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**ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING REPORT
CONSERVATION OF EDWARD JAMES' LAS POZAS**

prepared by N. J. Bud Goldstone, conservation engineer, and Zuleyma C. Aguirre, conservator
January 27, 1999


This report will enable foundations and conservation organizations to assist in 'Saving Las Pozas', a rapidly deteriorating, world-class monument in Mexico. Individuals and organizations interested in participating in this effort should contact/call Mr. Avery Danziger at Posada El Castillo in Xilitla S.L.P. (52) 136 5 00 38 or FAX 136 5 00 55.

ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING REPORT (A&E) INTRODUCTION

The following report is based upon a literature search, consultations with other conservation professionals and a ten-day site inspection performed in October 1998. The Los Angeles, California conservation team, headed by N. J. Bud Goldstone, project engineer performed the study and prepared the report with assistance from conservator, Zuleyma C. Aguirre; still photographer, Arloa Paquin Goldstone; and video photographer, Edvin Sam Aguirre. The goal of this project is to evaluate the feasibility and approximate costs and schedule for conservation of the unique structures designed by Edward James between 1964 and 1984 near Xilitla, San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

The more than seventy structures are decorative and sculptural steel-reinforced concrete and vary in size from narrow, three feet high works to elaborate, three story buildings. The works are scattered throughout the 17 acre hilly site across a ravine from Xilitla. The site inspection and photography were performed during sporadic, heavy rains between October 12 and 21, 1998. The surface area of the sculptures is 110,000 square feet and has 5,500 cracks. The staff labor time required for repair is an estimated 47,000 hours. The recommended program for Las Pozas conservation will consist of an initial two-year portion costing an estimated \$450,000. This portion is described on page 5. Work includes physical repairs and conservation of the Giant Column, Peristle House and its 42 columns, House of Plants with 32 columns, Homage to Max Ernst, six Utility Columns, the Disco, and Cave to the Disco and the Bamboo Wall and its 32 columns. A six-page chart, which follows the text, includes the cost for repair and conservation of each individual sculpture. The program is estimated to extend over ten years at a total cost of \$2,358,000, including the initial two-year portion.

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Signed 
N. J. Bud Goldstone

Date 1/27/99