MONUMENTS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT: A STUDY OF LOKOJA, KOGI STATE

BY

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PG/MA/09/50772

A PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND TOURISM, FACULTY OF ARTS,

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THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND TOURISM, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA.

BY

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CERTIFICATION

Miss Ukaegbu, Maureen Ogechi, a Post-graduate student in the department of Archaeology/Tourism with registration number, PG/MA/09/50772, has satisfactorily completed the requirements for courses and the research work for the Master of Arts degree in Archaeology and Tourism (Tourism option).

The work embodied in this project report is original and has not been submitted in part or in full for any other diploma or degree of this or any other university.

__________________________                                 ________________________
DR (MRS) P.I. EZE-UZOMAKA                                        PROF. E.E. OKAFOR
(HEAD OF DEPARTMENT)                                                (SUPERVISOR)
EXTERNAL EXAMINER
DEDICATION

In loving memory of my Dad, Late Sir Louis Ukaegbu.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To God be the glory for his love, strength, faithfulness and benevolence. I wish to express my gratitude to my supervisor, Prof E.E. Okafor for his advice and guidance throughout the period of this work. I also wish to thank all my Lecturers, Prof A.I Okpoko, Prof P.U. Okpoko, Dr. P.I Eze-Uzomaka, Dr A.M. Ibeanu Dr L.C. Ekechukwu and Prof P.U.C Dieke. I also thank Mr E.I. Itanyi, Mr. E.E. Okonkwo, Mr C.S. Agu, Mrs.C.C. Oguamanam, Mrs Joy Ejikeme, Miss Nweze Emmanuella and Miss Onyekelu Ukamaka for their contributions towards the success of this work. Also the help of Mrs C.O. Madubunyi and the non-academic staff of the department of Archaeology and Tourism cannot be undermined. I thank you all.

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Finally, to my late dad, Sir L.C. Ukaegbu, continue to rest in God’s bosom.

Ukaegbu, Maureen O.

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PREFACE

This research work identifies the Monuments and Historic Sites in Lokoja, Kogi State, examines their state of preservation with a view to determining the role they can play in tourism development. It must be noted that a good number of monuments and historic sites abound in Lokoja, and these can be harnessed to promote tourism while encouraging historic preservation.

For easy apprehension, the work is divided into five chapters. Chapter one discusses the preliminary issues in research, namely:
statement of the problem, the research questions, the objectives, the methodology, the significance and the limitations of the study.

Chapter two deals with the literature review. This includes the theoretical and the empirical literature as well as the theoretical orientation. The background information is discussed under the chapter three while the data is presented and analyzed under the chapter four. Finally, the last chapter deals with the summary, recommendations and conclusion

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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

Monuments and Historic sites can play significant roles in the development of tourism in Nigeria. Monuments are sites, structures or edifices which have historical, cultural, or aesthetic significance. Hence, the importance of these monuments and sites cannot be over-emphasized.

Nigeria, often referred to as the giant of Africa is blessed with rich cultural and natural heritage which are universally recognized and which can be used in the development of the country (Okpoko and Okpoko, 2002). It is also endowed with a friendly climate, beautiful landscape and vegetational features etc. Nevertheless, the country is yet to be counted as one of the main beneficiaries of tourism development.

Tourism, which entails the movement of people from one destination to another for different purposes including leisure, education, meeting, etc, is viewed as one of the contributors to economic development all over the world. As a result, many African countries like Kenya, South Africa, as well as other non-African countries have grabbed
this opportunity to develop their individual countries. This they do by protecting and developing what is obtainable in their environment as well as the things they are known for (Kareithi 2003:3). However, the story seems to be different in Nigeria in spite of the fact that tourism was accorded a priority status in 1990 when the Nigeria’s Tourism Policy was launched. Furthermore, the year 2005 was set aside as the country’s year of tourism with the objective of making Nigeria the “ultimate tourism destination in Africa” (Choicegut, 2009). But the question is, to what extent has this aim been achieved? Unfortunately, the heritage resources which can greatly contribute to the development of the country are left in pitiable conditions. It is even more worrisome when one realizes that the locations of some of these resources are not even known let alone taking proper steps to gazette, preserve and harness them.

It is pertinent to state here that National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM) is the apex body entrusted with the declaration and protection of monuments in Nigeria. It is an Agency under the Federal Ministry of Culture, Tourism and National Orientation. This commission came into existence via Decree No. 77 of 1979 to replace the Federal Department of Antiquities of 1943 (Okpoko, 2006:10). By the National Commission for Museums and Monuments Act of 1990, this institution was vested with the power to collect document, conserve and
preserve Nigeria’s cultural and natural heritage. In other words, the institution has the right to declare, manage and preserve all monuments in Nigeria. But how far have they gone in performing these veritable functions? It suffices to say here that this body cannot solely succeed in protecting and harnessing the diverse monuments and historic sites in this country without the collaborative inputs from the citizens of the country.

In Lokoja, Kogi State, there are a good number of these monuments and sites situated in different locations. In fact, Lokoja may be regarded as a storehouse of historical relics due to the early activities of European explorers, traders, missionaries and colonial administrators. Thus, one would be tempted to think/conclude/assume that these monuments and historic sites have already been declared and gazetted as national properties whereas, the reverse is the case. Worrisome still, those that have been recognized are neglected and not maintained. As a result, they stand the risk of being destroyed. This in turn would further affect the cultural, economic and aesthetic significance that would have otherwise accrued from these sites. Given the above scenario therefore, the need to develop a strategic plan with which to harness these heritage resources becomes pertinent.
An obvious reason for the development of a strategic management plan is to ensure that these monuments and historic sites are preserved and protected for posterity. Thus, common elements of an effective management system of heritage sites which can be adopted for the protection of monuments include:

a. A thorough shared understanding of the property by all stakeholders.
b. A cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring of already existing plan, evaluation and feedback;
c. The allocation of the required resources;
d. The involvement of partners, as well as stakeholders
e. Capacity building; and
f. An accountable, transparent description of how the management system functions (UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation centre, 2010).

In other words, managing these monuments entails taking day-to-day action required in protecting and preserving the monuments and historic sites.

This work attempts to identify and study the monuments and historic sites in Lokoja, Kogi State. The aim is to proffer solutions on how they can be conserved and developed for tourism promotion. The work will also highlight their potential contributions to the development of the nation.

1.1 **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**
Lokoja is a storehouse of monuments and attractions. There are also lots of historic products and relics which are valuable in the understanding of Lokoja’s history and the nation at large. Some of these sites are unkempt and therefore, require the attention of the government to improve on their current state. One of the ways of getting them well documented is for government to give them priority attention. This, therefore, informs the need for these sites and monuments to be studied and documented not only for posterity but also to encourage their promotion for tourism development.

The importance of embarking on a systematic documentation of those monuments and sites as well as those things created presently which would become historically important tomorrow cannot be over-emphasized (Arinze, 1990:73). A good number of what should be recognized and declared monuments in Nigeria have been neglected. As a result, these monuments face degradation and defacement (Bodam, 1998:72). Even though, the National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM) takes care of declaring and preserving the sites and monuments in Nigeria, they have been able to officially gazette only sixty-five sites and monuments in a country made up of about two hundred and fifty ethnic groups with diverse cultures. Hence, the need for people
to understand that this body cannot achieve this single-handedly becomes imperative.

Furthermore, as a result of the early activities of the white men in Lokoja which left it with historical relics, one would easily believe that they have already been registered as national properties and that the nation would have started enjoying the gain accruing from these resources whereas most of them are yet to be noticed. Unfortunately, none has been officially gazetted. These problems prompted this research.

1.2 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Having stated the problem, the research is guided by the following questions:

a. What are those monuments and historic sites in Lokoja?

b. What are their basic features?

c. What is the current state of these monuments and historic sites?

d. To what extent has conservation measures been put in place to protect these monuments from deteriorating?

e. How can they be harnessed for tourism promotion?

1.3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The following are the objectives which the researcher hopes to achieve:
a. To identify the monuments and historic sites in Lokoja.

b. To examine the state of these monuments in order to recommend measures aimed at preserving and conserving them.

c. To examine their basic features with a view to identifying those qualities that could be harnessed for tourism promotion.

d. To investigate the state and federal governments efforts towards harnessing them so far.

e. Based on the above findings, to make recommendations that will enhance their value in tourism development and resource preservation.

1.4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is primarily aimed at creating the awareness on the importance of preserving monuments and historic sites for tourism development in Nigeria. The qualitative research method was therefore deemed most appropriate for the study.

The ethnographic method of research which is the method of studying the present day societies was employed. The in depth interview provided the primary data for the work. Here, the unstructured or open-ended variant of the in depth interview method was used to gather information. This was to enable those who were knowledgeable about the
history and culture of the area to talk freely and give all the information they had on the subject matter. It also enabled the researcher to ask follow up questions in order to get more information. More so, the key informant interviewing method was also used to elicit information. This entails picking the persons who have the knowledge about the issue at hand. Based on this, the researcher selected the key informants believed to have relevant information about the culture and history of the area. Other people who were also believed to have information about the existing monuments and historic sites in Lokoja were also interviewed. These key informants include the Former Curator of the Museum of Colonial History, Lokoja, the Director of the Kogi State Tourism Board, Research Officers with the Museum and Community Leaders. The researcher also made observations. It is also pertinent to note that in order to gain the co-operation of the respondents; a letter of introduction from the Head of Department of Archaeology was collected by the researcher (see appendix1)

The researcher also referred to the secondary sources where both published and unpublished materials like books, journals, magazines, projects, etc, were sourced.
Photographs were also taken for pictorial representation of the sites and monuments and Global Positioning System (GPS) was used to map the sites in order to put them in their contexts.

1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study will be beneficial to the local communities in Lokoja, the state, the federal government as well as the country at large. It recommendations would hopefully promote easy access to the area and ultimately improve our knowledge base. It would open new vistas of opportunities for the people of Lokoja in ways through which they can use these sites and monuments in their environment to improve their living condition and in turn endear them to appreciate and support tourism promotion.

This research work will also help the authorities and agencies entrusted with the promotion of tourism in the area to brace up to their responsibilities. This is with special reference to the Kogi state government, the state’s tourism board, the National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM), and the nation.

Tourism developers and Stakeholders will also need this work for tourism marketing and development in Kogi state. This will in turn
prompt the government to take vital decisions on how to protect these monuments.

The work will also be useful to scholars and students as it will serve as a reference material to them. It will also guide intending researchers especially archaeologists who may wish to reconstruct the past human activities of the area. Finally the work will also serve as a travel guide to those who may wish to visit Lokoja and environs.

1.6 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

This work will be incomplete if we do not discuss some of the pitfalls encountered in the course of the research. The first was financial constraint. As a result of the long distance involved in travelling from Nsukka to Lokoja and within Lokoja, the researcher had to spend so much money on transportation fares shuttling to and fro. Some amount of money had to be paid before meaningful information was elicited as the researcher had to pay the guides who took her around the study area.

Another constraint encountered was taking of photographs of some sites. The researcher was not allowed to take the photographs for security reasons. Such include the Lord Lugards’ office and residence, presently rehabilitated to house the Kogi state government and some
features on Mount Patti. The researcher was also denied access to some monuments due to the strike action embarked upon by the Kogi State civil servants during the time of the field work. However, these did not stop the researcher from collecting information on these monuments and sites as extra efforts were applied to achieve this.

1.7 CLARIFICATION OF CONCEPTS
1.7.1 Monuments

Monuments have been defined by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO, 1972 in Okpoko n.d.) as “any object, natural or artificial, fixed permanently in the soil as an indication, evidence or token of some fact or intended to commemorate a person, nation, event or idea”. Thus, architectural works of monumental sculptures and painting elements can also be referred to as monuments. A Monument is a worthy reminder of something that is cherished or distinguished and this could be a person, persons or event (Microsoft Encarta Dictionaries, 2009). It is a type of structure either explicitly created to commemorate a person or important event or which has become important to a social group as a part of their remembrance of
past events. They are frequently used to improve the appearance of a city or location (El-Hakim, et.al 2002).

1.7.2 Historic preservation

This entails the effort to preserve, conserve and protect buildings landscapes as well as objects and other artifacts that have historic significance attached to them (Maryland Association of Historic District Commission, 1997). It simply refers to the preservation of historic structures and sites from destruction (www.canequity.com/mortgage-resources/). Thus, it involves those attempts which have been made towards achieving the preservation of historic properties.

Historic sites here imply any location which is significant in tracing the history of the aboriginal people. It could also be a place where a historical event has occurred (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/historic site).

According to King et.al, (1977:9-10), historic preservation deals with the tangible remnants of past cultural systems and activities in the form of historic properties. They went on to opine that for such properties to be identified and understood, the social and cultural environment needs to be studied through various means like documentary history, ethno-history, ethnography etc.
The standard guidelines for the conservation of historic places in Canada (2007) state that historic sites require the following conservation approaches:

- **Preservation**: This involves the process of protecting, maintaining and stabilizing of historic places. It also involves actions aimed at retarding deterioration and damage. The aim is to prevent changes from occurring (Okpoko and Ekechukwu, 2006:126).

- **Rehabilitation**: This is the process of repairing of historic places, while protecting the heritage value.

- **Restoration**: The aim here is to bring damaged or deteriorated objects back into good condition (Okpoko and Ekechukwu, 2006:129). This is the action of revealing or representing the state of a historic place, while protecting its heritage value.

Historic preservation activities require some level of professionalism. These include: Architectural conservator, Historic preservation planner, preservation engineer, Historic site administrator, preservation craftsperson, etc (National Council for Preservation Education Canada, n.d). Thus, historic preservation is very important if sites and monuments in Lokoja, Kogi state are to survive and if these sites and monuments are to be used for tourism development in Nigeria.
1.7.3 Tourism

Many scholars have different views about tourism. Thus, it is a complex and pervasive phenomenon (Okpoko and Okpoko, 2002). However, tourism can be defined as travel outside the normal place of abode to experience an activity or a particular type of service which is not obtainable or available at home (Microsoft Encarta Dictionaries, 2009).

The World Tourism Organization (WTO), in 1995 defined tourism as “the travel to and stay in places outside the usual environment for more than twenty-four (24) hours and not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited” (Okpoko and Okpoko 2002:22).

Fadipe (2007) in Ukaegbu, (2008) opines that tourism involves “the planning of trips, the travel to destination, the stay at the destination, the return as well as the reminiscences about the trip afterwards”. This clarifies the fact that tourism leaves a long-lasting impression about a site or a destination at the back of the mind of the tourist and this can affect his/her decision to revisit the site or not.

Tourism could be domestic when it is carried out within a geopolitical boundary. It could also be international when movements across
geopolitical boundaries or countries are made (Okpoko and Okpoko, 2002:22).

1.7.4 Development and Tourism Development

It is difficult to give a definite definition of development as it is viewed from different perspectives. However, development is a process through which a society’s political, social and cultural institutions are transformed in order to improve the living standard and life chances of the people in a given society (Agbonlahor and Ukhurebor 2006:89).

It is the process of combining efforts by stakeholders, which include communities, government, private sector, civil society etc, towards the achievement of economic, social, political and cultural change, with a view to improving the conditions of life of people in a sustainable way (Dissamayake 1985:21). Development involves a positive change in both the material and non-material aspects of human life within the framework of available resources (Okpoko and Ezeadichie 2002:3).

Based on the above, it could be deduced that development entails the use of available resources which are obtainable in a given area to enhance the living conditions of the people. Thus, for it to be achieved, a
large part of the people's population need to contribute positively towards it.

On the other hand, Tourism development involves the provision or enhancement of facilities and services to meet the needs of tourists (Adejuwon, 2000 in Orji, 2010:19). It also involves the provision of infrastructures which include communication, roads and railways, airports, power supply etc as well as superstructures like hotels, motels, restaurants, automobiles etc for the comfort of tourists in a destination (Okoli, 2001 in Orji, 2010:19).

**CHAPTER TWO**

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

This chapter is subdivided into three, namely theoretical and empirical literature, and the theoretical orientation.

Under the theoretical literature, some theories which act as guide to this research work were reviewed. The various case studies by different researchers on monuments, historic preservation and tourism development were treated under the empirical literature. Finally, the theory on which the research is anchored was explained under the theoretical orientation.
2.1 THEORETICAL LITERATURE

Theories are analytical tools for understanding, explaining and making predictions about a given subject matter (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/theory). It is an organized system of accepted knowledge which can be applied in various circumstances in order to explain a specific set of phenomena. (worldnetweb.princeton.eduperl/webwn). It may be important to note that the word “theory” was originally developed from classical Greek philosophy and derived from ancient Greek “theoria” which meant “a looking at” “viewing” or “beholding” (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/theory). Theories are certain well-tested ways of carrying out researches all over the world and they guide people’s approaches in a broad perspective.

2.1.1 SYSTEMS THEORY

System theory deals with relationships and variations in relationships (Fagan, 1975:68). It can be defined as an interdisciplinary theory which is concerned with the nature of complex systems in society, nature and science (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/system.theory). Systems theory has also been viewed as “the trans-disciplinary study of the abstract organization of phenomena, independent of their substance, type or spatial or temporal scale of existence (Heylighen and Joslyn,
In other words, it was meant originally for academic disciplines that used controlled observations in their research (Fagan, 1975:68). Through the use of this framework, one can carry out an investigation or description of any group of objects that work together in order to produce some result.

This theory was proposed by Ludwig von Bertalanffy in the 1940’s. The biologist Bertalanffy developed this theory in reaction against what is called “reductionism”, thereby attempting to revive the unity of science. To him, “Real systems are open to, and interact with their environments, and they can acquire qualitatively new properties through emergence, resulting in continual evolution” (Heylighen and Joslyn, 1992). Thus, he was of the opinion that although a system may be a complete whole, it is usually made up of many interacting groups within the complete whole. He also identified “wholeness”, “order”, differentiation, equi-finality, communication, etc. as the characters of a system (Eze-Uzoamaka, n.d). Rapoport, (1968) in Fagan, (1975:69) defined a system as “a whole which functions as a whole by virtue of the interdependence of its parts”. Thus, it is the relationship between the parts that require to be explained.

Furthermore, the aim of von Bertalanffy was to bring together organismic science that he had discovered in his work as a biologist under a heading. Thus, his intention was to use the word “system” to
explain those characteristics which are common to systems in general (Bertalanffy, 1968). He went further to explain that although a system is made up of many parts, it is greater than the sum of the parts and again, each unit must be self sustaining even though they interact to make a complete whole (Eze-Uzoamaka, n.d.). Today, because Ludwig’s theory has gained wide acceptance, words like banking system, school system etc now exist.

Finally, systems theory emphasizes the complex and dynamic relationships among the various aspects of cultural behavior within communities and between cultural behavior and the extra-cultural environment (Fagan, 1975:69).

2.1.3. ENVIRONMENTAL THEORIES

Environmental theories are the theories that give explanations to the reasons behind the behavior of people in an environment. Here, ecological damages are attributed to various causes like system and growth by the present day environmental economic theories (Mihalic and kaspar 1996 in Okonkwo 2004:12). Thus, environmental systems like clean water, clean air, healthy forests, and diverse species e.t.c are believed to be public goods by the environmental economic theorists. And
since they are viewed as public goods, many individuals can freely have access to it (Lesser, *et al.* 1995 in Igbo and Okpoko, 2006:24). Hanley *et al.* (2001) in Igbo and Okpoko (2006:24) went further to explain that these public goods are classified into pure and impure goods. An example of pure goods is air. In other words, they are those ones which everybody can have access to. On the other hand, impure goods are enjoyed by the owners and non-members can be excluded from having access to them. They include community goods like caves and rivers.

However, the environmental theory is sub-divided into system, growth and behavioral theories.


- The growth theories view the persistent economic and population growths as the main reasons that bring about conflict between people’s economic and natural environment. The bad living conditions on earth are also indirectly attributed to it (mihalic, n.d. in Igbo and Okpoko 2006:27).

- The behavioral theories rely on behavioral ethics and view the reasons for environmental damage to be human ignorance and lack
of environmental social ethics or social/tourism environmental ethics. However, with the tourism global code of ethics, the situation can be arrested (Rue and Ryars, 1986 in Igbo and Okpoko 2006:28).

While helping to protect the environment, these ethics also help in the checking of the tourists' influx to the environment where attractions are located in order to avoid their degradations through the use of legislations.

2.1.3 **CULTURAL THEORY**

This theory came about through the works of Raymond Williams’ *The Long Revolution* in 1961 and E.P Thompson’s *The Making of the English Working Class* in 1963. While Williams from his point of view saw culture as a total way of life, Thompson laid emphasis on the manner in which the raw materials of social and material existence of groups are handled. This however, opened up new notions about culture (Gordon, 1998). Cultural theory is the term that can be used to describe any attempts aimed at conceptualizing and understanding the dynamics of culture (Gordon, 1998). Cultural theory is one of the approaches that have been found useful in the subjective analysis of long term global change (Person and Fisher-Vanden, 1995) It involves arguments about
“the relationship between culture and nature, culture and society (including material social processes), the split between high and low culture, and the interplay between cultural tradition and cultural difference and diversity” (Gordon 1998).

One aspect of the cultural theory is the cultural theory of risk. This originated from the work of Mary Douglas (an anthropologist) and Aaron Wildavsky (a political scientist). This theory which is made up of a conceptual framework seeks to explain societal conflict over risk. It is also associated with empirical studies (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/cultural theory/).

In view of this, Cultural theory is very important and relevant to this study. Lokoja being the confluence city of River Niger and River Benue attracted early Europeans and missionaries as well as early inhabitants. However, these categories of people came to Lokoja to enjoy the various opportunities and comfort which the environment had to offer. As a result of their activities and way of life, Lokoja is seen today as a store house of historical relics, monuments and other attractions that can contribute immensely to the development of the country’s tourism sector if preserved and harnessed.
2.2 EMPIRICAL LITERATURE

As earlier stated, this section presents a critique of works done by other scholars on the subject matter.

2.2.1 MONUMENTS/SITES AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Gairola (1968:139) identified lichens, algae and fungi, sea salts, soot, smoke excreta of animals and birds, man etc, as some of the factors that affect monuments in India. Alternate heating (sun) and cooling (rainwater) have been identified as the main causes of degradation of monuments in Indonesia. In Iraq, degradation of monuments are brought about by large variations of temperature, frost and earthquakes while in Thailand the degradation of their monuments have been attributed to unfavorable climatic conditions, heat, rain etc. (Coremans, 1968: 135-138).

In Canada, heritage preservation is sometimes seen as a specific approach to the treatment of historic places and sites, rather than a general concept of conservation. “Conservation” is taken as the more general term, referring to all actions or processes that are aimed at safeguarding the character-defining elements of a cultural resource so as to retain its heritage value and extend its physical life (Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada n.d). Also, as King et.al (1977:9) opine,
culture produces a clutter of material things and this is the subject matter of historic preservation. Moreover, traditionally, the main basis for preserving something had been its association with some historic event or person (King, et.al 1977:29).

Nigeria has a rich list of monuments, cultural and natural landscapes which make up its heritage resources located in its various communities (Ebareime and Gella 1998). According to Udoh, (2003) in Okpoko (n.d), such monuments can be owned and maintained by private individuals or by the state or federal governments (non-scheduled and scheduled monuments respectively). In other words, the unscheduled monuments have not been officially gazetted while the scheduled monuments are protected by national legislations. Furthermore, in their study on “Inventorization of the Immovable Cultural Heritage within a Plural Setting: The Nigerian challenge” Olorunnipa and Ebereime (2009:3) identified the fact that monuments and historic sites are facing a lot of threats from a variety of sources in Nigeria. This includes environmental degradation, the push for development and modernization, lack of awareness of their importance, etc. He also went further to state that apart from the environmental factors militating against them, they have also been subjected to various spoilages and threats from different causes like fire, mining, erosion, vandalization, and uncontrolled
development. Even though most of these monuments are seen in strategic locations, they are not being taken care of. While some have been covered by grasses, others are covered by posters. Worst still some have cracks all over (Orji 2010:2). Thus, these monuments are defaced by man and environmental factors. Therefore these edifices, buildings or historic sites which we see today are those that survived the vagaries of nature, the cataclysms of nature and the ravages of war. As Abu (1990) rightly stated; non-availability of funds slows down the events of the National Commission for Museums and Monuments towards the conservation of these sites and monuments even though it is the body’s top priority right from the beginning.

Furthermore, Bodam (1997:59) rightly asserts that these monuments constitute a vital part of our national heritage and patrimony. Therefore, they should be maintained. Also in her work on “Illicit Traffic of Cultural Property: The Effects on Monuments”, Bodam (1998:77) also clearly stated that monuments are one of the many elements that make up the whole body of our traditions and so should be preserved for posterity.

Nevertheless, from his own point of view, Onyeabor (2008), identified some of these monuments in Lokoja as attractions which can
be used to develop cultural or historic tourism in Lokoja. He however, did not see them as monuments which have not been officially gazetted and as a result, are being destroyed daily due to lack of care instead of being preserved for posterity, tourism development and the overall development of the country. This is the gap which the researcher hopes to fill.

2.2.2 MONUMENTS/HISTORIC SITES AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Monuments and other heritage resources are important icons upon which tourism is developed, sustained and promoted across the world today with the attendant social and economic benefits accruing from them. In the Asian countries, the interchange of cultures over thousands of years has resulted in some of the best historic monuments of the area and these have brought about tourism development (Royal Government of Cambodia, 2000). Monuments have also been identified as part of the attractions which constitute the diversified tourism products in Cambodia. The country’s historic site of Angkor is one of the wonders of the world. It was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in December 1992. Cambodia is also home to numerous other historic sites and splendid landscapes. The arrivals of tourists generate hard currency
to the country and help solve their employment problems. (Son, Soubert and Suong, Leang Hay 1995:1)

At Chaco Canyon in North-western New Mexico in the United States of America, the Native American Anasazi established a series of settlements and presently these heritage resources of this ancient community form the Chaco Culture National Park. Presently, this Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is being managed by the U.S. National Park service. It also attracts thousands of tourists from across the world (Brugge, et.al,1988). Furthermore, “the valley of the kings and queens” (The burial place of the great Pharaohs of Thebes, consisting of hundred of tombs displaying the religious life in the ancient Egypt through the inscriptions and scenes carved on the walls and the ceilings of the tombs, as well as the tomb of queen Nefertari), the Luxor Temple, the Karnak Temple etc, all in Egypt are important tourist haven (Agnew and Demas, 2008:20). According to Torre and Maclean (1997:21), the Hellenistic and Roman architecture in Ephesus, Turkey attracts thousands of tourists from different parts of the world. Also the Stonehenge in Wiltshire England which stands impressively as a prehistoric monument of unique importance, and which is also a World Heritage Site, acts as a magnet in attracting visitors to that region (www.wiltshire.co.uk). More so, monuments and historic sites have also
contributed their quota to the tourism development of India. (Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, 2009).

Heritage sites play an important role in the promotion of tourism in many developing countries. For instance, in Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Costa Rica, Indonesia and Ecuador, heritage sites are important international tourist attractions (UNEP/WTO in Okpoko and Okonkwo 2005:81).

If properly harnessed and utilized, Nigeria’s monuments, historic places and archaeological sites could contribute to tourism and economic development of the country (Makinde, 2005). In other words, when cultural heritage tourism development is achieved, it also helps to protect our nation’s natural and cultural treasures and improve the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. These heritage resources are saved and shared with visitors, thereby bringing about tourism development. As Ekechukwu (1990:123-124) succinctly avers, harnessing of the country’s heritage namely, monuments, historic and archaeological sites etc, can contribute immensely to the development of tourism and the nation at large. For Orji (2010:22), harnessing the numerous monuments in Nigeria will lead to the attraction of more visitors to the country. This in turn will lead to tourism development. Furthermore, in her work on
“Fading Memories: The Defacement of National Monuments in Bauchi State”, Bodam (1997:59) noted that Nigeria can use its monuments as tourist attractions considering the fact that tourism has been rated the second revenue generator in the world. She also went further to state that these monuments should not just be preserved and left that way, but, should be put to good use.

As Okpoko and Okpoko, (2002:59) rightly assert, more than sixty-three historic monuments have been gazetted by the National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM). They include buildings of historical and architectural interest, ancient city walls, cemeteries, etc. Among them are the historic building at Keffi Madaki in Bauchi State, Omo-Ukwu temple in Abia State, Oshun shrines at Oshogbo in Osun State, e.t.c. These have played important roles in the development of tourism in the nation. Thus, a plethora of the heritage resources which Nigeria is blessed with have contributed to its tourism development. Tourism development therefore, entails utilizing the available tourism resources in a given environment to achieve tourist satisfaction. As a result, it stimulates local economics by generating income and employment (Goodall and Stabler 1992 in Agu, 1998). But, for tourism development to be orderly and acceptable, it requires careful planning (Kendell 1990 in Ajalla 2007:35).Therefore, tourism
development will involve the availability of those things necessary to be put in place to make a tourist experience a comfortable stay.

2.3 **THEORETICAL ORIENTATION**

Having discussed the Systems, Environmental and Cultural theories, the researcher has adjudged the behavioral environmental theories as appropriate for the explanation of the research topic. This theory as earlier stated; notes that human ignorance and lack of environmental social ethics or social/tourism environmental ethics are the reasons for environmental damage. Relating the theory to this work, the lack of awareness of the local people about the importance of these monuments and historic sites in their environments as well as the poor preservation and conservation measures being taken to prevent these monuments from destruction could be attributed to human ignorance.

Furthermore, these monuments and sites are also faced with the risk of being damaged as they are exposed in the open. Even though laws have been promulgated in order to safeguard them, they have not been judiciously implemented. As a result, the monuments and sites face defacement and destruction. This study intends therefore to examine the data and to determine how human ignorance and lack of environmental
social ethics influenced the low level of preservation or heritage resources in the study area. In this context social ethics/or human ignorance constitutes lack of knowledge of the existence or importance of these monuments and sites, low level of awareness, etc.

CHAPTER THREE
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 THE GEOLOGY OF THE STUDY AREA

Lokoja has an undulating topography. In some areas, the relief is as low as 46 metres whereas in other areas like the Mount Patti area, the relief is as high as 458.3 metres above sea level.

The major drainage of the study area is the River Niger. The other minor drainage is the River Mimi, which also drains into the River Niger. The River Niger provides surface water requirement for the populace in the study area. Also, there were groundwater exploitation resources such as bore hole, taps and wells around the study area. Along the River Mimi area, the vegetation cover is heavy as a result of the presence or
proximity of water and good soil type (weathered basement rocks) that support the growth of plants.

The area is dominated by hard rocks and other soft rocks. The study area is very close to the Nigerian Basement complex, if not part of it. From field observations, the soil type in the area seems to have been formed from the weathering of the basement complex rocks. And as such, would support agriculture to a high extent as a result of the minerals incorporated in the soil from the original rocks they weathered from.

Also, some sediments from the Bida Basin also make up some of the rocks of the Lokoja area. Sediments of the middle Benue trough could also be found in the study area.

3.2 GEOGRAHICAL LOCATION

Lokoja is the capital of Kogi State. Its location on the Nigerian map is on the intersecting point of longitude 7°49’N and latitude 6°44’E (Edah, 1987 in Okpoko, 1993:248). The town lies on the western bank of the River Niger at an altitude of 45 – 125 metres (Lokoja Master Plan 1974-2005 in Alabi, 2009). Lokoja is also approximately 162 kilometres from Abuja the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) of Nigeria. In other words, the town is strategically located as it is a gateway to the Northern and
Southern parts of the country (Alabi, 2009). It is located on the slope of a hill known as Mount Patti which is above 400 metres above sea level. As a result of the altitude of this hill, one can view the whole town from it. The town is bounded on the North and East by river Niger and Benue respectively, on the West by mount Patti and on the south by Ajaokuta (Okpoko 1993:248). The town also shares common boundaries with Kabba/Bunu, Ajaokuta, Koton-Karfe, Bassa and Adavi Local Government Areas (Alabi, 2009).
FIG. 1. MAP OF KOGI STATE SHOWING LOKOJA

Source: SPDC Road map (2000)
FIG. 2: TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF LOKOJA
Source. Topographic map of Nigeria, Lokoja Sheet 62, (1967)
FIG 3 MAP OF THE STUDY AREA

Source: Topographic map of Nigeria, Lokoja Sheet 62 (1967)
3.3 **CLIMATE AND VEGETATION**

The vegetation of the area falls within the Guinea Savannah zone. There are tall grasses, shrubs and trees with very big roots and trunks in the study area. These grasses and trees are greenish and blossom during the wet seasons, but wither during the dry seasons, thereby leaving the land relatively open. Some of the trees found in the area are Shea butter- *Vitellaria paradoxa*, oil bean- *Spakia* coined, locust bean–*Parkia Biglobosa* etc (www.onlinenigeria.com). Given the existence of geologic features like sedimentary rocks and aluminum along the river beds, farming activities are carried out extensively and this helps in agricultural productivity (www.kogistatenigeria.org, 2009).

Lokoja, in Kogi State experiences two types of seasons namely; the rainy and the dry seasons. The wet or rainy season lasts from May to September each year, with the highest period or months of rainfall being between August and September. The annual average rainfall ranges from 1000mm to 1500mm, while the mean annual humidity is about 70% (Kogi state Tourist Guide, n.d).

On the other hand, the dry season usually sets in from October to April. Lokoja experiences an average sunshine hour of 6.7 per day. Thus, Lokoja generally experiences hot weather condition and this could prevail all through the year. However, it is pertinent to note that during the dry
months of November, December, January and February, the temperature experienced in Lokoja could be as high as 33°C to 36°C (EJPAU, 2007). Within this period however, the northeast trade wind blows from Sahara desert. It is known as harmattan and it is associated with coldness. This study was conducted in March 2011. And at this time, the temperature of the area was hot. Even the residents of the area confirmed that it had not rained even once at that time of the year whereas other areas in the south-south and south eastern parts of Nigeria had experienced rainfall about five (5) to seven (7) times at that time.

3.4 **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Lokoja is believed to have been in existence as early as 1800. Some individuals and/or groups of people from different tribes had been living in the area prior to the coming of the Europeans and early missionaries from the early 19th century. The migration of these various groups to the area could be attributed to the nearness of the location to the banks of rivers Niger and Benue. In other words, they may have had different intents for their movements. While some may have been attracted to the area in order to enjoy the resources from the rivers, others may have migrated to the area to enjoy other opportunities which the town had to offer.
It has been documented in many sources that, the first group of people who originally settled in Lokoja were the Oworo people. It was said that the people migrated from Ile-Ife to Agbaja and then finally settled on Mount Patti. They saw Mount Patti as a refuge since the main purpose for their migration was to flee for safety from the attacks which they suffered from the then Massaba, Etsu Nupe. This took place in 1825. They were able to survive and sustain themselves by engaging in farming and hunting activities. This continued until the Europeans arrived. However, when Dr William Balfour Baikie arrived at Lokoja first in 1854 and later in 1857, through his efforts and encouragements, the people descended from Mount Patti. He did this through Chief Menaha, the last Oworo Chief on Mount Patti (Okpoko, 1993:252). Thus, they came down and settled with the other settlers.

Other subsequent settlers include the Nupes, the Hausa, the Yorubas, the Igalas, the Igbirras (Igbirra Tao and Igbirri Koto) and the Bassa-Nge people. However, there are other groups apart from the ones mentioned above but they are classified as temporary visitors and non-indigens. They include the Igbos, Tivs, Ijaws e.t.c.

Furthermore, each of the groups claims to own and to have named Lokoja and they have different notions on this. To the Oworos, they believe and claim that they were the first to settle in Lokoja and thus
Lokoja derived its name from “Lukoja” being an Oworo word which means “the fire place that attracts man to it”. More so, the Hausas believe that Lokoja was coined from “Luko” and “ja”; meaning “an Iroko tree with a red bark” while to the Nupes, Lokoja derived its name from “Patti Lukongi” meaning “the hill of doves”. To the Yorubas, Lokoja got its name from “Ilu-Oke Oja” which means the country of scattered villages”. The Igalas on their own part believe that Lokoja was coined from Lia-ka-jeja; meaning “let us go and produce fish” while the Igbirras came to settle in Lokoja from Kwararafa in the early 19th century. However the group was later divided into Igbirra Tao (Okene) and Igbirra Koto. Igbirra Tao separated and also migrated to another area while the remaining group (Igbirra Koto) remained in their position (Okpoko, 1993:252-254.) Furthermore, the Bassa-Nges are believed to have settled at the foot of mount Patti when they came into Lokoja. They later migrated to settle across the Niger (Ali, 1991:8).

Nevertheless, even though there were many groups who came to settle in Lokoja, it is difficult to state the groups which came to settle in Lokoja in a sequential order after the Oworo people. Moreso, it is a fact that all the groups tried to exercise authority over their various quarters and not over the entire geographical area. However that notwithstanding, the term ‘Lokoja confluence’ was first mentioned officially on 10th of

Furthermore, in the early nineteenth century the Europeans and missionaries came to Lokoja. Due to the prominence of the location of Lokoja which it had because of rivers Niger and Benue, it triggered off interests in the minds of the Europeans who were interested in explorations. As a result, this brought about the exploration of the Niger by Mungo Park. Consequently, other British explorers followed suit. For instance, on 19th July 1832, Richard Lander sailed from liver pool to trace the Niger River lower course. He did this not minding the threats which cholera and malaria posed to them. As a result of this, the British began making their way into Lokoja. However, it is worthy to note that the 1832 expedition was originated by Macgregor Laird (Sadibo and Jacob 2006: 24).

In 1841, another expedition took place and was commanded by captain Trotter and Commanders William and Bird Allen. Later in 1854, 1857 and 1864 Dr. Balfour Baikie undertook his expeditions. All these were carried out in order to make discoveries. These led to the establishment of a permanent British settlement under Dr. Baikie. Thus the need to raise certain structures arose, factories, warehouses and stores were built. As a result, traders from different parts of Nigeria were
attracted to the area. Thus, Dr. Baikie is regarded today as the founder of modern Lokoja (Okpoko 1993:250, Sadibo and Jacob, 2006:26). Lokoja was later declared the Northern Nigeria Protectorate by the British Government and Sir Fredrick Lugard became the first Governor of the Protectorate on January 1 1900 in Lokoja.

Today, it is on record that Lokoja was the first administrative headquarters of the Northern Nigeria. As a result, most of the streets in Lokoja are named after the Europeans particularly in the old settlement of the town. Moreso, because of its early contact with the whites the town had early contact with western education.

3.5 Socio-political Organization

As earlier stated, Lokoja is an area made up of people from diverse ethnic backgrounds. When these groups arrived at Lokoja, they settled in different quarters or “Anguas” which were allocated to them.

The Hausas resided at Angua Hausa, Angua Kura, Angua Rimi and Angua Yashi. On the other hand, the Igalas settled on the left bank of rivers Niger and Benue. However, their main settlement or Angua was Kporoka. The Kakandas who were known for fishing and blacksmithing were living close to the river Niger but later moved to the Kabawa settlement (Panaki, 1968, Obayemi, 1968 in Audu, 2009).
On their own part, the Igbira Okene and Koto's settlements were Angua Patankoto and Felele. The Oworos who first settled on mount Patti later moved down to their quarters known as Salama-leikun or Karaworo quarters while the Nupes had theirs at Nupawa and Cantonment. The Bassa-Nges occupied the Adankolo and Lokongoma in Lokoja (Panaki, 1968, Abdulahi, 2006 in Audu, 2009).

However, these different groups lived in their different quarters but formed a single socio-political unit. As a result, they were closely related socio-politically. They interacted freely and tolerated one another.

However, the political situation took another turn especially with the advent of the Europeans in Lokoja as it became controversial. The Massaba, the Etsu of Nupe appointed Jacob Meaux as the first chief of Lokoja. However later, due to the preferential treatment that was given to the Hausa Massaba, the other groups retaliated as this was unacceptable to them. This was later resolved and this brought about the installation of the “Maigari.” Today, Lokoja is under the control of Maigari who is of Hausa origin and he is assisted by a Waziri. Furthermore, there are twenty one local chiefs who represent the various quarters under the Maigari of Lokoja.

It is pertinent to note that these groups have their various criteria for installing their local chiefs. For example, the Maigari has no right to
install or depose the Olu of Oworo. However, the Maigaris have their ruling houses where they come from.

3.6 **SOCIO-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

Lokoja is made up of people with diverse cultural practices and activities. As a result of the fact that these people came from different tribes, they have various ways of carrying out their festivals and celebrations. They also have their various values, norms and do’s and don’ts. They do have their dancing styles and these are also reflected in their socio-cultural activities. Thus, no particular group’s festivals or other socio-cultural activities dominate. For instance, the Agbo masquerade festival is celebrated by the Oworo people between the months of March and April every year. Moreso, the Okuns also celebrate the Oro/Egungun festival while generally, the fishermen in Lokoja celebrate the Dokwo fishing festival and this also comes up in March/April. It is also worthy to mention that recently, about two editions of Lokoja boat regatta was held.

However, one thing is clear. Each of these ethnic groups has rights to carry out its celebrations as at when due and to observe its cultural norms and practices which help to reinforce its values and bring its people together.
Religiously, Islamic, Christianity and traditional religion exist in Lokoja and they live together as a result of the cosmopolitan nature of the place. The Muslims go to their Mosques for their worship while the Christians also worship in their various churches. On their own part, the traditionalists carry out their practices in their various ways, using carved symbols that come in different shapes and sizes.

3.7 **SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES**

The mainstay of the people of Lokoja is Agriculture both in the past and presently. The people engage in farming, fishing, grazing of livestock and trading.

Farming in Lokoja is by rotational bush fallow system. The farm produce include yam – *Diascorea spp.*, cassava- *manihot esculenta*, maize- *zeamays*, rice- *oritza sativa* e.t.c. It is pertinent to note that the men carry out the main farming activities such as clearing the bush, tilling of the ground, planting of yam seeds etc, while the women and their children carry out the cultivation of such crops as maize-*zeamays*, groundnuts-*Arachis hypogea*, etc. These farm products provide food for the people and the excesses are sold at the markets. However, farming can be carried out throughout the year in Lokoja because of its nearness to the rivers.
Fishing is also one of the economic activities of the people of the area. In fact a lot of people engage in fishing activities. As a result of this, the sales of varieties of fish abound in Lokoja. Even most people living at the Federal Capital Territory Abuja, travel down to Lokoja to buy fish either for their consumption or re-selling.

The people also engage in livestock activities. This serves as a source of provision of meat for consumption while some are sold in order to realize money for settling other needs. Such livestock include cows, goats, chickens e.t.c.

Furthermore, the people of Lokoja are noted for their great skills in weaving and carving. Thus, they produce materials like mats, stools, doors and other kinds of objects.

Another major source of livelihood for the people of Lokoja is trading. In fact, both in the past and present, a lot of commercial activities have, and is still going on in the area due to its closeness to the banks of river Niger and Benue. This is also one of the reasons why the European explorers came to Lokoja. Thus, the buying and selling of agricultural products as well as other goods and services take place at their markets and people from the neighboring towns and all over the country come for this purpose. The major market in Lokoja is Kpata market (the oldest local market). Finally, the area of study is also
endowed with resources like cotton, iron ore etc and these are also utilized in order to make economic gains.
CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

Monuments, historic sites and other attractions are fundamental for harnessing Nigeria’s tourism. These monuments and sites as well as other relics of the past, which help in reminding us about the history of the Nigerian people, abound in different parts of the country including Lokoja, Kogi State (Jiboku and Jiboku, 2010). The activities, legacies and materials which the Europeans who first visited the country left behind made Lokoja to become a store-house of historical relics. Unfortunately, these are yet to be harnessed for development purposes. For the country to enjoy the maximum benefits accruing from these monuments and historic sites, something really needs to be done to bring them to limelight.

In the light of the above, the researcher intends to identify the monuments and historic sites in the study area, examine their current state and finally determine the conservation/preservation measures which can be employed in the protection of the monuments and historic sites. The chapter also contains the assessment of the tourism
potentialities of the monuments and sites as well as the link they have to national development.

4.2 DATA PRESENTATION

4.2.1 MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC SITES IN LOKOJA

4.2.1.1 National Museum of Colonial History Lokoja (Lord Lugard’s Senior staff Quarters)

The Museum of Colonial History, Lokoja which is situated at 7º 48’16.3”N and 6º 44’26.8”E is located along the Lord Lugard road, Lokoja. At the coming of the Europeans to Nigeria in the early 19th century, Lokoja, was the first place they settled. Consequently, when Sir Fredrick Lugard (a colonel, commissioner and commandant) became the first Governor General of the protectorate on January 1, 1900, it became imperative for various buildings and structures to be constructed for his members of staff. As a result of this, five of Lord Lugard’s senior staff quarters were erected. These buildings accommodated the senior members of staff who worked with the British colonial administration. The materials used in the construction of these buildings were imported from England. Thus, the building were prefabricated over there and then transported down to Lokoja where they were assembled together. The houses were built in such a way that they can also be easily dismantled and transported elsewhere at anytime. These buildings represent significant landmark in Lokoja and they date as far back as 1900 (Kogi
State Ministry of Culture and Tourism 2010:8). They are objects of attraction as a result of the unique way they were built. Also, their uniqueness is portrayed on the way they were mounted on elevated platforms. From the information gathered, these buildings were elevated then, to avoid the destruction of the buildings by the over flooding of river Niger. Presently, these houses are used as offices, residences or courtrooms even though they are in dilapidated conditions. Four of them are occupied by the Museum of Colonial History, Nigerian Union of Journalists, Kogi Hotels and Tourism Board and Upper Area Court 2. The museum contains materials and photographs which can help one reflect and understand the history of Lokoja and Nigeria. The pictures in the museum include that of the personalities of the pre-colonial era, the colonial times, independent days, and the first republic. Others are the pictures and information about the explorers, missionaries and monuments etc.
Plate 1: National Museum of Colonial History, Lokoja. (One of Lord Lugard’s senior staff quarters).

4.2.1.2 The Tourism Board (Also one of Lord Lugard’s Staff Quarters)

This is also located on Lord Lugard road; about 375metres from the Museum of Colonial History. It is also situated at N7°48’15.7"N and 6°44’23.9"E. This is also one of the pre-fabricated buildings used by the senior staff who worked with Lord Lugard. Presently this building is used as Kogi State Tourism Board and it is adjacent to the Museum of Colonial History, Lokoja.

4.2.1.3 The first Prison Yard in Northern Nigeria

The distance from the tourism board to the first prison in Northern Nigeria is 2062.5metres. It is also located at 7°48’ 9.3"N and 6°43’57.7"E. This prison was built by Lord Lugard in 1902 in order to check the excesses of those who disobeyed during his colonial administration. Lord Lugard detained people who were found guilty and were sentenced beyond six months of imprisonment in this prison. Within the premises there is a storey building referred to as the watchman tower. From this tower, the watchman watched the prisoners and through this means, tried to detect when a prisoner made attempts to escape. The prison had provisions where condemned Africans were hanged. However, the
activities of this prison were moved to Enugu and Okene later in 1945. Presently, the laundry services of the Kogi Hotels are carried out in the building as it is located within the premises of Kogi Hotels, Lokoja.

Plate 2: The first prison yard in Northern Nigeria
Plate 3: The Prison’s Watchman’s Tower from where the prisoners were watched.

4.2.1.4 The Site where the Royal Niger Company Flag was Lowered

This site is situated at 7°48' 38.0"N and 6°44’36.5"E. The distance from the First Prison in Northern Nigeria to this fourth location is 3000 metres. The length of the structure is 9.6 m, while the width is 7.5m.

Prior to the handing over of economic and political power as well as the mining rights to Sir Fredrick Lugard by Sir Taubman Goldie in 1900, four European companies which were later amalgamated in 1882 by Goldie were operating on the Niger. These companies were the West African Company, Miller Brothers, James Pinnock and the Central African Company. When they were amalgamated, they became known as the United African Company (U.A.C), but this was later changed to National African Company (N.A.C). This company was solely in charge of the trades going on at the confluence. Later, the British government gave the company a charter in 1886 to manage the affairs of the region north of the confluence on its behalf. As time went on, the company later became known as the Royal Niger Company (R.N.C). As a result of the activities of this company, the Northern Protectorate was declared and Sir Fredrick Lugard became the first governor on January 1 1900. During the swearing in ceremony in Lokoja, the Royal Niger Company’s
flag was lowered and the Union Jack flag was hoisted. This signaled the beginning of colonial administration in Northern Nigeria.

Today, the spot is fenced with blocks and Pillars in order to protect it for posterity.

Plate 4: The Site where the Royal Niger Company flag was lowered
Plate 5: The Inner view of the Royal Niger spot

4.2.1.5 **Lord Lugard’s Safe**

Lord Lugard’s safe or bank was built in 1905. It takes 625 metres to get to this location from the Royal Niger Spot and it is located at 7°48’36.0"N and 6°44’46.5"E. It is the first of its kind in Northern Nigeria and it is a building with a rectangular shape measuring about 3×4 metres. Inside the building there is an iron box which is stuck to the ground. It was inside this iron box that money was saved. When Kogi State came into existence, some road constructions took place. During one of such activities, a bulldozer came to destroy and pull the building down. However, as a result of the fortified nature of the building, this was not achieved. Today, this small rectangular building serves as one of
the historical relics that were left behind by the activities of the white men.

Plate 6: Lord Lugard’s safe

4.2.1.6 The European/African Cemeteries

These cemeteries are located in three different places in Lokoja. While two are located along the old Lokoja Okene road, the remaining one which is the largest and the oldest is located beside the Kogi travelers loading point in the central part of the town at 7°48’28.30"N and 6°44’47.30"E. The distance from Lord Lugard’s safe to this location is 875 metres. As it was rightly stated by the Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism (2010:8), it is the largest in Nigeria. Its measurement is 120×100 metres. Some military men who worked under Lord Lugard as well as African Missionaries who worked under Bishop Ajayi Crowther were buried there. Some of the tomb stones in the
cemeteries date as far back as 1867. On these tombstones are inscriptions which explain the activities of the person buried there, the name, profession as well as what led to the person’s death. While some died due to malaria attacks or at war fronts, others died during their missionary activities. The cemeteries contain between eighty to six hundred graves.

Among the African missionaries who were buried there were Evangelist Thomas Walter Bako who died in 1902 from an arrow shot at him while carrying out his missionary work. Another missionary was Bishop Thomas Obadiah who died in 1912.

On the other hand, the Europeans that were buried there include William Fell, Mr. Bedford, Pay-Master Maxwell, Lt. George White etc.

Plate 7: The African/European cemetery
4.2.1.7  **Tombs of Late Emirs**

Located at 7°49.1'15.80"N, and 6°44'48.9"E, it takes 2750 metres from the sixth location which is the African/European Cemetary to this seventh location. These tombs of some deposed Emirs of Northern Nigeria are found in Kabawa settlement, Lokoja.

When Sir Fredrick Lugard took over power in 1900, he was also in control of the Emirates in Northern Nigeria. Thus, indirect rule was practiced then. The Emirs were used as the sources to get to the people. However, some of the Emirs opposed the colonial rule and were stubborn and reluctant to adhere to instructions. Such Emirs were banished from their constituencies. Some were even forced down to Lokoja with their families. This was in a bid to subject them to strict surveillance. Eventually, some of them died and were buried there. Amongst them were the Emirs of Zaria, Kano, Nupe and Gumel.

According to Ibrahim Mohammed, the guard and cleaner of Emirs graves, the Northerners believe that these late Emirs were their grand fathers who died during the colonial rule. So, they visit their grave yard from time to time to pray. They normally come from Kano, Kaduna, Zaria and Maidugri.
Plate 8: picture showing one of the tombs

Plate 9: Picture showing the frontage of one of the buildings presently used for cutting of fire woods
Plate 10: The inner view of one of the tombs

4.2.1.8 The Iron of Liberty

The structure housing the Iron of Liberty is a 3.4×2.7 metres in size and is located at 7°48'51.3"N, and 6°44’47.8”E. The measurement of the distance from location seven to this location is 1125 metres. Simply put, the iron of liberty is a symbol that represents freedom from slavery.

According to the information gathered, in those days, the Nupes were known for their escapades in wars. Thus, after fighting wars, they sold any group they subdued during the intertribal wars into slavery. They were able to achieve this through the River Niger. The slaves were further transported to the south from where they were sold to the Europeans.
However, when slave trade was abolished, Lokoja became one of the places where slaves were seized from the dealers and as Onyeabor (2008:62) rightly stated, the spot where the slaves were set free is referred to as “Iron of Liberty”. There are two pieces of iron poles that were used to mark this spot, which is located within the premises of Holy Trinity Primary School, Lokoja. According to the information gathered, once the slaves got to this spot, they automatically became free. There is also a marble plaque which contains some information about the achievements of late Bishop Ajayi Crowther in this spot (Sadibo and Jacob, 2006:45). It would be pertinent to note that Bishop Crowther was also a victim of slave trading in 1821, but was later rescued. However, today he is remembered and respected for championing the abolition of slave trade which took place in 1860.
The oldest primary school in Northern Nigeria is situated at 7°48'49.2"N and 6° 44'47.1"E. The size of the building is 22×12.7 metres. More so, the eight location (the Iron of Liberty) and the ninth location (the Oldest Primary School) are 65 metres apart as they are located in the same compound.

Because of its location and its early contact with the white men, Lokoja had early contact with western education. Consequently, this school was established in 1865 by Bishop Ajayi Crowther. It is located within the Anglican Church compound where the iron of liberty is also situated. Initially, the buildings were two. Later in 1907 the two
buildings were renovated (Sadibo and Jacob, 2006:44), but one has been demolished against the advice of the management of National Museum of Colonial History Lokoja in March 1999. The remaining one is such in a dilapidated condition that the authority which pulled the first one down, may decide some day to also destroy the second one as the building is already constituting a potential danger unless something is done very fast to salvage the situation.

Even though, there are no records on the pioneer teachers and the pupils, the school serves as one of the tourist attractions in Lokoja.

Plate 13: The Oldest primary School in Northern Nigeria.
Plate 14: The Inner View of the First Primary School

4.2.1.10 The Cenotaph

The World War Cenotaph is located at 7°47'56.7"N and 6°44'37.3"E along Muritala Mohammed way, Lokoja. It has a measurement of 16.8×50 metres and it also takes 2812 metres to get to this location from the Oldest Primary School. It was built in memory of soldiers who fought bravely and lost their lives during the two world wars which took place between 1914 and 1918, and 1939 and 1945 (Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2010:7). It is a big concrete block with an old Maxim gun on it. There is also a tablet which was mounted on the cenotaph, and on it are inscriptions of the names of soldiers that their excellent performance during the wars will always be remembered and respected. The year 1914 Cameroon and East African 1918 wars are
boldly written on the relics of the canon on display. (Sadibo and Jacob 2006:48; Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism 2010:7)

The cenotaph is usually relatively taken care of and always repainted because it is the place where the annual armed forces/remembrance day of the Nigerian soldiers take place.

Plate 15: The Sign board and the entrance to the Cenotaph premises
Mount Patti (Lord Lugar's Rest House)

The distance between location ten (The Cenotaph) and this eleventh location is about 4125 metres. It is located at 7°49'11.47"N and 6°44'06.47"E. Mount Patti is a massive hill towering over Lokoja. The height is about 458.3 metres above sea level (Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2010:9). The top is a table top of about 15 square kilometers. From the top, the River Niger-Benue confluence could be seen and this informs why Lord Lugard built his rest house there. The Lord Lugard’s rest house is about 4×6 metres in measurement and is over 100 years old. Opposite the rest house is the Baobab tree—*Adansonia digitata* which belongs to the family of *Bombacaceae*. This tree is as old as the building. The fruits of the Baobab are edible and the flowers are also used in preparing soup.

More so, the weather there is cooler and more favorable compared to what is obtainable when one comes down from the hill. It was gathered that Lord Lugard viewed the activities that were going on at the river from this hill. He was able to do this with the aid of his binocular lens. The height of the hill gives the media wider coverage advantage. As a result of this, there is a good number of the media houses located on
top of the hill and, as the Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism (2010:9) rightly averred, they include, the Nigeria Television Authority (NTA) Lokoja, Confluence TV (CTV), Grace FM, 95.5, Radio Kogi e.t.c. Farming is also extensive on this hill because the land is fertile. This could be as a result of the rocks available on the hill.

Plate 17: Lord Lugard’s rest house on Mount Patti
Plate 18: The Baobab tree-Adansonia digitata

Plate 19: The Baobab flower used in preparing soup
4.2.1.12 **Lokoja Club**

The Lokoja Club is situated at 7°48'17.47"N and 6°44'3.97"E and it is 2875 metres away from Mount Patti. This oldest club in Northern Nigeria is located along mount Patti road, in Lokoja. It was established in 1901 by Lord Lugard and was built to be enjoyed by Lord Lugard and his senior members of staff. It was the place where they relaxed and recreated after the day’s work. Even though the building has been extended, it still retains its original structure. Sporting facilities (both indoor and outdoor) abound in the club compound. However, some other sporting facilities have recently been put in place for the enjoyment of the
members. However, for one to have access to these facilities, the person must register as a member.

Also, there is a small library within the premises of the Lokoja club where a collection of books were made. It is pertinent to state that some of these books date as far back as 1901. Lokoja Club is regarded as the oldest of all the relics found in Lokoja (Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2010:8).

Plate 21: The entrance to the Lokoja Club
4.2.1.13 **Lord Lugard’s Personal House and Office (Present Kogi State Government House)**

The Kogi state government house which was Lord Lugard’s personal house and office is situated at 7°48’00.2"N and 6°43’55.8"E. From the Lokoja Club to this location is 625 metres.

When Lord Fredrick Lugard became the first Governor General in 1900, he built his house and his office from where he administered his duties. The materials used in the construction of the building were imported from England. The building which has been dated to 1901 (100 years) still retains its structure. However, it has been slightly renovated and is presently used as the Kogi state government house.
4.2.1.14 The Confluence of Rivers Niger and Benue

From the government house to this fourteenth location is about 7812.5 metres. It is also situated at 7°45’33.4”N and 6°44’43.7”E. The rivers Niger and Benue are the two longest rivers in West Africa. The river Niger which was first explored in 1775 by Mungo Park (an exploration which was completed by the Lander brothers who passed through the confluence on October 20th 1830), is about 4,160 kilometers in length. (Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism 2010:9) While the river Niger is brownish in colour, the river Benue is light blue in colour.

The source of the river Niger is from Futa Djallon Plateau which is on the border of Sierra Leone and Guinea. The river joins river Benue from the Cameroon Mountains at Lokoja; thus forming a “Y” shape structure known as the Niger-Benue confluence from which the name “confluence state” was derived (Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism 2010:9; Onyeabor, 2008:60). Furthermore, the rivers drain southwards into the ocean. More so, the confluence can be viewed either from a boat travelling southwards of the river or from the top of mount Patti. Fishing activities are carried out in the rivers. Also, close to the river is situated a five star hotel known as the Confluence Beach Hotel. This hotel was built for the comfort and relaxation of visitors who visit the area.
Plate 23: Picture showing the River Niger

4.3 DATA ANALYSIS

4.3.1 The State of the Monuments and Historic Sites in Lokoja

Presently, interest in the preservation of monuments and other cultural heritage has become a world-wide trend that it should no longer be overlooked but should be highly considered in this part of the world. While different countries underscore the need to protect their various monuments and historic sites, little efforts or none is made at achieving this in Nigeria; the resultant effect being the destruction of these precious heritage resources and tourist attractions.

A look at the state of the monuments and historic sites in Lokoja Kogi state shows that they are nothing to write home about. Even
though a great majority of these monuments are strategically located, most of them are partly ruined. This is because they are neglected, unkempt and dirty. Of course, one would think that by now, such monuments would have been developed into beautiful attractions for the development of the country, but on the contrary, they have been left to rot away carelessly. Worse still, some of them have cracks all over, while some have been covered with posters and grasses to the extent that they can hardly attract the interests of passers-by.

For instance, the Lugard’s senior staff houses which include the museum of colonial history building, and the tourism board among others, are in a bad state. In fact, the little preservation steps that were taken were done badly. It would be recalled that these buildings were pre-fabricated and were built without a single nail which gave the buildings their unique structural forms. Unfortunately, presently the preservation of the buildings is not being carried out by professionals. In fact, there are nails all over the buildings which were used in repairing them.

The first prison yard in Northern Nigeria which should have served as a beautiful tourist attraction has been turned into a place where the laundry services of the Kogi hotels are carried out, while the remaining part, that is the watch man’s tower has grasses all over it.
Furthermore, the spot where the Royal Niger flag was lowered to give way to the Union Jack has posters all around it, even the structure was almost removed during road construction. Same was the fate of Lord Lugard’s safe as it was also almost removed during road construction. The only reason that stopped the removal was because the safe was strongly fixed to the ground.

The European/African Cemetery which is the largest of its kind in Nigeria is also in a dilapidated state with grasses and dirt all over the cemetery. In fact, the situation was so bad that when the researcher got to the site with the Director of Kogi State Tourism Board, they saw somebody defecating right inside the premises of the cemetery. It was quite an appalling and ugly sight. Worse still, some of the tombs have cracks while some of the inscriptions on them have broken. Also the tombs of late Emirs who died and were buried in different locations in Kabawa settlement in Lokoja are not also well taken care of. For instance, at Kabawa settlement, the frontage of the building which houses some of the Emirs tombs are used for cutting fire woods and there were fire woods scattered all over the place. They are so unkempt in spite of the fact that visitors come to the place.

More so, the Holy Trinity Primary School which was the first primary school in Northern Nigeria is not also exempted from the neglect
of being preserved. The building is in such a dilapidated state that it looks as if it could collapse at any minute. It would be recalled that initially there were two buildings, but sadly, one has been demolished by the Anglican Church which owns the compound where the school is situated. The roof of the remaining building has almost fallen down to the extent that it has become dangerous to allow pupils go into the classes for their studies. Even though this has been brought to the attention of the federal government, nothing has been done to renovate the school. This is quite unfortunate.

Also, the Lugard’s rest house is also at the verge of collapsing. In fact, there is no roof covering the building and the blocks were almost disintegrating as at the time this research was carried out. It was very glaring that no consideration has been made concerning the preservation of this building. If nothing is done very soon and fast, this building will be destroyed. The resultant effect is that we shall loose this valuable source of our historical past.

So far, it is the Iron of liberty, the cenotaph, the Lokoja club and Lord Lugard’s personal house and office (the government house) that have received little attention. The cenotaph is cleaned up every year because it is where the soldiers celebrate their annual armed forces/remembrance day. The Lokoja club has some gaming facilities that were
recently put in place. The government house has also been renovated, being the office of the governor of Kogi State.

However, generally speaking, these treasured heritage in the form of monuments and historic sites in Lokoja are seriously “crying” for conservation and development. It is indeed a real pity that these monuments which constitute our nations pride are neglected and left to their fate with weeds growing on or around them and their walls cracking. Unfortunately, there is no strategic management plan on ground to take care of them. While some are heading towards destruction, those that are preserved are not done with the consent of professionals. This is quite a cause for alarm.

It is also very surprising that even though these monuments and historic sites have qualified to be declared as national monuments; which according to the National Commission for Museum and Monuments (NCMM) Act (1990) involves any relic of human settlement or colonization, statue, model, carving weapon, house post, etc, being of historic, artistic or scientific interest, they are yet to be declared. No wonder they are given little attention.
4.3.2 PRESERVATION/CONSERVATION PRACTICES AND MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC SITES

The fact that preservation/conservation of monument and historic sites in Lokoja so far is not encouraging could be attributed to the fact that the right steps towards achieving it have not been taken.

Presently, there is no holistic plan for the management of these monuments and sites. The little attention given to them by the Kogi state government is not enough. The steps taken so far to preserve/conserve these heritage resources are not coordinated. In other words, they are not professionally done. For example, the Lord Lugard’s buildings which originally were not fabricated with nails now have nails all over them in the name of being renovated.

More so, because these historic treasures have not been officially gazetted anyone who destroys any of them is not punished or prosecuted. And because the local people know little or nothing about the importance of protecting these sites, they do little or nothing to preserve them. The attitude of the local people to these heritage resources could be attributed to the fact that they do not see any economic importance attached to them. Hence, they regard them as public goods which should be used freely as propounded by the environmental theorists. Moreover it could also be because Lokoja is
characterized by multi-culturalism as a result of different ethnic groups brought about by the development of Lokoja, as a result of this, “anything goes”. Also, there are no traditional laws or taboos guiding the monuments and historic sites in the area of study. This quite explains the level of damages that have been done to some of these monuments and sites. Again, even as ridiculous as it sounds, this also explains why a part of the Holy Trinity Primary School was pulled down and nothing was done.

However, all hope is not lost. Some steps can be taken towards achieving the preservation of these heritages and through these ways; the problems could be salvaged, avoided or corrected.

First of all, for effective preservation of these monuments and historic sites, it should be borne in mind that the responsibility cannot be left for the apex body alone, that is the National Commission for Museum and Monuments (NCMM). Rather the help and attention of every good citizen of the country is required for this to be achievable. However, the commission needs to take a proper inventory of the monuments and historic sites. This would enable them to discover those that meet the requirements for declaration as national monuments but have not been officially declared as such. In fact this should be the first
and bold step towards achieving the protection of these monuments and sites.

It suffices to say here that there are existing laws that have been promulgated for the protection of monuments and sites in Nigeria. Efforts need to be made to effectively implement them. The policy on protection of monuments in Nigeria is presently weak and this is an issue that needs to be considered urgently to avoid the indiscriminate destruction of monuments and sites. As stated earlier, the power has been vested on National Commission for Museum and Monuments to take proper care of these monuments and anybody that tries to deface or destroy any of them should be penalized decisively. The question then is, are these laws effectively enforced? According to the part 11, section 18; subsection 1 of the National Commission for Museums and Monuments Act (1990), “...Any person who willfully destroys, defaces, alters, removes or excavates any monument shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of one thousand naira (#1,000) or twice the value of such monument (whichever is higher) or to imprisonment for twelve months or to both the fine and imprisonment...” Unfortunately, these laws are not implemented; hence the defacement of these monuments and sites remains unchecked. It is usually very easy to make laws in Nigeria, but it is often difficult to implement them. These laws should be
judiciously implemented and reviewed so as to put the destruction of the surroundings of monument into consideration.

Furthermore, creating favorable conditions and taking preventive/conservation measures to protect the monuments and historic sites are very important. Thus, it is important that adequate shelter is provided as it will help to protect them. Regular monitoring and maintenance will also prevent total collapse before it is recognized.

More so, to avoid the over-use and degradation of these monuments and historic sites, it is important that the movement of visitors to the sites is checked and controlled as this can lead to their destruction. The monuments can be protected with barb wires. However, this is not the main issue at the site given the number of visitors to the site.

Another measure that needs to be taken towards the preservation of these monuments is to get the people involved. For this to be effectively achieved, it may require the enlightenment of the people on the importance of these monuments and sites. This could be achieved through advertisements, conferences and seminars, public fora, dialogues, etc. These will go a long way in helping to achieve this. Furthermore, their roles here need to be stated clearly. Efforts geared towards the enlightenment and the re-orientation of the peoples mind
about the role which these monuments and historic sites can play in bringing about development will help them appreciate their cultural heritage more and also understand the challenges they are faced with. This will also help to trigger off the zeal in them to help in the protection of these monuments. In fact, it is pertinent to state here that plans made towards the protection of monuments in any given area should incorporate the local community. This will also include all other stakeholders roles and guides to their participation. If involved, they will help in keeping surveillance of the monuments and sites. Thus, the importance of formulating and implementing policies that will help in the protection and development of the monuments and historic sites cannot be over emphasized.

Also, through international co-operation, information on preservation/conservation ethics, principles and practices of monuments can be shared among nations. It is therefore necessary that conservators/restorers of these monuments exchange knowledge with their counter-parts in other nations as well as with relevant institutions. Such institutions include International Centre for the Study of the Restoration and Preservation of Cultural Property (ICCROM), International Council on Monuments and Site (ICOMOS), African Council
on Museums (AFRICOM), etc. This would help in widening their horizon and in helping them perform their jobs better.

On the other hand, some of these monuments may require to be chemically treated or restored (like the Lugard’s buildings which were originally gummed together without nails). In order to achieve this efficiently, the skills of many and different professionals may be require. They may include administrators, anthropologists, antiquarians, archaeologists, architects, building surveyors, conservators, etc. Thus, this task requires that it should be done scientifically and not carelessly. Therefore it is important that the principles and ethics of conservation are adhered to. Some of these principles include but are not limited to the following:

(a) Taking proper and adequate documentation of every treatment.
(b) There should be avoidance of structural and decorative falsification.
(c) The principle of reversibility should be adhered to.
(d) Replacement of some decayed parts should be avoided as far as possible, rather they should be conserved.
(e) There should not be removal of the aging of the original materials. (UNESCO 1968 in Okpoko, 2006:126)

More so, according to the American Institute of Conservation Code of Ethics, in Ekechukwu (n.d), one of the ethics of conservation is that “all actions of the conservator are governed by the respect for the aesthetic, historic and physical integrity of the object”. This makes it very
clear then that before any chemical treatment could be administered to any of the monuments that may require it, there should be proper scrutiny. It should be carried out carefully and thoroughly by experts.

Furthermore, since some of these monuments are made of wood materials for instance the first primary school in Northern Nigeria, the Lugard’s buildings, the first prison in Northern Nigeria, etc, some chemical reactions which include thermal degradation, ultra-violet catalyzed oxidation and attack from various organisms should be checked regularly. This is because; these might bring about the cracking and the disfiguring of some of them. Care must also be taken to ensure that those built with iron like the iron of liberty and the cenotaph, are protected from corroding and rusting. Again, these should be carried out by the proper professionals. Thus, there should be fast adoption of conservation ethics so that some of these monuments that are deteriorating can be saved and protected from losing their original forms or structures. It should also be borne in mind that for this to be achieved there should be good working relationships and co-operation among the various professionals involved.
4.3.3 **PROBLEMS FACING THE PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC SITES**

Some major problems which affect the protection and harnessing of the monuments and historic sites have been identified as follows

(a) **Funding:** This is one of the major problems encountered. Due to lack of funds for maintenance, these monuments are allowed to deteriorate. The fund that is generally allocated to the Kogi State Tourism Board for this task is very limited; though I was not given the figures, and this has constituted a great hindrance to the protection, preservation and development of these precious heritage resources.

(b) **Unchecked Construction Activities:** Because of lack of proper care, and because the laws guiding monuments in Nigeria are not strongly implemented these monuments and sites face the threat of being destroyed during various construction activities ranging from road to building constructions. As would be recalled, this was the fate of part of the first primary school in Northern Nigeria.

(c) **Lack of ground Surveillance:** Without serious policing of the surroundings of these monuments and sites, people continue to take them for granted. Thus, without the security agents who will
help in enforcing the laws, these monuments will continue to face
destructions.

4.3.3.1 **WAYS OF MITIGATING THE PROBLEMS**

In order to save the situation, the government should diversify its
economic sectors and not depend solely on the oil industry. It is only by
so doing that it will recognize the importance of developing these
monuments and historic sites for tourism development and the
development of the nation. This will also encourage the government to
allocate funds to the various bodies that are entrusted with the care of
these monuments. Of course, without proper financing, it will be difficult
to preserve, protect and harness them. Private individuals and firms can
also be convinced to fund activities that are related to the preservation of
these treasured heritages.

More so, the quest for modernization has contributed so much in
the destruction of various monuments and sites. Thus, it is important
that all road, house, office etc constructions which are about to take
place be reported to the governments. The government will in turn
involve heritage conservators, Archaeologists and other experts in the
field who will monitor the activities (Okpoko, n.d).
Furthermore, there should be serious security measures taken, to ensure that these monuments and historic sites are safe from vandalism and other forms of destruction. This will also help in checking movements of people close to them and around them. The use of the police force as well as the local vigilante groups may be required.

4.3.4 MONUMENTS, HISTORIC SITES, TOURISM AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: THE NEXUS

According to Orji (2010: 83) if properly harnessed, monuments in Nigeria will greatly contribute to the promotion of tourism in Nigeria. Again Jiboku, and Jiboku, (2010) support the above statement by their assertion that monuments, historic sites and other attractions which have the ability to boost tourism abound in Nigeria but unfortunately, they have remained untapped for this purpose. This clearly shows that the role which these monuments and historic sites can play in tourism development and in national development cannot be over-estimated.

The Monuments and historic sites in Lokoja constitute part of the tourist attractions which Nigeria is endowed with, and they have significant tourism potentials. These stupendous arrays of monuments and historic sites are located in different parts of Lokoja. According to Maduabuchi, (2006:28), Monuments, sites and buildings have outstanding values attached to them either from the point of view of
history, art or science. They are therefore valued historical aesthetic, ethnological, anthropological or cultural Heritage that constitute the core cultural tourism resources. This therefore implies that these monuments and sites are tourist attractions which can attract visitors from far and near. These attractions constitute the nations pride and their development has to be based on that premise. These monuments can play significant roles in fostering economic and social developments while at the same time being preserved for posterity and entertainment.

Tourism industry has made giant strides both in Africa and around the globe. It has also contributed immensely to the development of several countries. Bold step should be taken therefore to identify these monuments which have not been given attention; bearing in mind the role which that can play in tourism development in Nigeria. Studies reveal that Kogi State in which Lokoja is located, has the highest concentration of historical relics and monuments in Nigeria (Kogi State Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2010). These monuments and historic relics even in their pitiable state have managed to attract some visitors.

As a result of some factors, visitors tend to visit the sites more in the months of February, March, April, and August. This is as a result of the Dankwo fishing festival which takes place between the months of
February and March and the Ogani-Angwa festival within the month of April. Moreso, April and August are usually holiday periods for pupils and students.

On the other hand while the visitation is relatively high during the dry season, it falls during the rainy seasons.

Thus, these monument and sites have great tourism potentials and can attract more visitors if properly planned, harnessed and preserved. Therefore instead of developing only the oil industry, the appropriation of these historical monuments and other tourist attractions for tourism development can be adopted as a strategic option for the development of the country.

When these tourist resources are harnessed, they will contribute immensely to the growth and development of tourism and the nation at large and the resultant effects on national development will include the following:

(a) **Poverty Reduction:** Tourism contributes greatly to the economic growth of countries; even those with poor economies through the increment of foreign exchange earnings, provision of public revenues and creation of employment (Luvanga and Shittundu 2003, in Ukaegbu, 2008). The employment opportunities range from skilled to menial or part-time jobs as it has multiplier effect.
Thus, it provides opportunity for formal, informal and small scale businesses. The economic benefits which accrue from these can help in alleviating poverty.

(b) **Infrastructural Development**: The development of tourism will bring about the provision of good roads, good communication networks, pipe borne water, electricity, sewage disposal and other facilities for the betterment of the lives of the people and the enjoyment of tourists.

(c) **Projection of good image and cultural identity**: Through tourism the cultural identity of a given group of people or nation is projected to the outside world. More so, through this medium, a given group of people realizes how appealing their culture is to others and its ability to attract visitors, thereby boosting local pride. Tourism also breeds social ties and also leads to the establishment of good relationships amongst nations.

(d) **Development of Indigenous Technology**: Tourism leads to the development and preservation of indigenous cultures and technologies. When tourists visit tourist sites, souvenirs which they go home with are usually locally manufactured. Thus, traditional arts and crafts can be revitalized through tourism.
(e) **Conservation of heritage resources:** Through the development of tourism, heritage resources are protected, preserved, and harnessed for tourist consumption, thus, these heritage resources are protected from destruction and from becoming extinct.

(f) **Reconstruction of People’s Past:** Tourism attractions like monuments and historic sites can lead to making discoveries and reconstructing a given people’s past. This can be achieved through the study of the way of life of the people who made them as well as the materials which they used.
CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 SUMMARY

This chapter summarizes the findings of the research work pointing out that Lokoja is endowed with monuments and historical sites which came about mainly as a result of colonial activities.

These monuments and historical sites were extensively studied and the information gathered showed that even though they met the requirements to be declared as monuments as stated under the 4.3.1 of this work, they are yet to be gazetted or be officially declared as national monuments. Worse still, they are in pitiable conditions yet no strategic plan has been put in place as regards their conservation.

Furthermore, the research work went further to discuss some measures which can be taken in the preservation and restoration of these historic treasures. Such measures include developing a strategic management plan and adhering to the principles and ethics of conservation for monuments and sites among others. The work also identified some major problems which are affecting the protection and
development of these monuments and historic sites. However, some ways through which they can be mitigated were recommended.

More so, this work also identified the fact that these monuments and historic sites can play significant roles and as well, have link with the development of tourism and the nation at large. It also points out that the tourism industry booms in other countries. Thus, by harnessing these attractions in Lokoja, the tourism industry in Nigeria will receive a new boost, thereby contributing immensely to the development of the country.

The findings of this report would be useful in the planning and harnessing of monuments and historic sites for tourism development which will in turn affect the nation positively.

5.2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Considering the dangers of deterioration which the monuments and historic sites are faced with, the researcher recommends that:

(i) There should be prompt intervention of the federal government through the efforts of the National Commission of Museums and Monuments (NCMM) so that a proper inventorization of the monuments can be taken. This would be achieved with the help of the State Tourism Board (STB), the Local Government Tourism
Committee (LGTC) and the local community. By so doing, those monuments which require urgent restoration would be identified

(ii) There should be management policies and plan which should contain a clearly stated set of conservation objectives for the monuments and historic sites as well as ways of achieving them. It should also involve regular monitoring so that decay can be detected early. It is also important that the host community is incorporated in the plan as they will help in achieving this.

(iii) There should be provision of funds if the plan is to succeed. It will be very difficult to manage, preserve and harness the monuments if funds are not available.

(iv) Although laws for the protection of monuments and sites exist in Nigeria, there should be enactment of more rigid conservation regulations and the mode of enforcement should also be clearly stated. Also, the use of the local community as security guards may also be useful and can be adopted.

(v) There should also be enlightenment programmes. For the success of the development of these monuments for tourism promotion, efforts should be geared towards the reorientation of people’s minds. This will help them appreciate the importance of these heritages and also make them work towards preserving them. More so, it is important
that heritage studies be incorporated in at least secondary and tertiary institutions curricula as this will go a long way in serving as an eye opener.

(vi) There should be marketing strategies for the promotion of the monuments and sites through the media houses, like the television and radio houses. Also information about them can also be disseminated through the use of newspapers, magazines, handbills e.t.c.

(vii) Although some tourist facilities are already in place in Lokoja, more tourist facilities should be put in place to ensure the comfort and safety of visitors in the area.

(viii) The National Commission for Museum and Monuments should liaise with other international bodies like International Centre for the Study of Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICRROM), International Council on Monuments and sites (ICOMOS), etc, if need be, for assistance in designing adequate plans for the conservation of these monuments and sites, as well as in executing them. (Edet, 1990:98)

5.3 CONCLUSION
Lokoja in Kogi State is blessed with a good number of historical relics which can play important roles in the promotion of tourism, and the development of Nigeria. However, for this purpose to be realized, there is the need that urgent preservation/conservation measures be taken. This is because these monument are heading towards destruction and extinction if nothing is done as fast as possible.

Taking conservation measures would ensure that these monuments would survive for the present and future generations. This should be done bearing in mind the fact that they are fragile and irreplaceable. Thus, in order to save the situation the recommendations which were given should be considered bearing in mind that for these monuments and historic site to be effectively and efficiently preserved, the services of professionals are required.

It is high time our country Nigeria took advantage of its natural and cultural endowments in order to develop the country. Instead of relying on the oil industry as the only viable source of revenue generation, the tourism industry should be developed as one of the alternatives. Other developing countries have grabbed this opportunity. According to Kareithi (2003:13), Kenya has become one of the most popular tourism destinations in Africa and the key foreign exchange earner for the country is tourism.
Therefore with tourist facilities in place and these monuments and sites preserved and harnessed, they will help in boosting the tourism scenario and the development of the country at large.
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INTERNET MATERIALS


www.kogistatenigeria.org. Accessed on 16/03/11

APPENDIX 1

UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND TOURISM

LETTER OF IDENTIFICATION
UKAEGBU MAUREEN O.
REG. NO.: PG/MA/09/50772

I write to certify that the above named is a student of this Department.

It will be appreciated if you give her every necessary assistance.

Thanks.

Eze-Uzomaka
Acting Head of Department.
APPENDIX 2
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP INTERPRETATION

From the map, it is conspicuous that the study area is endowed with geologic features such as escarpments and other high lands (Mount Patti), roads, rivers and contours as high as 1340m.

Using the GPS readings, the locations of the monuments and historic sites in the study area were plotted in. The distances on land were calculated from the map using the appropriate scales of the map, as a measuring tape could not be used to measure large distances as much as 7600m (7km) and above.

Scale of the Map = 4cm: 5km
If 4cm represents 5km

\[ 1\text{cm} = \left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\text{km} = 1.25\text{km} \]

This implies that 1cm on paper = 1.25km

Therefore on land 1cm = 1250m.

Location 1 is located along the Lord Lugard’s road which was used as the datum point. Based on the calculations, the distances of the locations on the map were gotten. Thus, the following are the distances of the various locations:

- Location 1 – Location 2 = 0.3cm on paper

  Hence on land = \((0.3 \times 1250)\text{m} = 375\text{m}\)
Location 2 – Location 3 = 1.65 on paper
Hence, on land = (1.65×1250)m = 2062.5m

Location 3 – Location 4 = 2.4cm on paper
Hence, on land = (2.4×1250)m = 3000m.

Location 4 – Location 5 = 0.5cm on paper
Hence, on land = (0.5×1250)m = 625m.

Location 5 – Location 6 = 0.7cm on paper
Hence, on land = (0.7×1250)m = 875m.

Location 6 – Location 7 = 2.2cm on paper
Hence, on land = (2.2×1250)m = 2750m

Location 7 – Location 8 = 0.9cm on paper
Hence, on land = (0.9×1250)m = 1125m

Location 8 and Location 9 were in the same compound and were 65m apart.

Location 9 – Location 10 = 2.25cm on paper
Hence on land = (2.25×1250)m = 2812.5m

Location 10 – Location 11 = 3.3cm on paper
Hence, on land = (3.3×1250)m = 4125m.

Location 11 – Location 12 = 2.3cm on paper
Hence, on land = (2.3×1250)m = 2875m

Location 12 – Location 13 = 0.5cm on paper
Hence, on land = (0.5×1250)m = 625m

Location 13 – Location 14 = 6.25cm on paper
Hence, on land = (6.25×1250)m = 7812.5m
APPENDIX 3
A LIST OF DECLARED NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND SITES IN NIGERIA

1. Chief Odo Nwokolo’s Palace, Ukehe Enugu State
2. Gidan Madaki in Mafin Madaki, Bauchi State
3. Dutsen Damisa Rock SSPaintings near Gumje, Bauchi state.
4. Dutsen Zane Geji Rock Paintings Bauchi, Bauchi state
5. Shadawanka Rock Paintings near Bauchi in Bauchi state
6. Shira Rock Paintings, Shira, Bauchi state
7. Chief Ogiaman’s House, Benin City, Edo State
8. Chief Enogie’s House, Obasuagbon, Edo State
9. Chief Nana’s House Koko, Delta state
10. Benin City Walls, Benin, Edo state
11. Afa Ogu Tumulus near the Palace of Attah of Idah, Kabba, Kogi state
12. Rabeh’s House/Fort, Dikwa, Borono state
13. The Old Residency, Calabar, Cross River State
14. The Old Consulate, Calabar, Cross River state
15. Chief Ekpo Bassey’s House, Calabar Cross River state
16. Carved Monolits, Emaghabe, cross River state
17. Carved Monoliths, Alok Cross River state
18. Chief Okoroji’s House, Arochukwu, Abia state
19. Obu House Elu-Obafia, Abia state
20. Omo Ukwu Temple Asaga-Ohafia, Abia state
21. Chief Ochu Kalu’s House, Ndi OKereke Abam, Abia state
22. Steel Foot Bridge, Kaduna, Kaduna state
23. Kufena Hills, near Zaria, Kaduna state.
24. Gobirau Minaret Katsina, Katsina state
25. Habe Mosque at Maigana, Kaduna state
26. The Tumuli and Baobab Tree known as Kukukats-katsina, Katsina state
27. Old Katsina Training College, Katsina, Katsina state
28. Zaria city Wall, Zaria Kaduna state
29. Rock Paintings Gong and shelter at Dutsen Mesa-Jigawa State
30. Gidan Makama, Kano Kano state
31. Dutsen Habdudu Rock Paintings at Birnin Kudu-Jigawa state
32. Rock Paintings at Murufu in Jigawa state
33. Rock Paintings of Dutsen Zango at Birnin Kudu Jigawa state.
34. Habe Mosque at Bebeji, Kano state
35. Kano City Walls and Gate, Kano, Kano State
36. Oayspring Relics at Jebba, Kogi state
37. Okuta fort, Okuta, Kwara state
38. Yashikera-fort Yashikera, Kwara state
39. Stone Figure at Ofaro, Kwara state
40. Ijara Stone figure. Ijara, Kwara state
41. Ilojo Bar Lagos, Lagos state
42. Oba’s Palace (Iga Idungaran), Lagos, Lagos state
43. Water House Lagos, Lagos state
44. Old Secretariat, Marina Lagos, Lagos state
45. Tsoede’s Tomb at Gwangwan, Niger state
46. The Katamba of the Palace of the Etsu Mohammed at Bida, Niger State
47. Site of Mai Jimina’s House at Wushishi, Niger state
48. Government House at Zungeru, Niger state
49. Sugbo Eredo’s Shrine at Oke-Eri, near Ijebu-Ode, Ogun state
50. Ita Yemoo, Ife Osun state
51. Osun shrine, Osogbo, River side shrine Osun state
52. Osun shrine, Osogbo Market shrine Osun state
53. Stone figure at Igbajo, Osun state
54. Osun shrine at Ata-Oja’s Palace, Osogbo Osun state
55. The stone Built Causeway at Forof, Plateau state
56. The Old Palace of the Deji of Akure, Akure, Ondo State.
57. Iwo Eleru, near Owo Ondo State
58. Tading Causeway, Tading, Plateau State
59. Batura Causeway, Batura Plateau state.
60. The Carving of Stones at the foot of Panshariu Pass, near Mile 31 on the Jos Bauchi Road Known as Kwandankaya, Bauchi state
61. First Mining Beacon, Tilde Fulani, Plateau state
62. King Jaja’s Statue, Opolo, Rivers state
63. Surame Defensive Wall, Sokoto, Sokoto state
64. Igbara Oke Petroglyphs, near Igbara Oke, Ondo state
65. Sukur Cultural Landscape (Hidi’s Palace Sukur) Adamawa State.

Note: There are two world Heritage sites in Nigeria, namely: the Osun Osogbo Groove and the Sukur World Heritage Site.

# LIST OF INFORMANTS

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<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>NAME</th>
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<td>Mr. Olowolaiyemo J.</td>
<td>55</td>
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<td>14/3/11</td>
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