

# IRAN

## Persepolis

### II.1 Introduction

**Year of Inscription** 1979

#### Organisation Responsible for the Report

- Parse-Pasargad Research Foundation (PPRF)  
Takht-e-Jamshid (Persepolis) Historical Site  
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### II.2 Statement of Significance

**Inscription Criteria** C i, iii, iv

#### Statement of Significance

- Proposed as follows:  
"The cultural and historical Complex of Perspolis is a unique remains of the Achaemenid Empire [...] Style and taste of Achaemenid art is obvious in full detail. The variety of patterns and scenes in the reliefs proved the fact that Achaemenid art is a mixture of other styles of art in ancient world, which are put together in an Iranian spirit. As the Achaemenid Empire ruled on many parts of the world, one can find imitations of Assyrian, Egyptian and Babylonian Art in the reliefs."
- A re-nomination is proposed to extend the site boundaries and enclose the entire plain of Marvdasht including Rahmat Mountain, Majd Abbad quarries and other historic structures.

*"A re-nomination is proposed to extend the site boundaries to enclose the entire plain of Marvdasht including Rahmat Mountain, Majd Abbad quarries and other historic structures."*

#### Status of Site Boundaries

- Borders and buffer zone of the inscribed property are considered adequate.
- However, in view of the proposal an extension of the buffer zones is under discussion.

### II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity

#### Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- World Heritage value is considered to have been maintained. No changes are foreseen.



### II.4 Management

#### Administrative and Management Arrangements

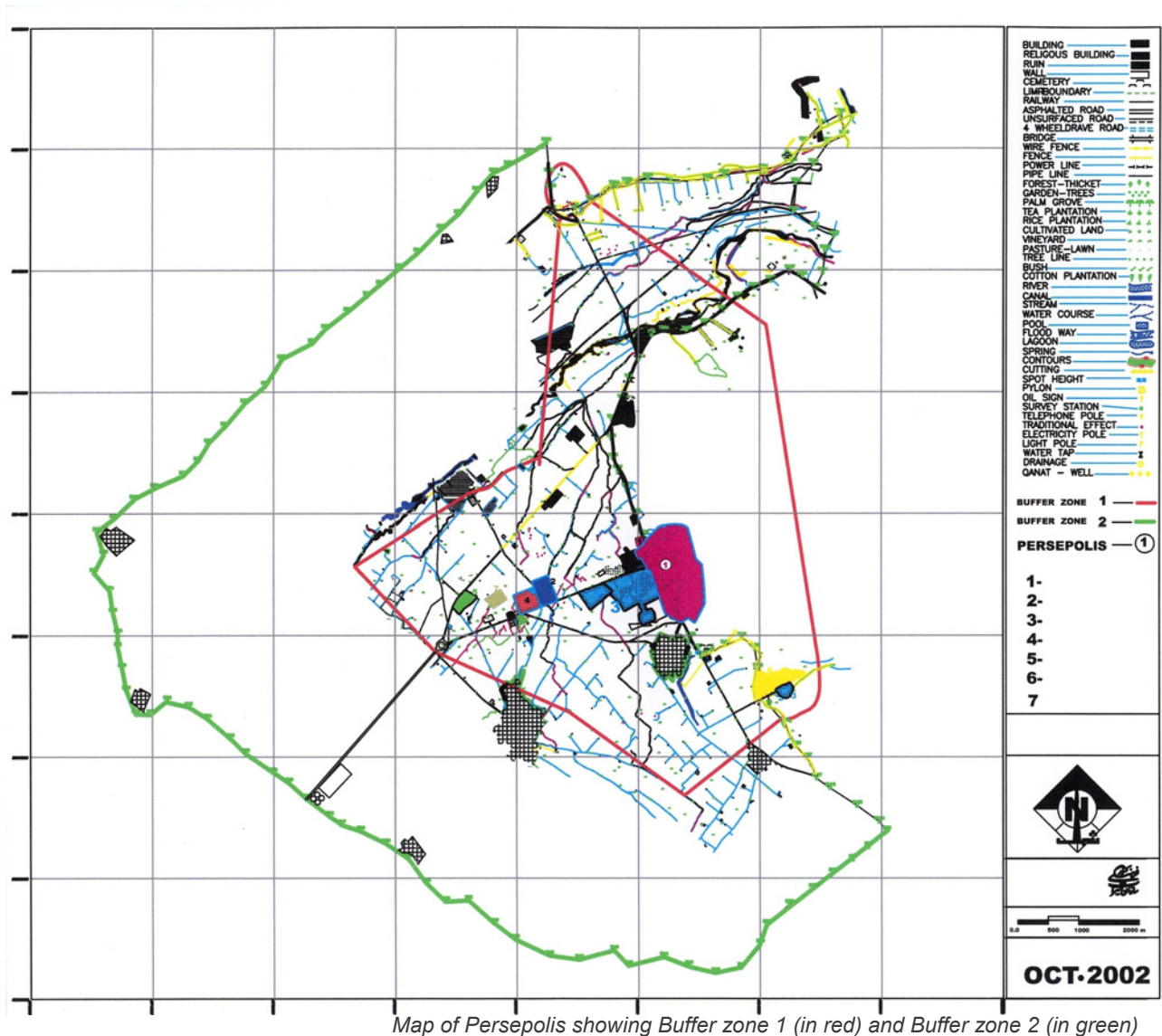
- Relevant national laws and regulations concerning the WH property include: (i) the Law on the Protection of National Treasures, 1930; (ii) the Law on the Registration of National Treasures, 1973; (iii) the Legal Regulation about illegal excavations, 1979; and (iv) Regulations for Boundaries and Buffer Zones of the Perspolis Site.
- PPRF is managed by a committee consisting of its Director, two senior officials from ICHO and the Director of Fars Province Cultural Heritage Office.
- PPRF recommends the formation of an autonomous foundation to manage the Marvdasht Plain.
- A management plan covering identification of borders, buffer zones, land ownership, conservation priorities and timetabled management interventions has recently been introduced.

#### Present State of Conservation

- Since 1979, national experts have undertaken research and conservation works. However, documentation on their interventions is incomplete.
- PPRF was established in 2001 with a broad remit covering documentation, recording, evaluation of restorations, visitor management and boundaries & buffer zones improvement.

#### Staffing and Training Needs

- There are 39 professional staff and 43 craftsmen, support staff and guards.
- Staffing levels are considered inadequate and a need to recruit more young qualified staff is identified.
- General exposure to international standards is a priority.



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## Financial Situation

- The National Treasury allocated US\$250,000 to the site and its environs in 2001-02. The Provincial Treasury allocates around US\$50,000 per annum for running expenses. Admission fees are paid to the National Treasury and approx 25% is returned to ICHO (approx US\$37,500 in 2001-02).
- Funding is considered inadequate.
- \* International Assistance from WHF as follows: (i) 1998, US\$15,000 Training Assistance, Stone Conservation; (ii) 2001, US\$20,000 Training Assistance; National monitoring seminar (iii) 2002, US\$12,000 Promotional Assistance, Publication.

## Access to IT

- There are 5 PCs on the site.
- There is no email or Internet access.
- GIS is used by the PPRF with the following software: MicroStation and Autocad.

## Visitor Management

- 461,839 people visited the site in 2001-02.
- There are guides, publications, information boards and a sound and light show for tourists.
- There is a need to improve the standard of guides and introduce an electronic guiding system.
- The visitor management plan details opening hours and admission fees for visitors.

## II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

### Threats and Risks

- Principal threats are identified as the growth of Marvdasht town, new village developments and the arrival of polluting industries.
- "Controlling the borders and boundaries of the property against agricultural, industrial and constructional development is the great problem of the site".
- These threats are considered to be increasing.

### Counteractive Plans

- There is no emergency plan, but a mechanism exists for emergency decision-making. PPRF has set up a research bureau in the site for this purpose.
- The need for more effective research and evaluation of threats is recognised.

### II.6 Monitoring

#### Monitoring Arrangements

- With support of the Iranian Meteorology Organization and the Iranian Environment Organization, PPRF conducts site monitoring and reports to ICHO.
- A daily, monthly and annual monitoring regime is being developed by PPRF to replace the obsolete monitoring system.

#### Monitoring Indicators

- There are currently no indicators. However, "PPRF is intending to do and use comprehensive documentation [concerning the] present status of the site and aerial/ground photogrammetry as indicators for monitoring."
- The need to develop indicators of environmental pollution and weathering is proposed.

### II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

#### Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- "Establishing the Parse-Pasargad Research Foundation is the focal point of changes in improving the situation of the site:"
- Extension of the property to cover the Marvdasht plain is seen as a priority.
- PPRF is developing its plan and programme to include increasing collaboration in research, improving documentation, emergency conservation needs, site presentation, equipping laboratories, providing electronic communication mediums and encouraging public co-operation in site conservation. "The deadline for this task is October 2003."
- Assistance from the WHF may be needed for research, equipment and conservation work.



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*Treasury of the Palace after rainfall*

### \* State of Conservation Reports

No State of Conservation Reports have been submitted to the Committee/Bureau.

A 1995 ICHO/ICCROM Mission noted the technical capacity of conservators on site, the need to improve information and signage for visitors, and the desirability of extending the property.