The state Cultural Properties Review Committee permanently listed Mount Taylor as a Traditional Cultural Property in the State Register of Cultural Properties, the Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs announced this afternoon.

In a unanimous vote, the committee said a revised nomination achieved a balance that protects the sacred qualities the mountain has held for the five nominating tribes for thousands of years, and addresses concerns raised by private landowners who felt their property rights might be curtailed by the TCP designation.

“This would like to thank the tribes for bringing the nomination forward, for sharing their closely held spiritual beliefs and making all of us more aware of the importance of Mount Taylor,” said CPRC Chairman Alan “Mac” Watson. “In the same regard, the private property owners and others with rights to Mount Taylor who expressed their concerns deserve thanks for helping us achieve a balance that lets this committee help preserve the varied — and sometimes perceived as conflicting — interests of all the parties involved.”

The committee took an innovative step by asking private property owners whose land is not excluded from the TCP to come forward within the next two weeks with a notarized legal description of their land. The information would be used to draw a semi-permanent map of the TCP within 30 days, which would modify existing maps of the TCP. The map would continue to be modified over time by HPD should additional private property be identified, and an ongoing list of private property owners made a part of the nomination. The provision reflects common preservation practices that allow the shape and scope of historic districts to be altered over time depending on the changing conditions of a district’s contributing and non-contributing resources.

From March 2008 until the public comment period was closed on May 20, 2009, HPD and other state entities received approximately 2,000 letters and e-mails addressing the Mount Taylor nomination. By a 4-1 ratio, people expressed support for the nomination. At a May 15 public hearing held by the CPRC, 64 people registered to speak in favor of the nomination and 47 in opposition. The nomination listed today incorporates concerns raised during the hearing and in correspondence HPD has received during the last year and three months.

The nomination has engendered strong emotions and thoughtful discussion among many New Mexicans as well as within the ranks of local, state and federal government staff members,” said Cultural Affairs Secretary Stuart Ashman. “Certainly the value of Mt. Taylor as a Traditional Cultural Property has never been in question, but neither has been the importance of balancing the spiritual beliefs of our Indian tribes and the inherent rights of private property owners. I have great respect for all the groups and individuals who worked together to make this nomination successful.”

The nomination follows a year of investigation, collaboration and consultation between the pueblos of Acoma, Laguna and Zuni, the Hopi Tribe and Navajo Nation, and more fully develops how different elements of the mountain are the footprints of the ancestors. The Hopi view the mountain as a community cultural site. They have demonstrated that 28 of their deities, 26 Hopi and 10 Tewa clans people. The Hopi view the mountain as a community cultural site. They have demonstrated that 28 of their deities, 26 Hopi and 10 Tewa clans have close cultural connections to Mount Taylor, and that the shrines and archaeological sites on the mountain are the footprints of the ancestors.

“The nomination achieves the tribes goal of finding common ground in their differing beliefs that includes their respective historic and cultural affiliation with the mountain,” said Slick. “The survival of the mountain, which they see as a living, breathing spiritual being, is what is essential for their traditional and cultural practices to continue.”

Within the TCP, there are 316,456 contributing resources, which include pilgrimage trails, shrines, more than 1,000 archaeological sites, petroglyphs and other works of art. Land that is included in the TCP and the thousands of cultural resources that contribute to its spiritual quality, convey a relationship to traditional cultural practices or beliefs, and remain relevant to cultural and historical relationships that survive to this day. Land that was excluded from the listing was found to longer convey these qualities.

The tribe’s statements of significance, individually and collectively, the nomination puts forth, demonstrate that the mountain and its surrounding mesas fulfill the federal requirements of a TCP, which is that it be rooted in history and important to maintaining cultural identity in the modern world. State of New Mexico.历史性保护部门，文化事务部

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