

---

# Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz (Germany) No 534bis

---

## 1 Basic data

### State Party

Germany

### Name of property

Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz

### Location

State of Saxony-Anhalt (Sachsen-Anhalt)

### Inscription

2000

### Brief description

The Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz is an exceptional example of landscape design and planning of the Age of the Enlightenment, the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Its diverse components – outstanding buildings, landscaped parks and gardens in the English style, and subtly modified expanses of agricultural land – serve aesthetic, educational and economic purposes in an exemplary manner.

### Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

13 March 2019

## 2 Issues raised

### Background

The Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz was inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (ii) and (iv) in 2000. At the time of inscription, one component of the serial property did not have a buffer zone.

At the time of the ICOMOS evaluation mission to the property in 2000, modifications to the boundary were proposed and accepted by the State Party, resulting in the current boundary.

As part of Periodic Reporting in 2013 it was noted that the buffer zones could be improved.

### Modification

This proposal involves minor changes to the property boundary to better align with the historic layout of the property, a correction to the size of the area of the property based on the latest available geographic information system, and the identification of a buffer zone for one component of the serial property. The State Party

proposes to reduce the area of the property by 514 ha to 11,891 ha, and to increase the buffer zone by 2,784 ha.

The primary reasons for the modifications are to better align the boundary with the historic layout of the property, and to provide a buffer zone for one component – Palace Mosigkau.

The State Party has used precise cadastral maps in the framework of a geographic information system to identify the appropriate property boundary reflecting the historic layout of the Garden Kingdom based on available written sources and observations in monument protection arising from conservation and restoration work undertaken since inscription. These mapping efforts were undertaken for all 16 historic villages within the property, as well as for waterways, fields and meadows. This has resulted in 14 proposed changes to the property boundary involving 5 additions and 9 subtractions.

Of particular note is that at present, two long sections of the Elbe river are included in the property and form its northern boundary. These sections are proposed to be excluded on the basis that the significant cultivated landscape extended to the southern edge of the river.

The State Party characterises these modifications as correcting cartographic errors resulting from changes to the boundary that were made during the evaluation mission in 2000.

With regard to Palace Mosigkau, while a buffer zone was included for the major component of the property at the time of inscription, no buffer zone was provided for the Palace component as a result of an apparent oversight. The proposed buffer zone will encompass the historic settlement of Mosigkau as well as the meadows surrounding it. The proposed buffer zone surrounds the component on all sides, and was defined in order to provide effective protection against impacts such as those arising from the erection of tall structures.

The State Party offers a correction to the size of the area of the property. This is based partly on the difference between the size of the area provided in the nomination dossier which did not take account of the revised boundaries following the ICOMOS evaluation mission. The correction is also based on a re-calculation undertaken using the latest available geographic information system.

The boundary change will not affect management of the property. In the case of the proposed buffer zone, existing management arrangements will continue and no new arrangements are proposed.

The boundary change will have no impact regarding the legal protection the property. The small areas to be included in the property already share the highest level of legal protection under a federal law.

The proposed buffer zone also shares this level of legal protection with the property. It is listed as a monument area under the Conservation Law of the State of Saxony-Anhalt.

In the case of the exclusion of sections of the Elbe river, ICOMOS notes that it is not an identified attribute and its exclusion appears justified. In any event, the river will be within the buffer zone.

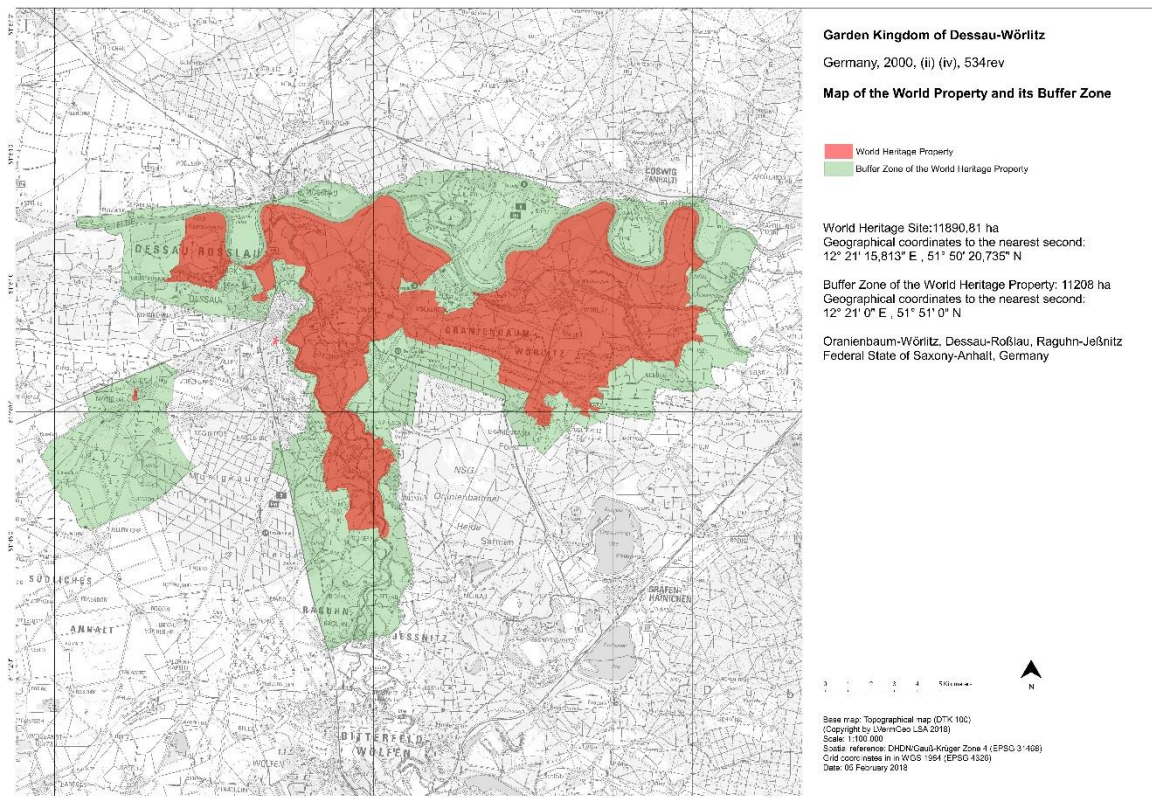
ICOMOS considers that the proposed modifications to the property boundary and the identification of a buffer zone for one component of the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz will contribute to the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and strengthen its management.

### **3 ICOMOS Recommendations**

#### **Recommendation with respect to inscription**

ICOMOS recommends that the proposed minor modification to the boundary of the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, Germany, **be approved**.

ICOMOS recommends that the proposed buffer zone for one component of the Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz, Germany, **be approved**.



Map showing the revised boundaries of the property and of the buffer zone