

N. J. Bud Goldstone

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John James Oddy, Program Officer
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The Getty Grant Program
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Dear John,

I ask your advice in my effort to save Edward James' Las Pozas. Plutarco 'Kaco' Gastelum, the present owner, asked me to get your opinion on the following question related to eligibility for a later Getty Grant for Las Pozas through your Getty Grant Program.

Question- the issue is ownership of Las Pozas. Kaco plans to give up Las Pozas through a lease to a suitable foundation. In the Getty's Architectural Conservation Grants Guidelines, the eligibility section states that the site must be owned by the tax-exempt organization. In "Preliminary Letter Procedures", the guidelines ask for information on the non-profit "or owner, if different". Does this indicate that fee title is not necessary? Of interest is that a US non-profit foundation is contemplating a 50+ year lease from him to the Foundation. That is the term for the underlying property when purchasing housing in Mexico, much like in Hawaii. Therefore, before proceeding, Kaco would like to know if long term tenancy of the site by the Foundation would suffice in a Getty Grant situation.

If you can, please advise us on this.

Of other interest at Las Pozas, the official government agency in Mexico is now considering national recognition for the site.

Thanks in advance for any guidance you can give me for Kaco Gastelum at Las Pozas.

Sincerely,

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co, D.F., marzo 6 de 2001.
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