Robert J. Donchez  
Mayor

Press Release

January 12, 2021

Federal Register Announcement

Robert Donchez, Mayor of the City of Bethlehem and Chair of the Bethlehem World Heritage Commission, and Charlene Donchez Mowers, President of the Bethlehem World Heritage Commission and Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites, are pleased to announce that a notice appeared in the Federal Register on Monday, January 11, 2021 requesting public comment on the next potential nomination to the World Heritage List.

The World Heritage List was established in 1972 to “encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.” There are currently just 1,000 sites on the World Heritage List, two examples of which are the Great Wall of China and the Pyramids at Giza in Egypt. There are only 24 World Heritage Sites in the United States, two of which are Independence Hall in Philadelphia and the Statue of Liberty in New York.

As a World Heritage List candidate, Historic Moravian Bethlehem preserves and advances the ageless values of education, equality, industry, integrity, and spirituality that have been part of this community since 1741.

Located in the heart of downtown Bethlehem, the site’s original architecture along with its town planning across 14.7 acres, 10 structures, several ruins and a cemetery, stands today as a reflection of and tribute to the resilience of a community built on universal human ideals that are essential and relevant to this day.

With its intact core of original buildings, Historic Moravian Bethlehem preserves some of the most important structures and sites relating to the Moravians in the New World and is significant as an outstanding example of Moravian architecture and town planning. The settlement played a key role in both the international and American Moravian communities.

Historic Moravian Bethlehem is working with the historic Moravian community of Herrnhut, Germany with the goal to submit an extension to the World Heritage listing in 2015 of Christiansfeld, a Moravian Church Settlement in Denmark, that would include Herrnhut in Germany, the Moravian Bethlehem District in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and possibly other historic Moravian communities around the world.

Historic Moravian Bethlehem is an outstanding candidate to be the next site put forward by the United States in nomination to the World Heritage List. The comment period is open through January 26. A letter of support may be mailed to Jonathan Putnam, Office of International Affairs, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240 or by email to: jonathan_putnam@nps.gov.

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An agency may not conduct or sponsor a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq).

Elizabeth K. Appel, Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs.

SUMMARY: This notice requests public comment on the next potential U.S. nominations from the U.S. World Heritage Tentative List (“Tentative List”) to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List. The public may also make suggestions for future additions to the Tentative List. This notice complies with applicable World Heritage Program regulations.

DATES: Comments will be accepted on or before January 26, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:
- Mail to: Jonathan Putnam, Office of International Affairs, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.
- Email to: jonathan_putnam@nps.gov. Phone: (202) 354-1809. Comments will not be accepted in any way other than those specified above.

Information on the U.S. World Heritage program can be found at: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/internationalcooperation/worldheritage.htm.

To request a paper copy of the U.S. Tentative List, please contact April Brooks, Office of International Affairs, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Room 2415, Washington, DC 20240 (202) 354-1808, or Email: april_brooks@nps.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan Putnam, (202) 354-1809.

The World Heritage List is an international list of cultural and natural properties nominated by the signatories to the World Heritage Convention (1972), an international treaty for the preservation of natural and cultural heritage sites of global significance. U.S. participation and the roles of the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service are authorized by Title IV of the Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and conducted in accordance with 36 CFR part 73—World Heritage Convention. The National Park Service serves as the principal technical agency for the U.S. Government to the Convention.

A Tentative List is a national list of natural and cultural properties appearing to meet the World Heritage Committee eligibility criteria for nomination to the World Heritage List. It is a list of candidate sites which a country may consider for nomination within a given time period, but does not guarantee future nomination. The World Heritage Committee’s Operational Guidelines ask participating nations to provide Tentative Lists, which aid in evaluating properties for the World Heritage List on a comparative international basis and help the Committee to schedule its work over the long term. A country cannot nominate a property unless it has been on its Tentative List for a minimum of a year. Countries also are limited at this time to nominating no more than one site in any given year.

Neither inclusion in the Tentative List nor inscription as a World Heritage Site imposes legal restrictions on owners or neighbors of sites, nor does it give the United Nations any management authority or ownership rights in U.S. World Heritage Sites, which continue to be subject to U.S. laws.

The current U.S. World Heritage Tentative List includes the following properties:

Cultural Sites

Civil Rights Movement Sites, Alabama [other properties would be added for a complete nomination]
- Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church, Montgomery
- Bethel Baptist Church, Birmingham
- 16th Street Baptist Church, Birmingham
-—Dayton Aviation Sites, Ohio
-—Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
- Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, Ohio
-—Fort Ancient State Memorial, Warren County
-—Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, near Chillicothe
-—Newark Earthworks State Historic Site, Newark and Heath
- Jefferson (Thomas) Buildings, Virginia (Proposed Jointly as an Extension to the World Heritage Listing of Monticello and the University of Virginia Historic District)
-—Poplar Forest, Bedford County
-—Virginia State Capitol, Richmond
- Mount Vernon, Virginia
- Serpent Mound, Ohio
- Ellis Island, New Jersey and New York
- Chicago Early Skyscrapers, Illinois, including: [Other Properties May Be Added in the Course of Developing a Nomination]
-—Rookery
-—Auditorium Building
-—Monadnock Building
-—Ludington Building
-—Marquette Building
-—Old Colony Building
-—Schlesinger & Mayer (Carson, Pirie Scott) Department Store
-—Second Leiter Building
-—Fisher Building
- Central Park, New York
- Brooklyn Bridge, New York
- Moravian Bethlehem District, Pennsylvania
- Natural Sites
- National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa (Formerly Fagatogo Bay National Marine Sanctuary, American Samoa)
- Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Georgia
- Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona
- White Sands National Monument, New Mexico
- Marianas Trench National Monument, U.S. Territory, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam
- Central California Current, California, Including
-—Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
-—Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
-—Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
-—Farallon Islands National Wildlife Refuge
World Heritage nomination. The selection may include relevant factors, such as the likelihood of being able to complete a satisfactory nomination, and the fact that the United States is currently prohibited by law from providing any funding to UNESCO, including UNESCO and World Heritage member dues. Once authorized, the property owners may prepare a draft nomination. The Department does not have a fixed schedule for completing or submitting World Heritage nominations. No more than one nomination from any country may be submitted per year, per the UNESCO World Heritage Operational Guidelines. Completed nominations, if approved by the Department for submission, may be submitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre by February 1 of any year.

Public Availability of Comments

All comments will be a matter of public record. Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in a comment, members of the public should be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made public at any time. While commenters can request that personal identifying information be withheld from public review, it may not be possible to comply with this request.

Authority: 54 U.S.C. 307101; 36 CFR part 75.

George Wallace, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–WASO–NRNH–DTS–#31331; PPWOCRAD0, PCU00RP14.R50000]

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations and Related Actions

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service is soliciting electronic comments on the significance of properties nominated before December 25, 2020, for listing or related actions in the National Register of Historic Places.

DATES: Comments should be submitted electronically by January 26, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Comments are encouraged to be submitted electronically to National_Register_Submissions@nps.gov with the subject line “Public Comment on property or proposed district name, (County) State.” If you have no access to email you may send them via U.S. Postal Service and all other carriers to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, MS 7228, Washington, DC 20240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The properties listed in this notice are being considered for listing or related actions in the National Register of Historic Places. Nominations for their consideration were received by the National Park Service before December 25, 2020. Pursuant to Section 60.13 of 36 CFR part 60, comments are being accepted concerning the significance of the nominated properties under the National Register criteria for evaluation.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Nominations submitted by State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers:

CALIFORNIA

Orange County

Johnson, Hugh Edgar, House, 444 W.
Brookdale Pl., Fullerton, SG100006089

FLORIDA

Monroe County

Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery,
81801 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada,
SG100006117

Pinellas County

House at 827 Mandalay Avenue, 827
Mandalay Ave., Clearwater, SG100006118

Sumter County

Wild Cow Prairie Cemetery, 5822 Cty. Rd.
673, Bushnell vicinity, SG100006119

Volusia County

Wright, James W., Building, 258 West
Voorhis Ave., DeLand, SG100006120

Walton County

Herman Lodge No. 108 Free & Accepted
Masons of Florida, 314 Madison St.,
Freeport, SG100006121

ILLINOIS

Cook County

Irving, James B., House, 2771 Crawford Ave.,
Evanston, SG100006102