



Permanent Delegate
of the Republic of Poland
to UNESCO

Paris, 24 January 2020

SP.PAR.4251.2.1.2.2020

Ms Mechtild Rössler
Director
World Heritage Centre

Dear Madam Director,

In compliance with the Reactive Monitoring process, I am submitting herewith the letters from Ms Magdalena Gawin, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland and two reports:

- on the state of conservation of property “Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System”, and
- on the state of conservation of property “Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945)”.

I would like to express my deepest apologies for the delay and any inconvenience that it might cause in work of the World Heritage Centre.

Please accept, Madam Director, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Róża Karlikowska
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

MINISTRY
OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL HERITAGE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

DEPUTY MINISTER
dr hab. prof. HI PAS Magdalena Gawin

Warsaw, 31st December of 2019

..JW

Ms
dr Mechtild Rössler
Director
UNESCO World Heritage Centre

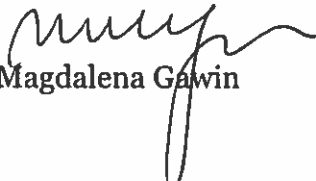
Dear Madam,

I would like to submit the report on the state of conservation of Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System, the UNESCO World Heritage property. This document is an answer to the recommendations included in decision of World Heritage Centre no 41 COM 8B.25 , that was adopted in 2017.

Hoping for further cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, I would like to assure you that the Government of the Republic of Poland is committed to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property, and to pass it to the next generations in the best possible condition.

Please accept, Madam, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely Yours


Magdalena Gawin

Attachment:

1. The report on the state of conservation of Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System, the UNESCO World Heritage property

CC:

- 1. Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Poland to UNESCO**
- 2. Monuments Preservation Department, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage**
- 3. Polish National Commission for UNESCO**
- 4. National Heritage Board of Poland**
- 5. Coordinator of the World Heritage Property**
- 6. Tarnowskie Góry Land Lovers' Association**
- 7. Monuments Inspector of Silesia Region**

Report on the state of conservation of the UNESCO world heritage site

Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System (Poland) (C 1539)

1. Summary of the report

This report presents the current state of conservation of Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System and its buffer zone. This is the first report on the conservation of the site, and covers the period from the date of its inscription on the World Heritage List in 2017 to the beginning of November 2019. The report refers to the World Heritage Committee decision No. 41 COM 8B.25.

The State Party with satisfaction accepted the entry of the property in Tarnowskie Góry on the World Heritage List and committed to its proper protection and management to preserve for future generations.

The proof of it is continuation by the State Party, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, of entries in the register of monuments of successive elements of the property, owing to which they have been protected by law. The protection of the property is also strengthened by the purchase of land by the Tarnowskie Góry Commune, where are situated a machine shaft No. 22 and plots of land with post-mining meadows that represent post-mining landscape from the nineteenth century.

In cooperation with the Regional Monuments Inspector and the State Mining Authority, conservation programmes, research and inventories of the underground areas are being prepared and implemented.

Moreover, a significant step to establish a scientific committee for the World Heritage site is cooperation with academic centres – the Silesian University of Technology and the Faculty of Earth Sciences at the University of Silesia.

The State-Party also conducts analyses of the possibility of implementing the Committee's recommendations concerning the extension of the A5 area in order to connect it with the A4 area, as well as extension of the boundaries of the site and connecting the area of the tower with the Kaehler shaft.

2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

In July 2017, at the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee in Krakow (Poland), the Committee adopted a decision on Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System (No 41 COM 8B.25). The site was included in the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv).

This report presents the current state of conservation of Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System and its buffer zone. This is the first report on the preservation status of the site, and it covers the period from the date of its inscription on the World Heritage List in 2017 to the beginning of November 2019. The responses were based on information received from the officially appointed Coordinator of the World Heritage Property and are arranged in accordance with the recommendations and questions contained in the decision:

Ref. 3. Adoption of the statement of outstanding universal value

During the 41st session of the Committee, a provisional statement of outstanding universal value was adopted. However, the final text of the statement was adopted in 2018 by Decision No. 42 COM 8B.44.

Ref. 4. Position of the State-Party on the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee

a/ Finalise the legal protection of the site and implement it at national level for all ground components within the site and those that, although located within the buffer zone, express the value of the site.

From the date of the nomination application for the World Heritage List of the site in Tarnowskie Góry, the State-Party has conducted activities aimed at providing legal protection for all elements of the site. As a result, the following components were entered in the register of monuments of the Silesian Voivodship:

- portal of the Deep Adit "Fryderyk" (attribute No. 1.9),
- adit ditch (1.10),
- adit shaft No. 5 – "Adam" (1.8),
- portal of the "Boże Wspaniałe" Adit (2.8),
- ditch of the "Boże Wspaniałe" Adit (2.9),
- adit machine shaft No. 22 "Karlik" (1.5),
- Staszic Water Supply Station (3.1),

The Tarnowskie Góry Municipality purchased a real estate with a machine shaft No. 22 (1.5) and plots of land with post-mining meadows – post-mining landscape from the nineteenth century (3.2).

In cooperation with the Regional Monuments Inspector in Katowice, conservation programmes are being prepared and implemented for the outlet of the Deep Adit "Fryderyk" together with the portal. Once the necessary funds for the investment have been obtained, further conservation programmes will also be prepared - the architectural setting of the initial part of the ditch of Deep Adit "Fryderyk" is planned for preservation (1.9 and 1.10).

In addition, the State Mining Authority declared that it would carry out an inventory of the underground areas included in the List.

The Coordinator of the World Heritage Property reviews the decisions on the issuance of the development conditions and infrastructural investments in the buffer zone in the city of Bytom on a current basis (the surroundings of characteristic area A6).

b/ Establish a multidisciplinary scientific committee as an advisory body to the Steering Committee, to support scientific and research programmes,

In accordance with the Steering Committee's findings of 9 July 2018, cooperation with the Silesian University of Technology was established (in 2018 a cooperation agreement was signed with the Tarnowskie Góry Land Lovers' Association) and the Faculty of Earth Sciences at the University of Silesia.

It is a significant step to establish a scientific committee for a world heritage site. This is also reflected in the following:

- signing an agreement between the Municipality of Tarnowskie Góry and the University of Silesia within the framework of the project "Good Practices for Strengthening Biodiversity and Active Protection of Calamine Grasslands of the Silesian-Kraków BioGalmany Region", in order to carry out the task "Protection of calamine grasslands and other valuable natural elements indicated after conducting appropriate research" - in accordance with point K4.2 of Table 7 of the "Management Plan 2016-2020";
- execution in 2018 by scientists from the Faculty of Earth Sciences at the University of Silesia of a 3D laser scan of Hałda Popłuczkowa (A6) in order to examine the erosion of heap slopes;
- establishment of the Laboratory for Research and Analysis of Working Conditions of Industrial Professions of the Silesian University of Technology - within the framework of the project "Dialogue".

The establishment of the scientific committee should take place at one of the subsequent meetings of the Steering Committee.

c/ Confirm that the change in ownership of the water supply station at the Adolf shaft will not change the quality and regularity of water extraction necessary to preserve the underground chambers in the medium and long term,

The Staszic Water Supply Station is managed by the Upper Silesian Water Supply Company, which ensures the quality and regularity of water extraction necessary to preserve the underground chambers.

d/Develop a programme of archaeological research with emphasis on the underground element of phase I, as far as possible, and phase II, with particular attention to the mining landscape, Currently, underground research is possible only in the Historical Mine, the Black Trout Adit and the underground of the Staszic Water Supply Station, due to the necessity to use specialist equipment and only under the supervision of the State Mining Authority.

In addition, implementing the Committee's recommendations contained in the decision, the following were carried out:

- non-invasive electrofusion and geo-measurement surveys of the characteristic area A7 (the area of the former Fryderyk Mine) in cooperation with the Department of Applied Geology of the Faculty of Earth Sciences of the University of Silesia,
 - dendrochronological research of linden trees in Park Kunszt (A7) in cooperation with the Department of Reconstruction of the Geographical Environment of the Faculty of Earth Sciences at the University of Silesia,
 - a revitalisation project with a plan of archaeological works for characteristic area A8 (Municipal Park in Tarnowskie Góry),
- and the project "Good Practices for Strengthening Biodiversity and Active Protection of Calamine Grasslands of the Silesian-Krakow BioGalmany Region" is being implemented in cooperation with the Municipality of Tarnowskie Góry and the University of Silesia, in order to implement the task "Protection of calamine grasslands and other valuable natural elements indicated after conducting appropriate research".

e/ Consider including the historical water tower, directly adjacent to the Kaehler shaft, to the site,

In September 2019, the water tower was entered into the register of monuments, thus it is protected by law. This entry is the first step towards the implementation of the Committee's recommendations. Currently, preparatory works are underway, which are to lead in the future to the submission of an application for extending the boundaries of the site and connecting the area of the tower with the Kaehler shaft.

f/ Consider extending the A5 area to include the A4 area,

The State-Party conducts analyses of the possibility of implementing the Committee's recommendations concerning the extension of the A5 area in order to connect it with the A4 area.

3. Other current issues related to the state of preservation and identified by the State Party(ies) that may affect the *outstanding universal value* of the site.

Not identified.

4. In accordance with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, any potential major repairs, modifications and/or new constructions planned within the boundaries of the site, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas should be described, if such changes may affect the *outstanding universal value* of the site, including its authenticity and integrity.

Not identified.

5. Public access to the report on the state of preservation

The State-Party agrees to the publication of the entire report on the website of the World Heritage Centre.

6. Signature of the competent authority

dr hab. prof. III PAN Magdalena Sawin

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Magdalena Sawin', is written over the typed name 'dr hab. prof. III PAN Magdalena Sawin'.

