections of the Pueblo/WHS.

The fact that Taos Pueblo is a WHS based on its living culture means that the residents of the Pueblo take an active role in monitoring the condition of the site.

The Tourism office also provides active monitoring of visitors and any impacts to the site based on visitation.

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.

Indicators will be developed, with technical assistance from the National Park Service, as part of the management plan.

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.)

"For many years, efforts have been underway to expand the Taos Municipal Airport. At the request of the World Heritage Committee, the United States reported at several Committee sessions on the environmental review process conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in 1994-96. At the time, the Committee expressed its concern regarding the potential harmful impact of the airport expansion and proposed flight routes to the World Heritage values and the living traditions of the Pueblo de Taos. Due to a lack of funding, the airport expansion project was placed in abeyance for several years in the late 1990s, but has recently started anew. Since the resumption of work on the FAA's environmental impact review, the National Park Service has been working directly with the Taos Pueblo tribal government and both are recognized as official participants in the environmental review process. The Pueblo and the National Park Service continue to seek the proper level and type of information necessary to assess impacts and design mitigation measures.

In April of 2004, the FAA met with Taos Pueblo representatives to provide a summary of the findings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the effects of the airport expansion project. At that time, the FAA announced that the draft EIS would state that there is a 'finding of adverse effect' to the World Heritage Site under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The FAA officials announced that the draft EIS would be published and distributed during the summer or early fall months of the 2004 and that a six-month comment period would follow this publication. Taos Pueblo has expressed, as they have consistently expressed, the need for an independent noise analysis from aircraft overflights resulting from the airport expansion in order to provide a complete set of comments on any draft EIS analysis produced by the FAA. The United States will continue to report to the Committee, as appropriate, on major new developments regarding the airport project.

Regarding the Encebado fire, for which the World Heritage Centre requested information, the water contamination resulting from the 2003 fire has resulted in new programs for planning for such occurrences. Visual impacts have also resulted from this fire. Revegetation programs have been developed in response. The fire posed a direct threat to the World Heritage Site due to its proximity to the Pueblo proper (please see the response to 5(c) for an explanation of actions underway to minimize any future harm from fires and other natural disasters)."

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).

The physical state of the Pueblo (historic buildings): Preservation efforts continue to maintain historic, structural and cultural integrity.

The living culture of the WHS is considered by the Pueblo as extremely important. It is considered a cultural obligation to maintain the traditional values and way of life of the Pueblo people; efforts to maintain traditional cultural values and practices are done not to comply with any outside standards or imposed regulations. The state of the living culture depends on the efforts of the members of the living community. The goals of the community in this regard are compatible with the WHS goals.

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 management of the property is under the responsibility of tribal government that has been in existence for hundreds of years. The government intends to continue in its responsibility to manage this property in a respectful manner, with regard to traditions and culture.

Limited resources are factors in the management and preservation of this site.

An example of the successful management of the site is the effort to reroute military aircraft to avoid the Pueblo. Also, refueling of military aircraft was rerouted to avoid the Pueblo.

The Pueblo government remains committed to management of the property consistent with the traditional values of the community and continues to address issues that effect the integrity of the site.

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.*

Taos Pueblo plans to begin a management plan process in FY2005, with technical assistance from the National Park Service. This plan will guide future efforts to preserve the WHS consistent with Pueblo traditional value.

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.

Responsible Implementing Agency #1

Entity Taos Pueblo Governor and Council
First Name: John A.
Last Name: Mirabal
Address: P.O. 1846
City: Taos
State/Prov: New Mexico
Postal Code: 87571
Telephone: (505) 758-9593
Fax: (505) 758-4604
Email: governor@taospueblo

Responsible Implementing Agency #2

Entity National Park Service
First Name:
Last Name:
Address: 12795 West Alameda Parkway
City: Denver
State/Prov: CO
Postal Code: 80228
Telephone: (303) 969-2500
Fax:
Email:

Timeframe for Implementation

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

2007 - Management plan implementation

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?*

YES

The Taos Pueblo, as an independent and sovereign nation within the boundaries of the United States, is not part of the federal agency structures charged with management of historic sites and natural resources. As such, the Pueblo may require the assistance of the International fund for future actions or projects. The nature of the funding will address the need to maintain the historic structures of the Pueblo. The timing of the request will depend on Pueblo plans for the rehabilitation and preservation of the site.

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
- X 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.

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

NO

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.