WHS Maulbronn Monastery Complex, Decision 40 COM 8 D, Retrospective Inventory, clarification of property boundaries

Minor modifications to the boundaries of World Heritage property

1) Area of the property
   a) Area of the listed property 69.95 ha.
   b) Area of the modified property 72.45 ha.
   c) Area of the proposed buffer zone 1.568.47 ha.

2) Description of the modification
   There are several waters to be deleted: four small ponds southwestward of the small town Zaisersweiher and the lake “Eckhausee” in the open field Eckhau. The former lake Billensbacher See is going to be added.

   When the Monastery Maulbronn was listed in 1993 no buffer zone was required. The proposed buffer zone comprises the valley of the river Salzach, where the walled monastery is situated at the valley end surrounded by partly developed largely wooded ridges.

3) Justification for the modification
   The Landesamt für Denkmalpflege has compiled a detailed survey on the inventory of the historic water system on the basis of high resolution Airborne-Laserscans and an extensive field research from 2014 to 2016. Due to this research a more precise knowledge of the extent and the historic function of the ditches and pond system could be gained. According to that the ponds southwestward of Zaisersweiher do not belong to the monastic water system but are new-age facilities that served as dew ponds or fire water ponds. There is neither functional connection of the mediaeval water system of the monastery with the lake „Eckhausee“. However the previous lake Billensbacher See was an important functional element of the sequence of ponds in the Salzach valley beneath the monastery. It is dried up, partly developed but nevertheless a component of the historic water system as an archaeological monument.

   The criteria for the define of the proposed buffer zone apply to technical-substantial protection requirements (minimum distance of ditches and pond edges) and functional basic requirements (water catchment area) but apply also to the reference area of visual impact of the entity of monastery and water system.

4) Contribution to the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value
   The modification and the proposed buffer zone underpin the Outstanding Universal Value of the property in respect to its authenticity and integrity. This is especially imperative with view to the completeness of the world heritage site and its visual and functional integrity.

5) Implications for legal protection
   The modification does not interfere with the legal protection of the world heritage site. The proposed area for completion of the property is – no different from all listed property components – subject to the Monument Protection Act Baden-Württemberg. According to §8 and §15 Monu-
ment Protection Act Baden-Württemberg any modification to listed buildings or monuments requires permission by monument protection authority.

Statutory rule and regulations in the proposed buffer zone are as follows:

- Monument Protection Act Baden-Württemberg, Gesetz zum Schutz der Kulturdenkmale, as amended on December 6, 1983, last amended on December 9, 2014
- Water Protection Act Baden-Württemberg, Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts, last amended on January 1, 2014
- Forest Act Baden-Württemberg, Landeswaldgesetz, as amended on August 31, 1995
- Town and Country Planning Code, Bundesrepublik Deutschland Baugesetzbuch, as amended on September 23, 2004, last amended on October 20, 2015

6) **Implications for management arrangements**

The established management of the world heritage site is not affected by the modifications.

There is an agreed concept in regard to preservation, maintenance and development that has been devised for the proposed buffer zone (Landschaftsplanerische Gesamtperspektive Klosterlandschaft Maulbronn 2012).

7) **Maps**

Enclosed.

8) **Additional information**

Inapplicable. (The significance of the archaeological site can’t be illustrated by photographs.)
Brief synthesis

Founded in 1147, the Cistercian Maulbronn Monastery is considered the most complete and best preserved medieval monastic complex north of the Alps. Surrounded by fortified walls, the main buildings were constructed between the 12th and 16th centuries. The monastery’s church, mainly in transitional Gothic style, had a major influence in the spread of Gothic architecture over much of northern and central Europe. The water-management system at Maulbronn, with its elaborate network of drains, canals and reservoirs, is of exceptional interest.

Criterion (ii)
The construction of the transitional Romanesque-Gothic church at Maulbronn was of fundamental importance in the dissemination of Gothic architecture over much of northern and central Europe.

Criterion (iv)
The Maulbronn Complex is the most complete survival of a Cistercian monastic establishment in Europe, in particular because of the survival of its extensive water-management system of reservoirs and channels.

Integrity
The basic medieval layout and structure of the central monastery complex, which is typical of the Cistercian tradition, is virtually complete. The topographic features around the monastery have been preserved almost intact, its development from the 12th to the 17th century can be traced, and the whole complex is in an excellent state of conservation.

Authenticity
In view of the monastery’s long and chequered history, its present appearance is an amalgam of many styles and periods. The 19th century secularization and conversion to a Protestant seminary resulted in some fundamental changes to certain buildings. However, the restoration work in the 19th and 20th centuries has been impeccable, and as a result the whole complex has a very high degree of authenticity.

Protection and management requirements
The laws and regulations of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg guarantee the consistent protection of Maulbronn Monastery Complex. The monastery complex property is protected under Sections 28 and 12 of the Monument Protection Act Baden-Württemberg (Gesetz zum Schutz der Kulturdenkmale) as amended on December 6, 1983, last amended on December 9, 2014 as well as Town and Country Planning Code (Bundesrepublik Deutschland Baugesetzbuch) as amended on September 23, 2004, last amended on November 03, 2017.

The buffer zone in the surrounding area is covered by Sections 2(3) and 15(3) of the Monument Protection Act Baden-Württemberg (Gesetz zum Schutz der Kulturdenkmale), which requires approval of any alterations to its character. The historic water system is protected by the same Act, under Sections 2(I) and 2(2), and also by the Water Protection Act Baden-Württemberg (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts), last amended on December 11, 2018, the Forest Act Baden-Württemberg (Landeswaldgesetz) as amended on August 31, 1995 and the Nature Protection Act Baden-Württemberg (Gesetz des Landes Baden-Württemberg zum Schutz der Natur und zur Pflege der Landschaft) as amended on June 23, 2015.
Some 90% of the monastery is in public ownership (Federal State of Baden-Württemberg and Town of Maulbronn). Cultural elements owned by the Federal State are managed by the State Office for Property and Construction Baden-Württemberg; the Town of Maulbronn is responsible for managing those in its ownership. The owners of private properties (including those within the zone of historic water management systems) must seek approval for any work that they wish to carry out.
Legend

- Blue: Inscribed Historic Watermanagement System (69.96 ha)
- Yellow: District Boundaries of Maulbronn

UNESCO World Heritage
Maulbronn Monastery Complex
C 546rev
Date of Inscription: 1993

1993 Inscribed Historic Watermanagement System (69.96 ha)