

WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION PROCESS TIMELINE

2006. Federal Register notice seeking nominations for a new U.S. World Heritage Tentative List. Virginia Nicholas, San Antonio Conservation Society president, suggests San Antonio nominate its Spanish Missions. She and Susan Chandoha, Executive Director of Los Comadres ask Dr. Paul T. Ringenbach if he would volunteer to write the nomination. He agreed

2006. Ringenbach, Nicholas (now Chair of the Bexar County Historical Commission), Chandoha, Dr. Felix Almaraz (UTSA), Paula Piper (San Antonio Conservation Society) and Susan Snow (San Antonio Missions National Historical Park) formed a working committee to prepare a nomination for the Tentative List.

December 2006. Piper, Nicholas and Chandoha begin gathering letters of agreement and support from property owners and stakeholders.

Summer 2007. The San Antonio Franciscan Missions (Title later shortened to San Antonio Missions) nomination for the new U.S. World Heritage Tentative List submitted to the Office of International Affairs, National Park Service.

January 2008. Secretary of the Interior announces that of the 37 sites nominated, 14 have been selected for the U.S. Tentative List. The San Antonio Missions was one of the 14 selected sites.

2008 – 2014. The working committee researched and revised the nomination continuously to answer suggestions and criticisms and to adjust to changing directions and preparation guidelines from various agencies. The nomination document for the World Heritage Committee was significantly different than the one submitted to the Secretary of the Interior for entrance onto the U.S. World Heritage Tentative list.

February 2008. The Secretary submits the Tentative List to the UNESCO World Heritage Center in Paris. Future nominations for a World Heritage listing will be selected from this list after one year.

January 2009. The U.S submitted 2 sites from the Tentative List to the World Heritage Committee for consideration – Papahānaumokuākea Marine Memorial Monument and Mount Vernon. Vote to be held August 2010.

January 2010. The U.S. did not submit a nomination this year.

2010. UNESCO issues a new instruction manual on preparing World Heritage nominations with significant changes.

August 2010. The World Heritage Committee approved Papahānaumokuākea to be given World Heritage status. Mount Vernon had been withdrawn earlier by the U.S. as the site was believed not to meet UNESCO guidelines.

December 2010. The Department of the Interior solicits public comments in the Federal Register on what sites should be nominated for the next U.S submission to the World Heritage Center

January 2011. The U.S did not submit a nomination this year.

June 2011. At the celebration of the opening of the first section of the Mission Reach development, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar made a surprise announcement of his support of the San Antonio Missions as a World Heritage site.

July 2011. The Department of the Interior announced that Poverty Point and the Frank Lloyd Properties were directed to prepare final nomination documents for World Heritage status. The OIA announced later that because of the limited time available, the nominations would not be submitted until 2013.

January 2012. The U.S. did not submit a nomination this year.

March 2012. Federal Register notice solicits comments on the next site(s) to be nominated. OIA received over 18,000 letters of support for the San Antonio Missions.

April 2012. International gathering of experts meets in San Antonio to assess the nomination at that time and to offer suggestions for strengthening it at the suggestion of OIA. Bexar County authorized \$10,000 to cover travel expenses for international experts from Spain, Mexico and Canada.

June 1, 2012. Salazar authorizes the San Antonio Missions nomination be prepared in final form for submission to UNESCO in January 2014.

June 2012. The working committee broadens its membership to form a final nomination document preparation committee with Ringenbach as the lead writer. The intensity and volume of work to be accomplished required changes in membership and responsibilities. The new additions included Anna Nau (Ford, Carson & Powell Architects and Planners), Christopher Castillo (SAMNHP), and Sarah Simister (UTSA graduate student). Texas Creative was selected to design and layout the final nomination document. Susan Snow was to be the liaison with Texas Creative headed by Brian Eickoff and the World Heritage Coordinator with the World Heritage Advisory Committee. UTSA graduate architecture class under Bill Dupont suggests format for the Comparative Analysis section.

June 2012. World Heritage Advisory Committee formed at the suggestion of OIA. The San Antonio Conservation Society and Los Compadres provide funding for nomination preparation.

June 2012. First public meeting of stakeholders held at Mission San Jose.

September 2012. Gordon Fulton is hired as a consultant for nomination prep.

May 2013. Complete draft submitted to OIA, NPS

September 2013. Complete revised draft to the World Heritage Center

January 2014. Final nomination document delivered to the World Heritage Committee, UNESCO in Paris. Printed by the Bexar County Printing Plant

2014-2015. Occasional questions from ICOMOS normally answered by Snow.

September 2014. ICOMOS evaluator visits San Antonio Missions

March 2015. ICOMOS recommends to the World Heritage Committee to approve the San Antonio Missions to the World Heritage List

May 2015. State department officials visit San Antonio Missions to prepare for trip to Bonn, Germany

July 2015. Vote by WHC on the San Antonio Missions nomination

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