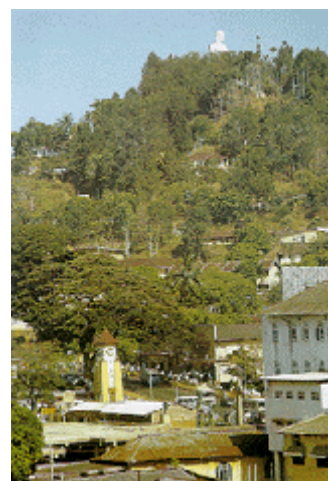


SRI LANKA

Sacred City of Kandy

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II.1 Introduction

Year of Inscription 1988

Organisation Responsible for the Report

- Archaeological Survey Department (ASD)
Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha
Colombo, and
- Central Cultural Fund (CCF)
212/1 Baudhaloka Mawatha
Colombo
Sri Lanka

II.2 Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria C iv, vi

Statement of Significance

- Proposed as follows:
“Kandy became the capital of the kingdom in 1592 during a troubled time when many of the islanders were fleeing to the interior. [...] The city remained one of the bastions of Sinhalese independence until the British troops entered it on 14 February 1815. It was the last seat of royal power. It remains the religious capital of Buddhism and a sacred city for millions of believers. Enshrined in the Dalada Maligawa is the relic of the tooth of Buddha, which has long been greatly venerated. [...] Kandy does not possess the monumental wealth of the first two capitals of the island, Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa. [...] The monumental zone includes, on the northern shores of the lake, the remains of the Royal Palace with the great Audience Hall, the Temple of the Tooth, the Palace of Sri Wickrama, the Queen’s apartments and bathing house, the Palle Wahala, the Ran Ayuda Maduwa. Three other monumental groups (Dewala, Malwatte Vihara and Asgiriya Vihara) are the final elements of this important complex.”

“Authenticity and integrity are considered to have been enhanced under the Cultural Triangle initiative.”

Status of Site Boundaries

- The borders and buffer zone of the property are not considered adequate because they fail to reflect the extent of the historic royal city and its relationship to the landscape.
- A redefinition of the site boundaries and buffer zones will be formally submitted to the Committee.

II.3 Statement of Authenticity / Integrity

Status of Authenticity/ Integrity

- World Heritage value is considered to have been maintained.
- Authenticity and integrity considered to have been enhanced under the Cultural Triangle initiative.

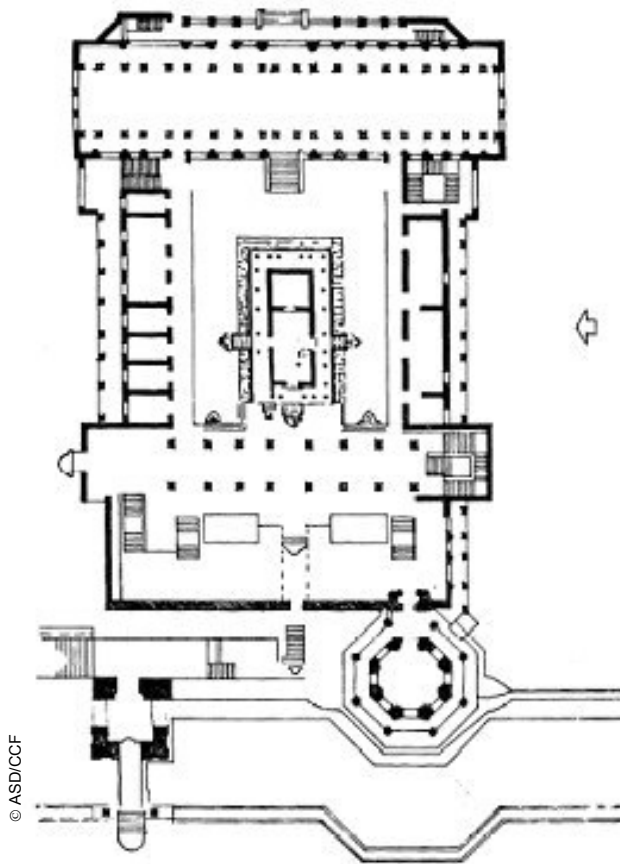
II.4 Management

Administrative and Management Arrangements

- The World Heritage Site is managed from the site offices of ASD and CCF. The Urban Development Authority and municipal council control development activities. The religious sites are managed by their respective institutions. These stakeholders also form the World Heritage Committee of Kandy, which oversees and plans development in the historic city.
- A separate National Council is proposed, on enactment of the Heritage Foundation Act, that would bring all the stakeholders into one management body.
- Under the Cultural Triangle Project there has been a management plan since 1982 focussed principally on conservation of the World Heritage Site.

Present State of Conservation

- Since inscription the key structures of the property have been conserved, and many secular buildings have been assigned more appropriate new uses.
- Serious damage was caused to the Temple of the Tooth by a terrorist bomb blast in 1998. The Temple has been fully restored and new archaeological evidence was uncovered.
- Zoning, development control and building guidelines have enhanced the integrity of the buffer zones and surrounding historic city.



Plan of the Tooth Relic Temple in Kandy

Staffing and Training Needs

- ASD has an Assistant Director and technical team on site. CCF has a Project Manager and technical team as well as painting and artefact conservators, draughtsmen, and photographers. The University of Moratuwa provides architectural services
- Staffing levels are considered inadequate. A qualified maintenance team is desirable, and staff to control unauthorised construction during holiday periods.
- Professional training needs include: IT for archaeologists and conservators, archaeological and painting conservation, architectural conservation and urban heritage management.

Financial Situation

- ASD receives funds directly from the Central Government. CCF is funded through admission charges. The Temple of the Tooth receives donations, and the municipal council makes an allocation from its revenue. No figures supplied.
- The property has benefited from the UNESCO International Safeguarding Campaign, WFP, and the governments of the UK, Russia, Norway, Italy and Japan.

- * International Assistance from WHF as follows: (i) 1989, US\$33,500 Training Assistance, Cultural Triangle; (ii) 1989, US\$25,500 Technical Assistance, Cultural Triangle; (iii) 1998, US\$25,000 Technical Assistance, Restoration after bomb attacks; (iv) 1998, US\$5,000 Promotional Assistance, On site information.

Access to IT

- 11 PCs in use, shared between the 5 authorities.
- There is Internet and e-mail access.

Visitor Management

- No visitor statistics available.
- Comprehensive tourist facilities commensurate with city centre location.
- Need for an interpretation centre is identified.
- A visitor management plan is needed to optimise visitors' experience of the site.
- Inscription has significantly boosted international visitor numbers.

II.5 Factors Affecting the Property

Threats and Risks

- Rural migration from is changing the nature of the historic centre, leading to neglect of old buildings and pressure to construct high-rise buildings. Traditional streets do not have the capacity for modern traffic. Hillsides around the city are being developed.
- "New structures disrupt the traditional scale of the historic built environment and threaten to overwhelm the sacred buildings".
- Intangible heritage (music, dance, and crafts) is becoming a tourism service.
- These threats are considered to be increasing.

Counteractive Plans

- The Greater Kandy Master Plan has been drafted to address urbanisation pressures.
- The World Heritage Committee of Kandy will implement controls on infill development.
- The emergency plan is focused on fire protection for the Temple of the Tooth. A computerised CCTV system is under consideration.

II.6 Monitoring

Monitoring Arrangements

- The monitoring regime consists of monthly meetings of the Kandy World Heritage Committee, and regular site visits by stakeholders.
- A new computerised monitoring system is being planned with the help of Norway.

Monitoring Indicators

- Current indicators refer to photographic recording and regular site inspections.
- Indicators are proposed based on the identified threats: (i) assessment of changes to historic building by photographic survey; (ii) rate of violation of building codes by new buildings; (iii) proportion of traditional materials used in restorations and new constructions; (iv) survey of impact of traffic in the historic core; (v) video recording of intangible heritage to monitor authenticity.

II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- The establishment of a Heritage Foundation to takeover management of the site. This could be achieved within two years.
- Legal protection to be strengthened to prevent damage by residents.
- GIS and IT systems, and an interpretation centre to be provided.
- A public awareness programme to be developed.
- Assistance from the WHF may be needed for equipment and for GIS as well as for architectural and mural painting conservation training.

* State of Conservation Reports

The authorities reported the 17 recommendations of the 1998 ICOMOS mission, which were reported to the Bureau in 1999.

1998 WHC-98/CONF.201/3B The Bureau decided to examine the ICOMOS report at its next session.

1999 WHC-99/CONF.204/5 The Bureau received the ICOMOS report stating that the restoration of the Temple of the Tooth after the bomb attack was progressing steadily. 17 recommendations were made covering a) the need to consult stakeholders before implementation of the Master Plan, b) the need to improve traffic management, c) better information dissemination about development guidelines and d) the need to redefine the core and buffer zone. The Bureau recommended the authorities to consider the extension, requested a report on the restoration of the Temple of the Tooth for 1999, and a report on the management of Kandy, Dambulla and Galle for 2000.