
Würzburg Residence (Germany) No 169

1. BASIC DATA

State Party: Germany

Name of property:

Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square

Location:

District of Lower Franconia, State of Bavaria (Bayern)

Inscription: 1981

Brief Description:

This magnificent Baroque palace – one of the largest and most beautiful in Germany and surrounded by wonderful gardens – was created under the patronage of the prince-bishops Lothar Franz and Friedrich Carl von Schönborn. It was built and decorated in the 18th century by an international team of architects, painters (including Tiepolo), sculptors and stucco-workers, led by Balthasar Neumann.

Date of ICOMOS' approval of this report: 17 March 2010

2. ISSUES RAISED

Background:

2006 Periodic Reporting, Cycle 1, Section II, point 2, states that no buffer zone has been defined for the property and that the establishment of a buffer zone is planned for 2006/07. The Bavarian Administration for State Palaces, Gardens and Lakes should have launched negotiations with the Town of Würzburg to this end.

During its 32nd session (Quebec city, 2008) the World Heritage Committee adopted the Decision 32COM 8D and took note of the clarification of Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square boundaries and size, provided in response to the Retrospective Inventory.

The State Party has provided a clear map of the property, displaying the boundaries of each component of the inscribed property; geographical coordinates allowing geo-referencing have been provided for several

points on the map. The area in hectares of each component of the inscribed property has also been indicated, as follows: Residence: 12.8455 ha and Rosenbach Park: 1.9275 ha, totalling 14.7730 ha.

Modification:

In February 2010 the State Party provided the World Heritage Centre with a management plan and a scaled plan for a proposed buffer zone for the inscribed property. The proposed buffer zone is an irregular polygon that extends from 30 m to 300 m on the West of the inscribed property; 30 m to 100 m to the North; and from 90 to 250 m to the East and South. It respects the urban tissue and is aligned to cadastral or property lines. It includes the urban attributes and characteristics that are essential to the immediate environment of the inscribed property. Important views and sightlines to and from the inscribed property have been identified and mapped as well as the historic district (Old City of Würzburg) that comprises the inscribed property.

The proposed buffer zone covers 25,0685 ha.

The management plan establishes objectives and measures to carry out protection, maintenance, usage and development programmes for the inscribed property. It is prefaced by the reasons for outstanding universal value and the declaration of authenticity and integrity. It suggests guidelines for effective and sustained actions and brings together existing and future planning programmes into a unified perspective. The Management Plan is a project of the Free State of Bavaria and the City of Würzburg that have acknowledged a shared responsibility for the conservation of the inscribed property. All urban development directly or indirectly affecting the inscribed property must prioritise and respect its outstanding universal value.

Alterations to the inscribed property, type and scale of development and alterations to properties in the buffer zone or in the historic district are all subject to existing legislation and regulations. They comprise:

- Federal Building Code;
- Bavarian Building Regulations;
- Bavarian Law on the Protection of Monuments;
- Bavarian Law on the Protection of Nature;
- Regulation concerning the Bavarian Administration for State Palaces, Gardens and Lakes.

ICOMOS is concerned by the size of the parking lot on the Residence Square itself. ICOMOS recommends that the State party give consideration to considerably reduce it in order to improve the visual integrity of the site.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed buffer zone, the management plan and the existing legislation will offer

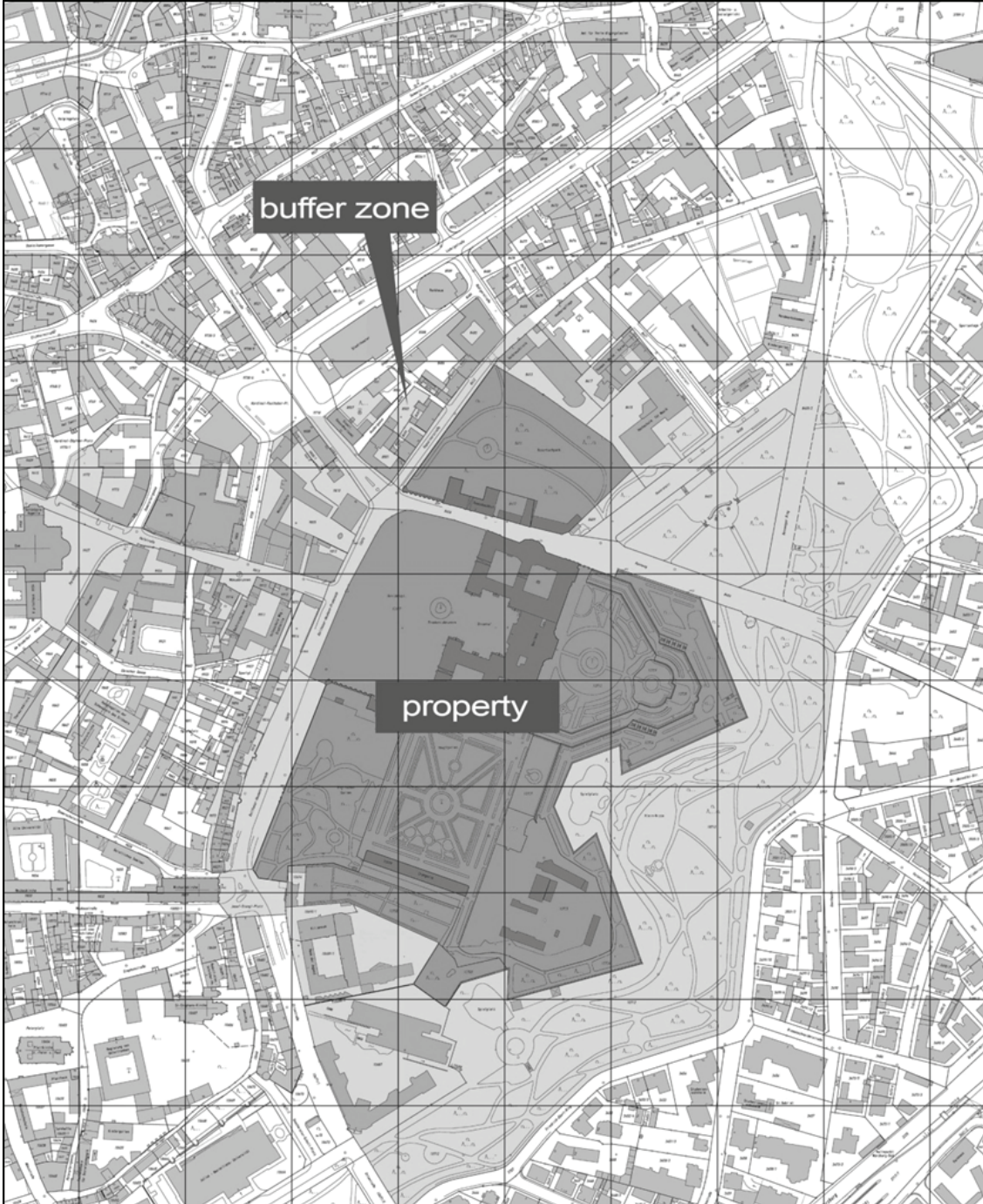
adequate and effective protection for the inscribed property.

3. ICOMOS RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the proposed buffer zone for Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square, Germany, be **approved**.

ICOMOS recommends that the State party give consideration to considerably reduce the parking lot on the Residence Square in order to improve the visual integrity of the site.



Map showing the boundaries of the proposed buffer zone