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# Kladruby nad Labem (Czechia) No 1589bis

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## 1 Basic data

**State Party**  
Czechia

**Name of property**  
Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem

**Location**  
Pardubický Region

**Inscription**  
2019

### Brief description

The property is situated on the Elbe (Labe) River flood plain where there is sandy soil, ox bow lakes and the relic of a riparian forest. The structure and functional use of plots of land (pastures, meadows, forests, fields, park), network of paths, avenues, trees in regimented lines and arranged clusters as well as the solitary trees, the network of watercourses, ensembles of buildings in the farmsteads and the overall composition including functional relations and links between these components - all this fully serves the needs of breeding and training of the Baroque draught horses of the Kladruher breed which were used during the ceremonies at the Habsburg Imperial Court. The composition of the landscape is the evidence of the intentional artistic approach to the landscape. The property is a rare example of the synthesis of two types of cultural landscape - living and organically developing landscape where its key function dominates and the manmade landscape intentionally designed and created using the principles of the French and English landscape architecture which is an outstanding example of the specialised decorative farm - ferme ornée. The Imperial Stud Farm was founded in 1579 and its landscape has been used for this purpose since then.

**Date of ICOMOS approval of this report**  
18 March 2021

## 2 Issues raised

### Background

In 2019 the World Heritage Committee inscribed on the World Heritage List the Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem under criteria (iv) and (v). The Committee requested the State Party to finalize the expansion of the

buffer zone to the south of the property by including further land across the River Elbe where the boundaries of the buffer zone were too tight or coinciding with those of the nominated property. The present proposal for minor boundary modification intends to respond to that Committee's recommendation and to guarantee that the property is fully covered by an effective layer of protection in all directions.

### Modification

The proposed modification enlarges the buffer zone in the southern part to incorporate within it further land – precisely 257.8ha - across the Elbe river, with the aim to preserve the property from undesirable developments and from potential negative impacts on views, vistas and visual links. The portion of land added to the buffer zone has been carefully identified in the minor boundary modification proposal through a detailed description and the listing of the cadastral plots of land being incorporated. The buffer zone has been increased from 3,248ha as originally proposed to 3,505.8ha.

The expansion of the buffer zone has been carried out by Přelouč Municipal Office pursuant the Heritage Act n.20/87 as amended. The legal provision has come into effect on 25 August 2020, and it extends the protection regime that applies to the existing buffer zone to this newly added area. The protection regime of the buffer zone includes the preservation of the skyline and of long-distance vistas, the preservation of key features of these vistas on and from the property, the preservation of the height level of existing buildings as well as the regulation of potential new construction projects.

According to the Heritage Act, the legal implications for the protection of the buffer zone establish that the Přelouč Municipal Office issues its binding opinions on projects only after receiving the written opinion from the specialized regional body for heritage protection – the Pardubice Regional Office, which is a deconcentrated office of the National Heritage Institute. If requested, the Přelouč Municipal Office shall also discuss with the Regional Office its binding opinion before the process is finalized. Proponents of new projects are requested to present and discuss their proposals with the Pardubice Regional Office during their development, so as to ascertain whether protection requirements are being met.

Pursuant the Building Act no.183/2006 as amended, planning authorities are bound to follow the binding opinions of the Přelouč Municipal Office to issue planning consents within the buffer zone. However, a binding opinion from the specialized body for heritage protection is not compulsory for projects related to structures, terrain modifications and installations which have an overall height inferior to 10m, the highest point of which is less than 229m a.s.l. and which have a footprint inferior to 300sqm.

ICOMOS observes that for the protection mechanisms of the buffer zone to be effective, these should be tied to the need to ensure that activities within the buffer zone do not cause negative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, rather than being based on quantitative indicators that do not seem related to the Outstanding Universal Value. Although the protection rationale for the buffer zone expansion focuses on protecting distant views and vista over or towards the property, it would be important that mechanisms are in place to verify whether any project can impact negatively on the attributes supporting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. At the moment, it is not clear whether the requirements related to the dimensions of possibly proposed modifications suffice to rule out potential negative impacts.

ICOMOS therefore recommends that the State Party sets up as a matter of urgency appropriate Heritage Impact Assessment mechanisms able to assess whether any type of project, within the property, its buffer zone and wider setting, can result in negative impact on the attributes supporting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

### **3 ICOMOS Recommendations**

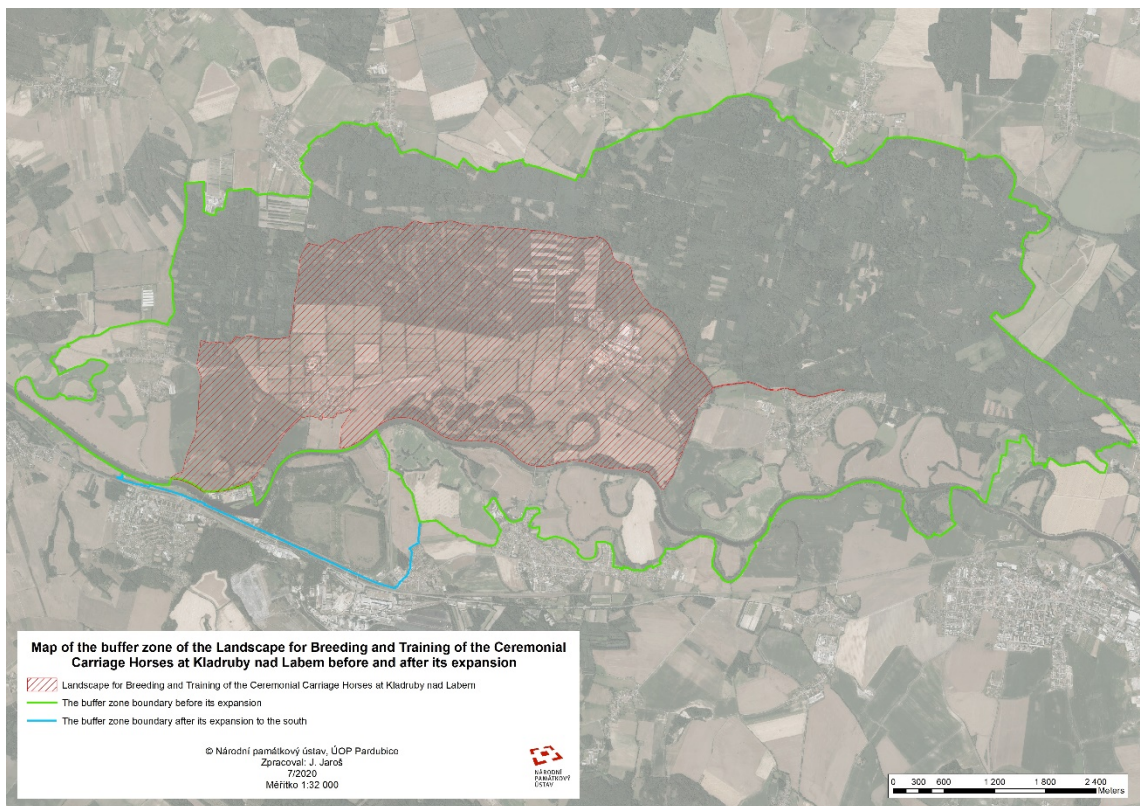
#### **Recommendation with respect to inscription**

ICOMOS recommends that the proposed buffer zone for Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem, Czechia, **be approved.**

#### **Additional recommendations**

ICOMOS recommends that the State Party gives consideration to the following:

- a) Setting up as a matter of urgency appropriate Heritage Impact Assessment mechanisms able to assess whether any type of project, within the property, its buffer zone and wider setting, can result in negative impact on the attributes supporting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;



Map showing the revised boundaries of the buffer zone