

April 19, 1998 by Zuleyma Aguirre & N.J. Bud Goldstone

GOAL

During an amazingly productive span of twenty years until his death in 1984, Edward James created a large number of surrealist structures called "Las Pozas" near Xilitla, Mexico. The goal is to document each step and cost element necessary and to prepare an architecture and engineering (A&E) report for the conservation, repair and completion of this unique monument. The A&E report, when completed, will serve as the authoritative photographic and textual document to a) define the extent of repair work required; b) identify laboratory and on-site, soil and materials tests and investigations necessary to design proper repairs using cost-effective repair materials and processes; c) detail all costs and d) establish a reasonable schedule for the conservation and completion of Las Pozas. The estimated cost for the A&E Report is \$27,000.

INTRODUCTION

Las Pozas is an elaborate series of more than 36 surrealist constructions designed by Edward James and built by local craftsmen near Xilitla over a 20-year period from 1964 to 1984. During the building periods, the number of workers went from 40 to as many as 150. The work started in 1962 and ended with James' death in 1984. The cost to James was perhaps \$5,000,000 US.

SUMMARY

Key issues have been identified in this study which are to be resolved during the A&E Report development. Among those issues are the selection and training of local laborers in the use of repair materials and the latest conservation techniques, minimizing costs for staff and laborer housing and food costs, and arranging for adequate on-site reviews by qualified, conservation-oversight organization representatives. The steps listed below are those necessary to produce an A&E Report. Those steps with estimates for the time required for completion are:

A. Work to be done in the U.S.

- a) accumulate and review historic documentation and photographs of the artworks;
- b) prepare preliminary site plan with each structure identified as to its location and approximate size;
- c) prepare preliminary plan view and elevation views of each of the thirty-some individual structures;
- d) prepare preliminary photographic documentation plan with estimates of the number of photographs
- e) plan site inspection, government permits, passports, visas, procure travel tickets, arrange for necessary equipment, support facilities in Mexico.

B. Work to be done at Las Pozas

- f) arrange for necessary local permits and government inspections.
- g) set up office equipment, computer, film, paper, diskettes, supplies, scientific and safety equipment.
- h) prepare technical photographs with data back stamps on each negative or image;
- i) identify each damaged area on each individual work by the grid code designators;
- j) enter all data into computer databases for each structure;
- k) evaluate manpower availability, costs, training facility,
- l) evaluate costs of local materials, rental equipment, logistics for transporting materials and workers;
- k) prepare summary report;
- l) Review summary report and findings.

C. Work to be done in the U.S.

- m) define repair materials, techniques and a schedule for repairs, draft the A&E Report
- o) prepare the cost estimate
- p) meet with conservation officials in US for review of findings and key portions of A&E Report;
- q) FAX draft of A&E Report for comment;
- r) incorporate comments and release A&E Report.

Signed

N.J. Bud Goldstone

enclosed are a cost summary and a copy of the SPACES - stuff - ?? 501c3 organizations last irs tax return along with a letter saying they will sponsor the grant and a

LAS POZAS A&E ESTIMATE 19 APRIL, 1998		AGUIRRE HOURS	PROF. FEES	OTHER COSTS	GOLDSTONE HOURS	PROF FEES	OTHER COSTS	PROJECT COSTS	FEE PLUS COST TOTAL
FIRST STEP USA									
a) Review documentation	a	8	\$400.00		8	\$600.00		\$150.00	\$1,150.00
b) prelim site plan	b	8	\$400.00		8	\$600.00		\$150.00	\$1,000.00
c) individ. struct plans tools, instrumentation	c	40	\$2,000.00			\$1,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$750.00	\$6,150.00
d) prelim photo plan	d								
e) site & travel plan 5 r.t LAX to Xilitla @ \$600	e			\$1,200.00	10	\$750.00		\$800.00	\$750.00
SUBTOTAL			\$2,800.00	\$1,200.00		\$3,150.00	\$3,400.00	\$1,700.00	\$12,250.00
SECOND STEP LAS POZAS									
f) hotel, princ. per diem, etc 4 @ \$35, 1 @ \$70	f	56	\$2,800.00	\$560.00	80	\$6,000.00	\$700.00		\$10,060.00
g) equip, supplies, instrum	g								
h) tech assistants per diem	h							\$500.00	\$500.00
i) photos, insp analyses	i	20	\$0.00		20	\$0.00		\$1,190.00	\$1,190.00
j) data recording	j	8	\$0.00		8	\$0.00			\$0.00
k) available labor study	k	4	\$0.00		8	\$0.00			\$0.00
l) logistics	l	8	\$0.00		8	\$0.00			\$0.00
m) prepare prelim report	m				8	\$0.00			\$0.00
n) report review	n				8	\$0.00			\$0.00
SUBTOTAL			\$2,800.00	\$560.00		\$6,000.00	\$700.00	\$1,690.00	\$11,750.00
THIRD STEP USA									
o) draft cost, sched report	o	8	\$400.00						
p) reviews by oversight group	p				12	\$900.00			\$1,300.00
q) review by Gastelum	q				8	\$600.00			\$600.00
r) release A&E Report	r				1	\$75.00			\$75.00
SUBTOTAL			\$400.00		4	\$300.00			\$300.00
TOTAL		105	\$5,000.00	\$1,760.00	154	\$11,025.00	\$4,100.00	\$3,390.00	\$26,275.00