
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

State Party

Federal Republic of Germany

State, Province or Region

State of Saxony-Anhalt

Name of the Property

**Naumburg Cathedral and the High Medieval Cultural Landscape of the
Rivers Saale and Unstrut**

GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES TO THE NEAREST SECOND

Name	Serial ID	Region/ District	Coordinates of Central Point		Area (ha)	Area of Buffer (ha)
Naumburg	1369-01	Burgenland District,	11° 48' 33,288"" E	51° 9' 15,735"" N	51.7400743	16,870
Schönburg	1369-02	Federal State of Saxony-	11° 52' 11,188"" E	51° 9' 43,791"" N	1.98392019	
Goseck	1369-03	Anhalt, Germany	11° 52' 11,592"" E	51° 11' 25,860"" N	57.8848773	
Freyburg	1369-04		11° 45' 18,940"" E	51° 12' 56,910"" N	105.017656	
Schleberoda	1369-05		11° 48' 14,111"" E	51° 14' 23,292"" N	9.4112838	
Ebersroda	1369-06		11° 46' 16,784"" E	51° 15' 8,275"" N	10.039051	
Rödel	1369-07		11° 45' 18,832"" E	51° 11' 28,212"" N	96.4730666	
Kleinjena	1369-08		11° 46' 41,034"" E	51° 10' 47,635"" N	0.64371962	
Pforta	1369-09		11° 45' 2,354"" E	51° 8' 57,813"" N	230.584578	
Saaleck	1369-10		11° 42' 31,671"" E	51° 6' 38,813"" N	14.8597212	
Flemmingen	1369-11		11° 46' 5,839"" E	51° 7' 57,116"" N	18.2752892	

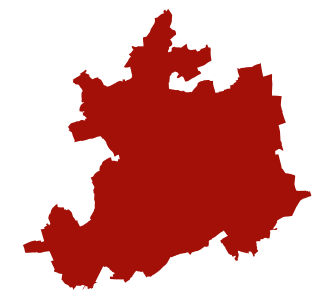
Textual Description of the Boundaries of the Nominated Property

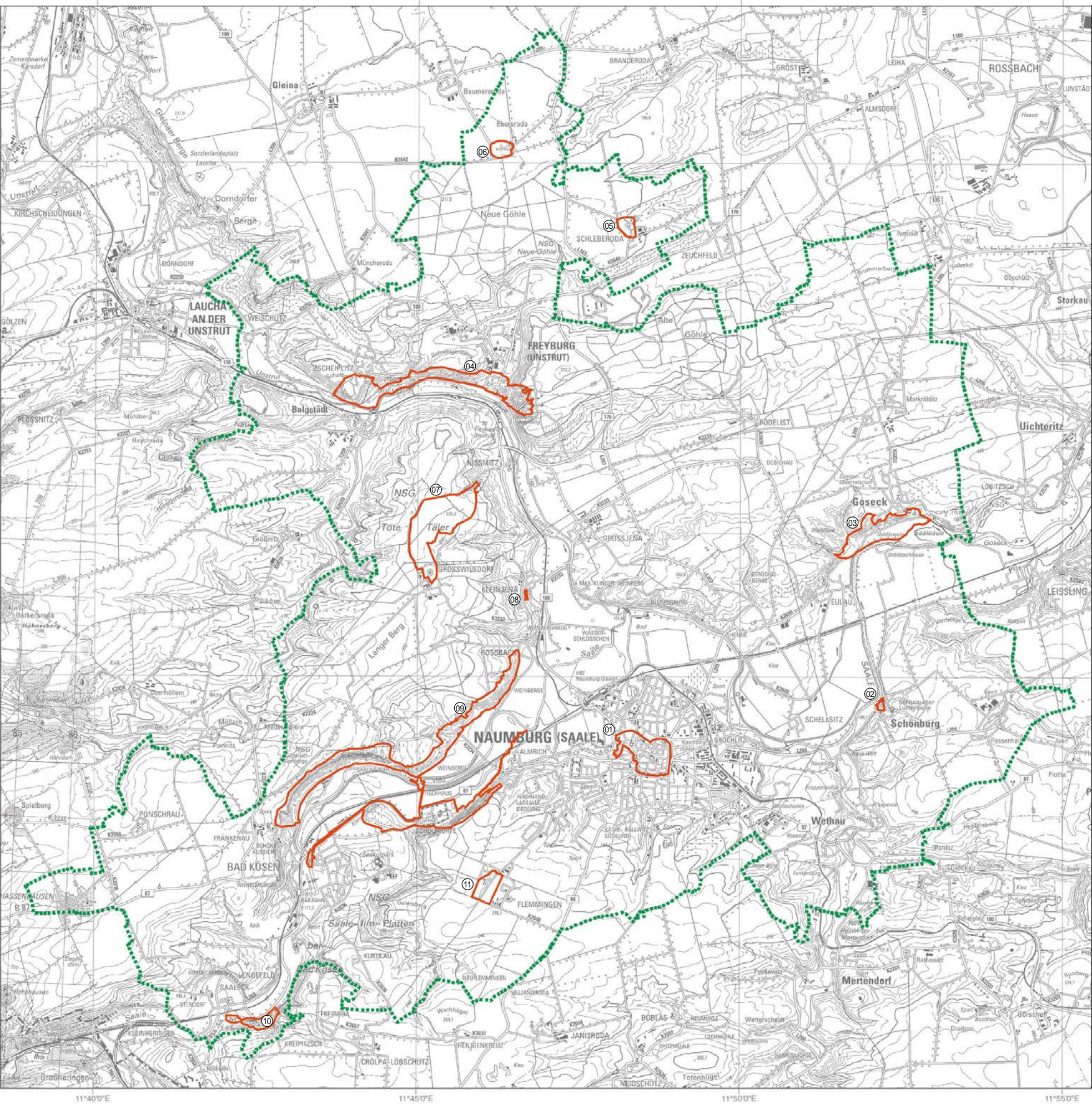
The nominated property is composed of the eleven component parts, the boundaries of which have been defined based on each part's contribution to the Outstanding Universal Value, on the density of authentic evidence dating from the High Middle Ages based on archaeological and cultural landscape research, as well as on administrative boundaries and existing designations for heritage protection through national, regional or municipal legislation.

The boundaries of these component parts include all buildings, structures and/or archaeological sites, landscape and any other elements necessary to convey the significance and characteristic of each part as it contributes to the full expression of the Outstanding Universal Value and the integrity and authenticity of the property. Together, the component parts of the property form a cultural landscape that demonstrates key attributes of the distinctive development of Central Europe in the High Middle Ages and its model character for neighbouring regions developed subsequently.

Following administrative boundaries, the boundary of the buffer zone has been established based on topographical conditions and visual qualities, allowing for the protection of the horizon lines and important views among the components and within their wider setting. The central valley of the Saale River between Saaleck and Rudelsburg Castles to the south-west and Schönburg and Goseck Castles to the east, and the valley of the lower Unstrut between Weischütz to the north and the confluence of the Unstrut with the Saale at the centre of the cultural landscape are the structuring and connecting axes of the buffer zone. The buffer zone encompasses a considerable number of additional evidence from the High Middle Ages that supports the property's Outstanding Universal Value and the regional significance.

■ Executive Summary





Map of the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone

— World Heritage Property (component part)

- ① Naumburg
- ② Schöburg
- ③ Goseck
- ④ Freyburg
- ⑤ Schleberoda
- ⑥ Ebersroda
- ⑦ Rödel
- ⑧ Kleinjena
- ⑨ Pforta
- ⑩ Saaleck
- ⑪ Flemmingen

— Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property

Base map: Topographic map 1:50,000
(© LVermGeo LSA 2013, 010213)
Scale: 1:50,000
Spatial reference: DHDN/Gauss-Krüger Zone 4 (EPSG 31468)
Geographical grid coordinates in WGS 1984 (EPSG 4326)
Date: 2 December 2015

Criteria under which the property is nominated

The property is nominated to:

- (i)
represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii)
exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design; and
- (iv)
be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief Synthesis

Located in the heart of Germany in the South of the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt, the *Cultural Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut* is characterised by a high density of outstanding monuments from the High Middle Ages, all being situated at the confluence of these two rivers, which act as the landscape's structuring and connecting axes. The landscape has two main facets: the built landscape still materialised in the urban morphologies, especially in Naumburg and Freyburg, and the rural landscape with the villages of Ebersroda, Schleberoda, Gross-Wilsdorf and Flemmingen, and the vineyards of Dechantenberg, Schweigenberg, Köppelberg and Saalhäuser. Altogether four castles and four monastic complexes, two planned cities with their original grid-based street layouts as well as villages, vineyards, fertile fields and pastures bear witness to the elaborate settlement process of this unique borderland region between Western and

Slavic cultures in the High Middle Ages. The high-ranking buildings and works of art, most of all Naumburg Cathedral with its globally unique artistic and iconographic founder figures as the symbolic centre of the landscape, bear testimony to the claims to power and the self-confidence of the worldly and spiritual rulers within the pan-European network of patrons and artists between the 11th and 13th centuries as well as to the region's crucial role as a place of interchange between Western and Eastern realms.

Justification for Criteria

(i)

Naumburg Cathedral is a masterpiece of human creative genius representing in a double-choir structure the self-assurance of its worldly founders in an unprecedented and vivid manner. It is the only Cathedral illustrating in two almost completely preserved choir screen structures from the first half of the 13th century the profound changes in religious practice, perception, and in the reflection of nature and in science observation in the figurative arts. The workshop organisation of sculptors and stonemasons which was likely established in the early 13th century and is known under the name of the "Naumburg Master" constitutes one of the decisive conveyors and pioneers of the ground-breaking innovations in architecture and sculpture of the Late Hohenstaufen period in the 2nd half of the 13th century that were first developed at Reims Cathedral and have been lost in other places. The quality of the Naumburg Master's work has since justified Naumburg's reputation far beyond its region. The Cathedral's artistic significance is complemented by the works in the chapel of Neuenburg Castle and in the minster of Pforta Monastery. While the Chapel of Neuenburg displays the distinctive fusion of the Rhenanian and Saxon artistic styles as a masterpiece of the courtly art, strongly connected with the life of Saint Elisabeth of Thuringia, the minster of Pforta demonstrates these combined influences in its richly decorated eastern choir and western façade, which are unique for a Cistercian church of the 13th century.

(ii)

Naumburg Cathedral and its cultural landscape were decisively and intensely shaped during the High Middle Ages when the region was a thriving trading hub allowing the exchange and interaction along the border between German Christian and Slavic cultures. The landscape exhibits two cities founded in the High Middle Ages, examples of planned villages developed on former forest land as well as traces of Slavic settlements that were transformed over time but persist in place names and in the structures of round-shaped village settlements, representative of Central and Eastern European border regions of the Middle Ages.

(iv)

Naumburg Cathedral and its cultural landscape illustrate in a condensed and exemplary manner the entire range of built and landscape features created during the High Middle Ages when climatic conditions favoured the expansion and diversification of agrarian activities to satisfy the increase in population and its Eastward movement in Europe. The conquest of territories and its related power struggles are materialised by fortresses, monasteries and castles in a harmonious landscape, the key elements of which represent highest artistic achievements and the most advanced techniques of their time.

Statement of Integrity

All component parts of the property are of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features of the cultural landscape and its key monuments that convey the property's Outstanding Universal Value. The main monumental elements as well as the landscape elements developed during the High Middle Ages and their relations to the spatial structure of the river valleys are intact and well maintained. None of the component parts suffers from adverse effects of development or neglect.

The patterns of the cultural landscape, established during the High Middle Ages, exist to this day with an extraordinary number, variety and density of relics of landscape and settlement structures, buildings with their visual links and silhouettes as well as the associated works of art of outstanding quality.

The component parts of the property are in a good condition to a high degree, and the necessary physical, social and economic preconditions are met to ensure the maintenance of all elements of this cultural landscape.

The impact of deterioration processes has been controlled by repairs and restoration work of the Naumburg Cathedral, the other churches, and monasteries as well as of the castles and vineyards since as early as the beginning of the 19th century to preserve their substance and the features of the Middle Ages, thereby preventing any risk of decay. Research, protection and conservation measures are continuously implemented and adapted to state-of-the-art know-how.

The functional structure of the villages of Flemmingen, Gross-Wilsdorf, Ebersroda and Schleberoda is still visible and intact.

The visual qualities and functional relations of the component parts to the surrounding cultural landscape are largely undisturbed.

The large buffer zone surrounding the component parts is designed in such a way as to ensure the integrity of all component parts of the property. The boundary of the buffer zone has been established based on topographical conditions and visual qualities, allowing for protection of the horizon line and important views among the High Medieval components.

Statement of Authenticity

Form and design: The form and proportion of elements shaped during the High Middle Ages are authentic to an extraordinary degree, both the landscape elements – vineyards, forests, and old roads – and the dominating buildings – castles, churches and monasteries, village structures as well as the urban silhouettes and street patterns. Since the exceptional quality of this cultural landscape was valued in early times, economic and cultural developments with potentially negative effects did not take place and the features resulting from the dynamic development of the High Middle Ages were preserved.

Materials and substance: Most of the materials and substance of the castles and sacred buildings, most of all the Naumburg Cathedral, date from the High Middle Ages. A protective approach to them, based on the high regard for the medieval monuments, started very early. No altering restorations in the age of historicism were made. Moreover, original materials for necessary repairs have continuously been obtained from local stone quarries and lime kilns for centuries.

Use and function: Many areas of the cultural landscape have not changed neither use nor function since the Middle Ages: forestry, viticulture and fruit growing, crop cultivation and animal husbandry. Despite subsequent climatic changes, the area has remained in uninterrupted use for wine-growing, thereby forming the largest and Northern-most continuous wine-growing region. Nature conservation practiced here for a hundred years is responsible for a constant high level of biodiversity in this biosphere reserve. Services are still celebrated in the medieval sacred buildings today, while the castles are preserved as museums. The medieval centres of the cities of Naumburg and Freyburg have not only survived, but are still used as the urban centres of administration and culture of the area.

Location and setting: The still preserved river landscapes constitute the appropriate setting to fully appreciate the qualities of the component parts of the property, which are located at the confluence of Saale and Unstrut. The river valleys include all key elements of the High Medieval cultural landscape and form the core area of supra-regional historic road crossings, among them the trans-European *Via Regia* and one branch of the Route to Santiago de Compostela, all of which are also protected. The religious and secular buildings are still in their original location; they are preserved in their original sizes and adequately integrated into their wider and landscape settings.

Requirements for Protection and Management

The component parts of the property and its wider surroundings are protected as monumental ensemble according to § 2 para. 2 no. 2 of the Act for the Protection of Historic Monuments and Buildings of the State of Saxony-Anhalt (DenkmSchG LSA). The property is thus subject to the highest possible level of

legal protection available. Moreover, the general legal regulations for town and country planning and for conservation of landscape and nature in Germany, in conjunction with the Building Law of Saxony-Anhalt ensure appropriate and effective protection including the panoramic views from and towards the site's component parts.

Restoration and renovation works on the buildings as well as archaeological measures and the general management of the property are carried out by the owners in close cooperation with the church and competent authorities, in particular with the State Ministry of Culture of Saxony-Anhalt and the County of Burgenland as responsible administrative and authorising body for monument and landscape protection. Building activities in the buffer zone and within the visual perspectives are governed by land development plans, building development plans, and statutes concerned with renovation and preservation. The town development concepts of Naumburg and Freyburg as well as landscape and nature conservation plans are basic instruments for sustainable renewal and sustainable tourism of the entire site.

The *Förderverein Welterbe an Saale und Unstrut e.V.* is the coordinating body for the private and public owners concerned and the residents of the region. It acts in close cooperation with the *Vereinigte Domstifter zu Merseburg und Naumburg und des Kollegiatstifts Zeitz* as well as with other stakeholders concerned.

Long-term maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value is granted by the management system as defined by the Act for the Protection of Historic Monuments and Buildings of the State of Saxony-Anhalt and by the formalisation and implementation of the management plan and its operational instruments. The Management Plan is regularly reviewed and adapted as required.

Name and contact information of the official local institution

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