



**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS**  
**Approved by the Board of Commissioners via Ad Referendum made on**  
**April 15, 2021**

*Resolution*

**Resolution No. 2021-296**  
**Approving and Adopting the Guidelines on the Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Properties to the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property**

**WHEREAS**, Sections 14 of Republic Act No. 10066 mandates the establishment of the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property (PRECUP);

**WHEREAS**, the NCCA adopted through Board Resolution No. 2017-330 the Guidelines Governing the PRECUP, stipulating policies and procedures pertaining to the registration of cultural properties to the Registry;

**WHEREAS**, cultural properties remain largely unaccounted for due to limited efforts to comprehensively document such resources and the advent of natural and man-made disasters;

**WHEREAS**, it is a shared commitment by various stakeholders such as the national government agencies and local government units to work appropriately and effectively on the protection of cultural properties;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to promulgate a policy in order for the NCCA to move proactively and urgently on the protection and identification of cultural resources, particularly immovable cultural properties, especially during emergency situations;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission proactively facilitates the act of registration as a foremost form of recognition of cultural properties, especially those of local significance, through the PRECUP, and with the mission of regularly updating entries of cultural properties at an efficient rate, with respect to mandates of existing heritage laws;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED** to **Approve and Adopt the Guidelines on the Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Properties to the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property**, herewith attached as **Annex A**.

Attested by:

For the Board:

**MYLA T. BUAN**  
Board Secretary

**ARSENIO J. LIZASO**  
Chairman



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**Annex A Resolution No. 2021-296,**  
**“Adopting the Guidelines on the Registration of Endangered**  
**Immovable Cultural Property to the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property”**

**GUIDELINES ON THE REGISTRATION OF ENDANGERED IMMOVABLE**  
**CULTURAL PROPERTIES TO THE PHILIPPINE REGISTRY OF**  
**CULTURAL PROPERTY**

**1. Legal Basis**

Pursuant to the powers vested upon the National Commission for Culture and the Arts per Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, under Section 14 of which the establishment of the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property (PRECUP) is provided, the following guidelines on the Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Properties to the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property (PRECUP) are hereby promulgated in cooperation with relevant interested parties concerned.

**2. Background**

Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the “National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009,” mandates the protection, preservation, conservation and promotion of the nation's cultural heritage, its property and histories, and the ethnicity of local communities.

Despite such, cultural properties remain largely unaccounted for due to limited efforts to comprehensively document such resources, much even more during the advent of natural and man-made detrimental effects. In addition, currently implemented policies do not encompass many significant cultural properties that are at risk of said detrimental effects due to not satisfying the minimum requirements stipulated under said policies.

As such, relevant policies to complement and in response to the law, particularly on the identification and protection of cultural resources especially during emergency situations, need to be implemented in the spirit of exigency of shared commitment by various stakeholders such as the national government agencies and local government units (LGUs) to appropriately and effectively deliver their respective mandates on culture.

**3. Declaration of Policy**

3.1. The NCCA endeavors to recognize cultural properties, especially those that are exceptionally at risk due to imminent threat posed by new developments, policy reformations, or phenomena of natural or man-made disasters, responding to such with urgency, and to move proactively to fulfill such mandate in partnership with LGUs particularly in making entries of cultural properties in their respective inventories such as mandated in Section 14(c) of Republic Act No. 10066.





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- 3.2. The NCCA recognizes the urgency of identification of certain unaccounted cultural properties and the effective regulation thereof, invoking public safety and empowerment of society, and adding a sociocultural importance to planning and policy using comprehensive and culturally sensitive data.
- 3.3. The NCCA proactively facilitates the act of registration as a foremost form of recognition of cultural properties, especially those of local significance, through the PRECUP, and with the mission of regularly updating entries of cultural properties at an efficient rate.
- 3.4. No portion of these guidelines shall be interpreted as an infringement to local autonomy, generally on the preservation and enrichment of culture (as provided by the Local Government Code) and particularly on the procedures of a Regular Registration of cultural properties as provided by Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10066, as well as proprietary rights of private owners of immovable cultural properties. These guidelines suggest that the pertinent LGUs, private owners, and other relevant interested parties with due responsibility over the concerned endangered immovable cultural property will be officially notified about the inclusion in the PRECUP by virtue of registration of endangered immovable cultural property; and their due response over the matter remains as guaranteed.

**4. Purposes**

- 4.1. To provide for the process of the registration of endangered immovable cultural property, the monitoring of such, and its implication on the protection of said properties;
- 4.2. To effectively facilitate the proper delegation of jurisdiction to the concerned local government units regarding the regulation and monitoring of endangered immovable cultural properties which may not be significant at the national level, but in line with maintaining the general function of the NCCA regarding the registration of cultural properties.
- 4.3. To incorporate the endangered immovable cultural properties into the PRECUP, and provide mechanisms in order for said properties to be eventually recognized or otherwise invalidated by competent authority or the community, such as in the form of petition, official declaration, regular registration, or delisting;
- 4.4. To allow ease of initial validation of the significance of said endangered immovable cultural properties through the provisional criteria as indicated in these guidelines, for further proper processing under regular registration, and;
- 4.5. To primarily survey and initiate registration of cultural properties which are initially unaccounted for by their respective LGUs and other concerned relevant interested parties (RIPs), especially those that are under risk due to natural or man-made detrimental effects, and;





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**5. Scope/Coverage**

These guidelines *shall* only cover immovable cultural properties not considered and identified as PICP as defined under RA 10066 and which satisfy the characteristics identified thereof, which includes but not limited to:

- 5.1. Criteria provided in these Guidelines for the purposes of pre-determining cultural significance;
- 5.2. Other cultural properties presented by competent authority or the community for meritorious reasons.

Additionally, immovable cultural properties that are 50 years or older not identified as PICP, or has adverse claims in its validity as PICP but satisfies the criteria provided below shall be considered for inclusion in the registration of endangered immovable cultural property.

**6. Limitations**

These guidelines for the registration of endangered immovable cultural property shall not cover the following cultural properties:

- 6.1. Movable Cultural Properties;
- 6.2. Intangible Cultural Heritage and Properties; and
- 6.3. Immovable Cultural Properties identified as PICP

Furthermore, immovable cultural properties not inherently at risk as defined by the policy may not be prioritized in the registration of endangered immovable cultural property, and shall be referred for regular registration to the PRECUP.

**7. Definition of Terms**

For the purposes of this policy, the following terms are defined as follows:

- 7.1. Endangered Immovable Cultural Property refers to an immovable cultural property initially identified as at risk, and validated and confirmed for inclusion to the PRECUP through the act of Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Property.
- 7.2. Declaration refers to the act of officially recognizing the significance of a cultural property through a legal or legislative act, such as in the form of enacting an ordinance, issuance of a local resolution, or declaration of a national cultural agency.





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- 7.3. Delisting refers to the act of removal of an entry of cultural property from the PRECUP.
- 7.4. Immovable Cultural Property, also known as built heritage, refers to architectural and engineering structures such as, but not limited to, bridges, government buildings, houses of ancestry, traditional dwellings, quartels, train stations, lighthouses, small ports, educational, technological and industrial complexes, and their settings, and landscapes with notable historical and cultural significance.
- 7.5. PRECUP refers to the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property.
- 7.6. Presumed Important Cultural Property (PICP) refers to immovable cultural properties, which may either be works by a National Artist for Architecture, marked structures, or structures dating at least fifty (50) years old, considered as such for purposes of protecting them against exportation, modification, or demolition.
- 7.7. Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Property refers to the act of including a non-Presumed Important Cultural Property (PICP) to the PRECUP by virtue of satisfying the provisional criteria for a cultural property at risk, and which is subject to further regulation under regular registration.
- 7.8. Regular Registration refers to the act of including cultural properties into the PRECUP through the procedures provided in Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10066 such as submission of local inventory of cultural property or declaration by the NCCA and/or a national cultural agency.
- 7.9. Relevant Interested Parties (RIPs) refers to stakeholders involved or concerned directly or indirectly with a certain matter, such as, in the case of cultural properties: national cultural agencies, LGUs, other national government agencies and government-owned and/or -controlled corporations, state colleges and universities, the local community, non-government organizations, and private individuals.

**8. Grounds for Consideration for Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Property**

The NCCA shall consider *the* registration of endangered immovable cultural properties due to any of the following circumstances:

- 8.1. Signs of imminent threat such as, in the case of built structures, demolition or renovation permit, including notice of sale as an identified factor of potential immediate modification of a structure;
- 8.2. Signs of deterioration, weathering or other environmental effects as to constitute its extinction; non-recognition; or complete destruction.



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- 8.3. Situated in a danger zone, confirmed by the community, concerned party, or a competent authority such as, but not limited to, Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, National Mapping and Resource Information Authority, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, the concerned local government, etc.;
- 8.4. Situated in areas placed with armed conflict;
- 8.5. Identified as located in an upcoming infrastructure development such as real estate development, building construction, road widening and similar forms of public works – *provided that, it is a matter of policy that upon clearance at the level of NCCA and its colleague national cultural agencies regarding such infrastructure development, processing shall not be unreasonably withheld or intentionally delayed.*
- 8.6. Cases and petitions on built heritage submitted or referred to the NCCA and its colleague national cultural agencies for appropriate and urgent action;
- 8.7. Other considerable factors which may be determined by the NCCA.

**9. Provisional Criteria for Consideration as a Cultural Property**

The following provisional criteria shall be applied, for regulatory purposes, to pre-determine the significance of a cultural property for consideration in the act of registration of endangered immovable cultural property, which shall be subject to further in-depth validation by the NCCA in coordination with RIPs in the future. This shall liberally complement the definition of a cultural property as provided in Republic Act No. 10066 and other applicable laws.

- 9.1. Visual Indicators. The subject property *prima facie* contains physical attributes of a *presumed* important cultural property as provided in Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10066.
- 9.2. Proof of Existence. The subject property is deemed to be existent and is found in the following references:
  - 9.2.1. Websites articles, with considerable credibility, including social media posts which contain basic information on the said property;
  - 9.2.2. Satellite Maps and 360° Imagery;
  - 9.2.3. Books, narratives, and other publications such as, but not limited to, local history, architecture, archaeology, fine arts, traditional ethnography, etc., and;
  - 9.2.4. Anecdotal and/or community-initiated evidence with supporting documents.





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**10. Procedures**

The following procedures shall be employed by the NCCA pertaining to the registration of endangered immovable cultural property:

- 10.1. The NCCA shall primarily initiate the survey, determination, monitoring, and rapid assessment of presumed important cultural properties which can be considered for registration of endangered immovable cultural property.
- 10.2. Following the determination of cultural significance and initial encoding of information, the information on the subject cultural property shall be immediately publicly posted in the NCCA website, through the PRECUP webpage, to gather comments and reactions, and solicit support or opposition on the registration of endangered immovable cultural property.
- 10.3. Such endangered immovable cultural properties shall be marked as "Registered Property of the LGU (via registration of endangered immovable cultural property)" in the publicly accessible database of the PRECUP.
- 10.4. Concerned LGUs and other RIPs, including the owners to the cultural property are given fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the letter of notice or public posting to respond to the registration of endangered immovable cultural property.
  - 10.4.1. For LGUs, such notice is served primarily for the purposes of them considering the registration or delisting of the subject cultural property to its local inventory of cultural inventory which shall be submitted to the NCCA for the PRECUP.
  - 10.4.2. An official Letter of Recognition and Acknowledgement must be submitted to NCCA to validate their response, to be submitted after responding to the registration of endangered immovable cultural property notice.
- 10.5. If no response has been received from the said concerned parties, the status of registration of endangered immovable cultural property shall remain for a period of not less than one (1) year from the confirmation of its status, and with guaranteed condition that the NCCA shall continuously coordinate with the pertinent LGUs and other parties on the matter through that time period.

**11. Effectivity, Expiration, Extension, and Nullification of Status as an Endangered Immovable Cultural Property**

- 11.1. Expiration. The endangered immovable cultural property status shall expire within one (1) year upon its registration; provided that, no other official intervention from the pertinent LGU or concerned RIP were enacted.





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- 11.1.1. The status of the endangered immovable cultural property, which in the future may eventually be subject through an act of Regular Registration shall, by virtue of such act, automatically supersede or replace the status of registration of endangered immovable cultural property.
- 11.2. Extension. The registration of endangered immovable cultural property status of the cultural property shall be automatically extended for another period of one (1) year, and the coordination with RIPs also continued, until such time that the concerned LGUs have responded accordingly on such status of the cultural property, specifically through any act of Regular Registration of a cultural property.
- 11.3. Nullification of Entry. The registration of endangered immovable cultural property status shall be nullified when the said property is eventually invalidated as significant through an internal and external validation process to be facilitated by the NCCA with technical experts and local communities.
- 11.4. Upon expiration or nullification of the status of registration of endangered immovable cultural property, the following shall take place:
  - 11.4.1. The subject property shall be assumed to be not culturally significant in the national or local level, and shall be considered cleared from any liability or jurisdiction by the NCCA and its colleague national cultural agencies;
  - 11.4.2. All the effects of said registration of endangered immovable cultural property shall be rescinded from the subject property; and,
  - 11.4.3. The endangered immovable cultural property shall be delisted from the PRECUP database.
  - 11.4.4. Clearance of the subject property at the level of the NCCA shall be guaranteed.

**12. Roles and Responsibilities of Concerned Entities**

12.1. NCCA

- 12.1.1. The NCCA shall coordinate closely with the concerned local government units and national cultural agencies, pertaining to endangered immovable cultural properties under their jurisdiction.
- 12.1.2. The NCCA shall coordinate with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), with regard to local government units which assume inaction over the endangered immovable cultural properties under their jurisdiction, for possible administrative charges. Such inaction shall be considered as wilful non-inclusion of cultural properties.





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12.1.3. The NCCA shall coordinate with RIPs, especially other national government agencies, non-government organizations, and private institutions, regarding endangered immovable cultural properties which fall under their area of responsibility or concern.

12.1.4. The NCCA shall exercise general monitoring over the status of the endangered immovable cultural property through regular coordination with the concerned LGUs, Private Entity Owners, and/or other RIPs.

12.2. Local Government Units

12.2.1. The concerned LGU, upon notice of the NCCA, shall assume the responsibility, jurisdiction, and monitoring of endangered immovable cultural properties. The line of responsibility, as applicable, shall be implicated upon the following:

12.2.1.1. Regional Government, such as the Bangsamoro;

12.2.1.2. Provincial Government;

12.2.1.3. City Government;

12.2.1.4. Municipal Government, and;

12.2.1.5. The Barangay.

The concerned LGU, on their jurisdiction level, shall be primarily responsible for monitoring the cultural properties within their territorial jurisdiction.

12.2.2. For endangered immovable cultural properties with overlapping or disputed claims on the LGU's level of territorial jurisdiction, the strict monitoring shall be the responsibility of all the concerned LGU with jurisdiction on the endangered immovable cultural properties.

12.2.3. *The concerned LGU* with an endangered immovable cultural property must submit a monitoring and status report to the NCCA annually, along with the annual submission of its local inventory of cultural property; Provided that, the endangered immovable cultural property is not yet submitted as part of the said inventory and translated to a Regular Registration.





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12.3. Related Cultural Agencies

12.3.1. NCCA shall also closely coordinate with its colleague national cultural agencies which may also have jurisdiction on the endangered immovable cultural property, as specifically delineated in Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10066.

12.4. Owners and other Relevant Private Entities

12.4.1. Private Owners of endangered immovable cultural properties shall have close coordination with the NCCA in accordance with the strict monitoring of said cultural properties.

12.4.2. Private Owners shall be guaranteed with confidentiality, particularly with regard to its identity and other sensitive information of the subject cultural property, as well as possession and ownership thereof be not divested, in accordance with Section 14(e) of Republic Act No. 10066 and other applicable laws.

12.5. Other Relevant Interested Parties

12.5.1. DILG shall closely coordinate with the NCCA for possible administrative charges due to inaction for registration or wilful non-inclusion of cultural properties.

In addition, the DILG shall also coordinate with the NCCA to remind LGUs in providing close monitoring and status reports on the endangered immovable cultural properties.

12.5.2. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall inform the NCCA of possible properties which may be included in the registration of endangered immovable cultural property.

12.5.3. State Universities and Colleges, other National Government Agencies shall provide relevant information and data in identifying and validating possible properties that may be included in the registration of endangered immovable cultural property.

**13. Implications of Registration of Endangered Immovable Cultural Property**

13.1. The inclusion of an endangered immovable cultural property in the PRECUP shall primarily imply that it is subject to a regulatory procedure of the NCCA and other relevant interested parties, in accordance with either further validating or invalidating the cultural significance of the said property. Such regulatory procedure could be among, but not limited to, the following acts of decision-making: legal declaration, inclusion in the local inventory of cultural property, temporary protection, monitoring, issuance of a cease-and-desist order or compulsory repair order, provision of technical assistance, quick response mechanisms, as well as future delisting, removal of presumption as an Important Cultural Property, etc.



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- 13.2. The registration of endangered immovable cultural property in the PRECUP shall complement the process of Regular Registration, both as a legal and administrative function of the NCCA, towards achieving a comprehensive data collection on Philippine cultural heritage, and utilizing such for data-driven planning and policy-making. Provided further, that in the process of managing such cultural data, sensitive information of the endangered immovable cultural properties shall remain confidential from the public.
- 13.3. The status of registration of endangered immovable cultural property shall function as an additional classification under the PRECUP, and by effect and as a matter of policy, be a determining factor to facilitate immediate regulatory action by the NCCA.
- 13.3.1. Endangered immovable cultural properties shall, in the PRECUP database, be automatically be identified as under the General Threat Level of Red Alert, as well as having Potential Threats such as Negligence, Earthquake, etc., as applicable.
- 13.4. The registration of endangered immovable cultural property shall essentially effect the delegation of strict monitoring and intensive regulation of a cultural property identified as not having national significance, under existing criteria set forth by the NCCA and its colleague national cultural agencies, to other concerned parties, particularly the LGU.
- 13.5. For clarification purposes, the *motu proprio* registration as effected by this act of registration of endangered immovable cultural property is different from *motu proprio* declaration of a cultural property, wherein the latter is not explicitly stated elsewhere in Republic Act No. 10066 and other applicable laws and as it involves legal implication. The main purpose of the PRECUP is to ensure the identification of cultural properties, especially those that are under imminent threat and which are considered significant whether in the national or local level.

**14. Effectivity**

These Guidelines shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation and fifteen days after registration with the Office of the National Administrative Register.

