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Executive Summary

States parties

Germany (DE) | Netherlands (NL)

State, province or region

Germany

Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Nordrhein-Westfalen*): municipalities (*kreisfreie Städte und Gemeinden*) of Kleve, Bedburg-Hau, Kalkar, Uedem, Xanten, Wesel, Alpen, Moers, Duisburg, Krefeld, Neuss, Monheim am Rhein, Dormagen, Köln, Bonn, Bornheim, Alfter, Swisttal and Bad-Münstereifel.

Federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate (*Rheinland-Pfalz*): municipality (*Stadt*) of Remagen.

Netherlands

Province (*provincie*) of Gelderland: municipalities (*gemeenten*) of Arnhem, Berg en Dal, Nijmegen, Overbetuwe, Zevenaar.

Province (*provincie*) of Utrecht: municipalities (*gemeenten*) of Bunnik, Utrecht, Woerden.

Province (*provincie*) of South Holland (*Zuid-Holland*): municipalities (*gemeenten*) of Katwijk, Leiden, Leidschendam-Voorburg, Voorschoten.

Name of property

Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes

Grenzen des Römischen Reiches – Der Niedergermanische Limes

Grenzen van het Romeinse rijk – De Neder-Germaanse Limes

Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes is a serial transnational nomination. The western end is constituted by the fort of Valkenburg (NL), with its approximate centre at E 4°25'59" N 52°10'48" (DMS). The fortress of Xanten-Fürstenberg (DE) constitutes the approximate centre of the nominated property, at E 6°28'12" N 51°38'35" (DMS). The southern end is constituted by the fort of Remagen (DE), with its approximate centre at E 7°13'41" N 50°34'48" (DMS).

The 106 component parts of the nominated property are listed in table 1, with the coordinates of their centre points. They are listed from north(west) to south(east).

id	name	country	municipality	E	N
1a	Valkenburg-Centrum Kerkweg	NL	Katwijk	4°25'59"	52°10'48"
1b	Valkenburg-Centrum Centrum	NL	Katwijk	4°25'59"	52°10'48"
1c	Valkenburg-Centrum Raadhuis	NL	Katwijk	4°25'59"	52°10'52"
1d	Valkenburg-Centrum Kerkhof	NL	Katwijk	4°25'59"	52°10'52"
2a	Valkenburg-De Woerd North	NL	Katwijk	4°26'17"	52°10'19"
2b	Valkenburg-De Woerd South	NL	Katwijk	4°26'24"	52°10'12"
3	Voorburg-Arentsburg	NL	Leidschendam-Voorburg	4°21'0"	52°3'36"
4a	Corbulo's canal Vlietwijk	NL	Voorschoten	4°27'36"	52°7'30"
4b	Corbulo's canal Starrenburg	NL	Voorschoten	4°26'13"	52°6'32"
4c	Corbulo's canal Knippolder	NL	Voorschoten	4°25'44"	52°6'18"
4d	Corbulo's canal Vlietvoorde	NL	Leidschendam-Voorburg	4°25'23"	52°6'4"
4e	Corbulo's canal Rozenrust	NL	Leidschendam-Voorburg	4°24'32"	52°5'28"
4f	Corbulo's canal Romeinsepada	NL	Leidschendam-Voorburg	4°23'56"	52°5'2"
5a	Leiden-Roomburg Park Matilo	NL	Leiden	4°31'1"	52°9'0"
5b	Leiden-Roomburg Besjeslaan	NL	Leiden	4°31'8"	52°8'53"
6	Woerden-Centrum	NL	Woerden	4°53'2"	52°5'10"
7a	Utrecht-Limes road Zandweg	NL	Utrecht	4°59'46"	52°5'28"
7b	Utrecht-Limes road Veldhuizen	NL	Utrecht	5°0'29"	52°5'10"
7c	Utrecht-Limes road De Balije	NL	Utrecht	5°1'19"	52°4'48"
8a	Utrecht-Hoge Woerd Castellum	NL	Utrecht	5°2'31"	52°5'10"
8b	Utrecht-Hoge Woerd Langerakbaan	NL	Utrecht	5°2'38"	52°5'17"
9	Utrecht-Groot Zandveld	NL	Utrecht	5°3'4"	52°5'42"
10	Utrecht-Domplein	NL	Utrecht	5°7'19"	52°5'28"
11a	Bunnik-Vechten Marsdijk	NL	Bunnik	5°9'58"	52°3'29"
11b	Bunnik-Vechten Provincialeweg	NL	Bunnik	5°10'26"	52°3'47"
12	Arnhem-Meinerswijk	NL	Arnhem	5°52'26"	51°58'16"
13	Elst-Grote Kerk	NL	Overbetuwe	5°50'56"	51°55'12"
14a	Nijmegen-Valkhof area Valkhofpark	NL	Nijmegen	5°52'12"	51°50'53"
14b	Nijmegen-Valkhof area Hunnerpark	NL	Nijmegen	5°52'19"	51°50'49"
15	Nijmegen-Hunerberg	NL	Nijmegen	5°53'2"	51°50'24"
16a	Nijmegen-Kops Plateau West	NL	Nijmegen	5°53'31"	51°50'17"
16b	Nijmegen-Kops Plateau North	NL	Berg en Dal	5°53'42"	51°50'20"
16c	Nijmegen-Kops Plateau East	NL	Nijmegen	5°53'42"	51°50'10"
16d	Nijmegen-Kops Plateau Kopse Hof North	NL	Nijmegen	5°53'46"	51°50'10"
16e	Nijmegen-Kops Plateau Kopse Hof South	NL	Nijmegen	5°53'46"	51°50'6"
17a	Berg en Dal-aqueduct Mariënboom	NL	Nijmegen	5°53'17"	51°49'34"
17b	Berg en Dal-aqueduct Swartendijk	NL	Berg en Dal/Nijmegen	5°53'28"	51°49'23"
17c	Berg en Dal-aqueduct Cortendijk	NL	Berg en Dal	5°53'24"	51°49'12"
17d	Berg en Dal-aqueduct Louisedal	NL	Berg en Dal	5°54'0"	51°49'5"
17e	Berg en Dal-aqueduct Kerstendal	NL	Berg en Dal	5°54'50"	51°49'1"
18a	Berg en Dal-De Holdeurn North	NL	Berg en Dal	5°55'59"	51°49'1"
18b	Berg en Dal-De Holdeurn South	NL	Berg en Dal	5°55'55"	51°48'58"
19	Herwen-De Bijland	NL	Zevenaar	6°5'56"	51°52'52"
20	Kleve-Keeken	DE	Kleve	6°4'41"	51°50'28"
21a	Kleve-Reichswald West	DE	Kleve	6°5'35"	51°47'28"
21b	Kleve-Reichswald East	DE	Kleve	6°6'22"	51°47'28"
22	Till	DE	Bedburg-Hau	6°14'20"	51°46'37"
23	Kalkar-Kalkarberg	DE	Kalkar	6°17'6"	51°43'44"
24	Kalkar-Bornsches Feld	DE	Kalkar	6°19'8"	51°42'50"
25a	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 1	DE	Uedem	6°21'7"	51°41'31"
25b	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 2	DE	Uedem	6°21'14"	51°41'38"
25c	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 3	DE	Uedem	6°21'25"	51°41'31"
25d	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 4	DE	Uedem	6°21'36"	51°41'31"
25e	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 5	DE	Uedem	6°21'47"	51°41'35"
25f	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 6	DE	Uedem	6°22'1"	51°41'28"
25g	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 7.1	DE	Uedem	6°22'1"	51°41'20"
25h	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 7.2	DE	Uedem	6°22'5"	51°41'20"
25i	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 8.1	DE	Uedem	6°21'54"	51°41'17"

Table 1 List of component parts of the Lower German Limes, with the coordinates of their central points. The coordinates are in Degree-Minute-Second.

id	name	country	municipality	E	N
25j	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 8.2	DE	Uedem	6°21'54"	51°41'17"
25k	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 9	DE	Uedem	6°21'54"	51°41'24"
25l	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 10	DE	Uedem	6°21'43"	51°41'20"
25m	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 11	DE	Uedem	6°21'32"	51°41'17"
25n	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 12	DE	Uedem	6°21'18"	51°41'20"
25o	Uedem-Hochwald Hochwald 13	DE	Uedem	6°21'4"	51°41'20"
26a	Wesel-Flüren Flürener Feld 1	DE	Wesel	6°33'32"	51°40'55"
26b	Wesel-Flüren Flürener Feld 2	DE	Wesel	6°33'40"	51°40'59"
26c	Wesel-Flüren Flürener Feld 3	DE	Wesel	6°33'43"	51°41'6"
26d	Wesel-Flüren Flürener Feld 4	DE	Wesel	6°33'50"	51°41'6"
27	Xanten-CUT	DE	Xanten	6°26'38"	51°40'1"
28	Xanten-Fürstenberg	DE	Xanten	6°28'12"	51°38'35"
29	Alpen-Drüpt	DE	Alpen	6°32'46"	51°35'13"
30	Moers-Asberg	DE	Moers	6°40'12"	51°25'55"
31	Duisburg-Werthausen	DE	Duisburg	6°42'40"	51°25'19"
32	Krefeld-Gellep	DE	Krefeld	6°40'55"	51°19'59"
33	Neuss-Koenenlager	DE	Neuss	6°43'26"	51°10'55"
34a	Neuss-Reckberg Wachturm	DE	Neuss	6°45'58"	51°10'34"
34b	Neuss-Reckberg Kleinkastell	DE	Neuss	6°46'8"	51°10'26"
35	Monheim-Haus Bürgel	DE	Monheim am Rhein	6°52'23"	51°7'44"
36	Dormagen	DE	Dormagen	6°50'24"	51°5'35"
37	Köln-Praetorium	DE	Köln	6°57'32"	50°56'17"
38	Köln-Deutz	DE	Köln	6°58'12"	50°56'17"
39	Köln-Alteburg	DE	Köln	6°58'37"	50°54'18"
40a	Kottenforst Nord Am Weißen Stein 1	DE	Bornheim	6°58'37"	50°44'6"
40b	Kottenforst Nord Am Weißen Stein 2	DE	Alfter	6°58'59"	50°43'52"
40c	Kottenforst Nord Domhecken 5	DE	Alfter/Swisttal	6°57'40"	50°42'50"
40d	Kottenforst Nord Domhecken 1	DE	Alfter	6°58'23"	50°42'50"
40e	Kottenforst Nord Domhecken 2	DE	Alfter	6°58'41"	50°43'1"
40f	Kottenforst Nord Domhecken 3	DE	Alfter	6°58'55"	50°42'54"
40g	Kottenforst Nord Domhecken 4	DE	Alfter	6°59'10"	50°42'58"
40h	Kottenforst Nord Dürrenbruch 3	DE	Alfter	6°59'10"	50°42'32"
40i	Kottenforst Nord Dürrenbruch 2	DE	Alfter	6°59'17"	50°42'29"
40j	Kottenforst Nord Dürrenbruch 1	DE	Alfter	6°59'28"	50°42'25"
40k	Kottenforst Nord Pfaffenmaar 1 und 2	DE	Alfter	6°58'34"	50°42'22"
41	Bonn	DE	Bonn	7°6'0"	50°44'42"
42a	Kottenforst Süd Oben der Krayermaar	DE	Bonn	7°2'38"	50°41'35"
42b	Kottenforst Süd Villiper Bach	DE	Bonn	7°4'52"	50°39'40"
42c	Kottenforst Süd Professorenweg 1	DE	Bonn	7°5'20"	50°39'32"
42d	Kottenforst Süd Professorenweg 2	DE	Bonn	7°5'38"	50°39'32"
42e	Kottenforst Süd Riesenweg	DE	Bonn	7°5'42"	50°39'25"
42f	Kottenforst Süd Wattendorfer Allee 2	DE	Bonn	7°6'0"	50°39'54"
42g	Kottenforst Süd Wattendorfer Allee 1	DE	Bonn	7°6'29"	50°39'50"
42h	Kottenforst Süd Bellerbuschallee	DE	Bonn	7°7'5"	50°39'58"
42i	Kottenforst Süd Villiprot	DE	Bonn	7°4'12"	50°38'42"
42j	Kottenforst Süd Heiderhof	DE	Bonn	7°8'35"	50°39'25"
43	Iversheim	DE	Bad Münstereifel	6°46'26"	50°35'17"
44	Remagen	DE	Remagen	7°13'41"	50°34'48"

Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property

Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes is a serial transnational nomination. Its component parts represent the boundary of the Roman

province of *Germania inferior* or Lower Germany, and are spread out over c. 400 km along the Lower Rhine river.

The nominated property consists of 106 component parts. When an archaeological complex (such as a fort with its associated civil settlement and cemeteries) is

divided into two or more component parts, these parts have been combined in a cluster. In all, 79 of the 106 component parts have been grouped in 17 clusters, leaving 27 component parts which are not part of a cluster. The 27 individual component parts and 17 clusters add up to 44 component parts/clusters.

The boundary of the nominated property as a whole is defined in such a way as to encompass a good representation of the elements and values of the Lower German frontier. Boundaries of individual component parts are preferably based on administrative boundaries and visible features (e.g. walls, ditches), as far as these are located close to the known boundaries of the archaeological remains.

All component parts are additionally protected by buffer zones. These buffer zones have several purposes, and their application varies along with the local situation. A buffer zone may serve one or more of the following purposes:

- A. It includes parts of the overall archaeological assemblage or element where values or features are expected, but have not yet been attested.
- B. It clarifies the overall archaeological assemblage or element, by including parts that have been (partly) destroyed or cannot be sustainably protected.
- C. It protects important views and elements of the setting.

The boundaries of each buffer zone have been delineated to encompass all the elements necessary to serve its purposes. The boundaries are preferably based on administrative boundaries and visible features.

Map of the nominated property

The entire extent of the nominated property is illustrated in fig. 1. Due to the dimensions of the nominated property it is not possible to indicate the numbers of the component parts in a map of the entire property, or the boundaries of individual component parts and buffer zones.

Numbers of component parts/clusters have been indicated in separate overview maps of relevant parts of the two countries (cf. chapter 1; figs 1.4–1.7). For clusters of component parts, the location and numbers of individual component parts may be found in the maps of the catalogue of component parts (Annex 1).

The boundaries of the component parts and buffer zones can only be mapped at the level of the individual component part/cluster. Detailed maps illustrating the boundaries of component parts and buffer zones may be found in the catalogue of component parts (Annex 1).

Criteria under which property is nominated

Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes is nominated under criteria ii, iii and iv (cf. below).

Draft statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes ran for 400 km along the Lower Rhine, along the north-eastern boundary of the Roman frontier province of *Germania inferior* (Lower Germany), from the Rhenish Massif south of Bonn (Germany) to the North Sea coast (the Netherlands). For more than 450 years from the late 1st century BC, it protected the Roman Empire against Germanic tribes which it considered as ‘barbaric’.

The first military bases were built in the last decades BC, for the conquest of Germanic territories across the river Rhine. Once this ambition had failed the left river bank was converted into a fortified frontier separating Roman Gaul from the ‘barbaric’ foreland. Military installations of widely varying types and sizes and associated civil structures were built on the edge of the left river bank and linked by an infrastructural and logistical network. Having survived a crisis in the late 3rd century AD, the frontier shared the phased disintegration of the Western Roman Empire until the mid-5th century.

Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes eminently illustrates the innovative responses of the Roman military engineers to the challenges posed by the dynamic landscape of a lowland river, as witnessed by the positioning and design of the military installations and by exceptional water management works. The entire range of large early bases to small late strongholds is represented, reflecting strategic adaptation and development of military engineering. The first military bases on the Lower Rhine represent the very beginning of the linear perimeter defence of the Roman Empire, which would develop into a coherent frontier system extending over three continents in the 2nd century AD. The military and civil structures associated with the military fortifications illustrate the formidable impact of the Roman military presence on the landscape and society of the periphery of the Empire.

The wetland conditions have led to an outstanding preservation of timber and other organic remains, providing unparalleled insights into military construction, shipbuilding, logistics and supply.

Criterion (ii): The extant remains of *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* constitute significant elements of the Roman Frontiers present

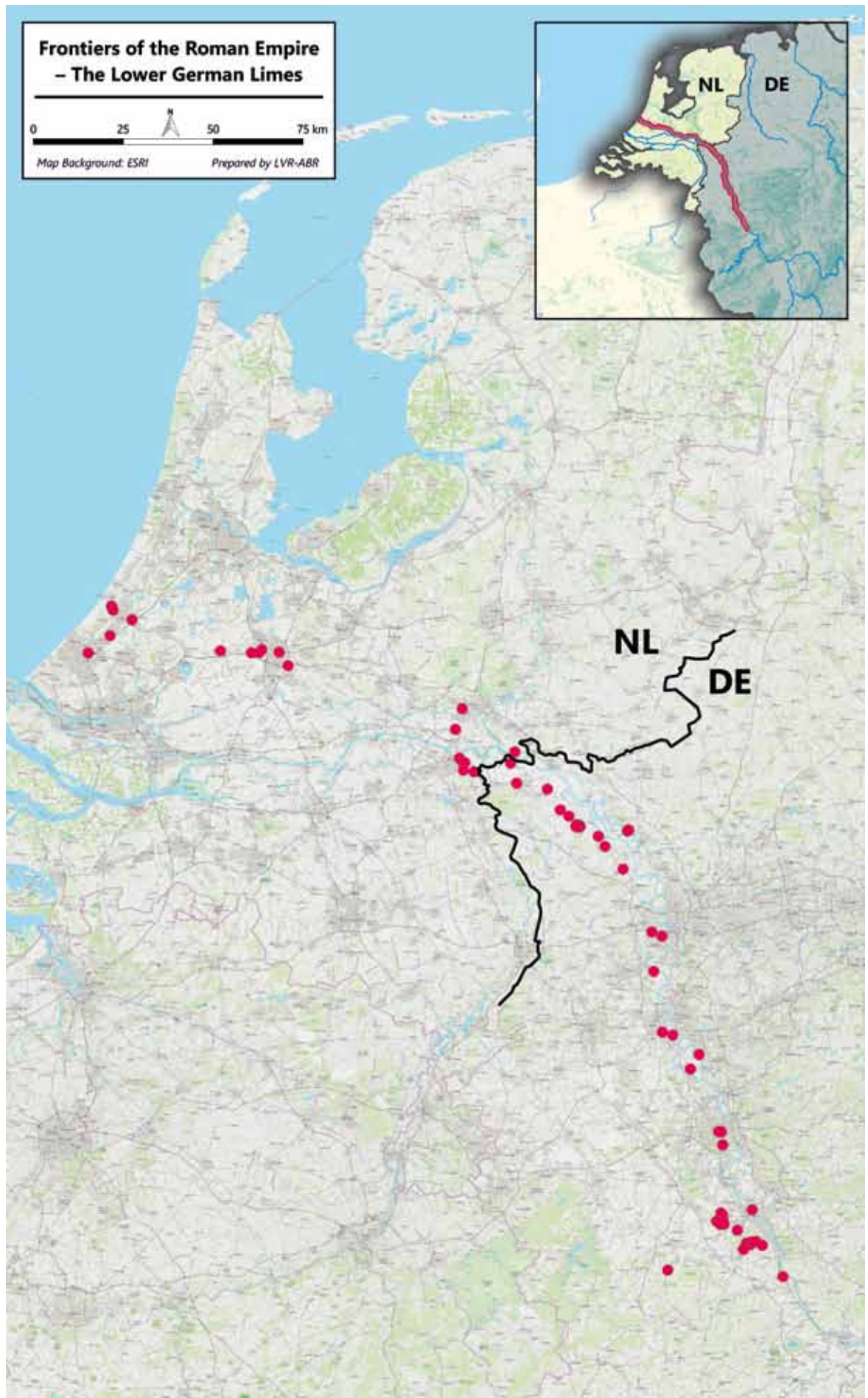


Fig. 1 Location of the nominated serial property *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes*.

in Europe. With its legionary fortresses, forts, fortlets, watchtowers, linked infrastructure and civilian architecture it exhibits an important interchange of human and cultural values at the height of the Roman Empire, through the development of Roman military architecture, extending the technical knowledge of construction and management to the very edges of the Empire. It reflects the imposition of a complex frontier system on the existing societies of the north-western part of the Roman Empire, introducing for the first time military installations and related civilian settlements, linked through an extensive supporting network. The frontier did not constitute an impregnable barrier, but controlled and allowed the movement of peoples: not only the military units, but also civilians and merchants. Hence, it triggered the exchange of cultural values through movement of soldiers and civilians from different nations. This entailed profound changes and developments in terms of settlement patterns, architecture and landscape design and spatial organisation.

Criterion (iii): As part of the Roman Empire's general system of defence, *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* has an extraordinarily high cultural value. It bears an exceptional testimony to the maximum extension of the power of the Roman Empire through the consolidation of its north-western frontiers and thus constitutes a physical manifestation of Roman imperial policy. It illustrates the Roman Empire's ambition to dominate the world in order to establish its law and way of life there in a long-term perspective. It witnesses Roman colonisation in the respective territories, the spread of Roman culture and its different traditions – military, engineering, architecture, religion management and politics – and the large number of human settlements associated with the defences which contribute to an understanding of how soldiers and their families lived in this part of the Roman Empire.

Criterion (iv): *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* was the earliest linear frontier of the Roman Empire, created as an answer to Rome's inability to control its northern neighbours by means of diplomacy. Its military installations outstandingly illustrate the development of the large operational bases of a field army to the varied range of smaller installations required by an extended frontier line. Situated in an area which has always been a wetland, with outstanding preservation conditions, *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* exhibits unique testimonies of water management strategies and constructions employed by the military command of the Roman Empire. Buried riverine rubbish deposits constitute veritable treasure-chests of organic materials and artefacts bearing unique information on frontier life and on vanished traditions such as notably that of river boat building.

Integrity

The component parts of *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* have been carefully selected to provide a good representation of the attributes and values of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value. They clearly bring out the early development of perimeter defence. They cover the entire range of military installations and relevant associated structures of a frontier system, explaining its functioning and development. Distinctive aspects which are clearly brought out by the component parts are the responses of the Roman army to the dynamic river landscape and the large impact of the frontier on the landscape and its inhabitants.

The general state of conservation is good to very good. More than three quarters of the component parts/clusters encompass nearly or largely complete elements of the frontier. All were exposed to the normal degradation of archaeological sites, but in most cases their intactness is good or very good, as witnessed by the presence of remains of the latest building phase. The rarity of aboveground remains is amply compensated by the outstanding preservation of the buried features. The sites are not exposed to significant threats, and current legislation warrants a proper protection of the property, enhanced by adequate buffer zones.

Authenticity

As an archaeological property, *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* has a high level of authenticity. Virtually all the remains were buried during or soon after the Roman period and thus protected against later alterations. The authenticity of form and design of nearly all elements is unaffected, because they have not undergone any changes after the Roman period. At half of the sites stone walls or timber and organic remains have been preserved to a level which permits the qualification of their authenticity as unaffected. Elsewhere only, the foundations of stone walls remain, or timber and organics have decayed, leading to a rating of the authenticity of materials and substance as fair. The location and setting of the elements of the frontier have in most cases considerably changed, by the embankment or canalisation of the Rhine, changes in land use and urbanisation. There are only four sites where the present setting still reminds of the Roman landscape, although it can still be explained at half of the sites; at the other half the authenticity of location and setting is clearly compromised. Reconstructions occur at five sites, whereas other types of visualisations – evidently not pretending to be authentic – significantly contribute to the sustained protection of the sites.

Protection and management requirements

The nominated property is legally protected by the national and state laws on heritage protection of Germany (federal states of North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate) and the Netherlands. Much of the responsibility rests with the owners and with local and regional authorities. The component parts will be primarily managed at the national (NL) and state (DE) levels, but the management of the nominated property is coordinated by a joint Dutch-German Management Group (MG-LGL), which is overseen by an Intergovernmental Committee (IGC-LGL). The joint Management Group sets out the main lines of the management and supervises the implementation of the national management plans and the periodic reporting to

UNESCO. The role of the Management Group and its procedures will be laid down in a Joint Declaration. The management organisation of *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes* will cooperate intensively with their counterparts of the existing World Heritage site *Frontiers of the Roman Empire* (Ref: 430ter) and the nominated property *Frontiers of the Roman Empire – the Danube Limes (Western Segment)* (Ref: 1608, nominated 2018), and with States Parties preparing the nomination of other sections of the Roman frontiers. A framework for this international cooperation is provided by the ‘Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Cluster’ set up in 2018 to support international collaboration in those fields relevant to the overall management and development of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire in Europe as World Heritage.

Name and contact information of official local institutions/agencies

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