



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nomination of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site



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STATE PARTY

Republic of Suriname

STATE, PROVINCE OR REGION

District of Para

NAME OF PROPERTY

The Jodensavanne Archaeological Site: Jodensavanne Settlement and Cassipora Creek Cemetery.

GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES TO THE NEAREST SECOND

Serial Nomination Table

Id N°	Name of the component part	Region(s) / District(s)	Coordinates of the Central Point UTM Zone 21N, WGS 1984	Area of Nominated component of the Property (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)	Map N°
001	Jodensavanne Settlement	District of Para	723530.277 600696.991	23.03	11.59	JAS 4 - 7
002	Cassipora Creek Cemetery	District of Para	723975.000 598469.000	0.50	1.29	JAS 4, 5, 8 & 9
Total area (in hectares)				23.53 ha	12,88 ha	

Jodensavanne Settlement:

UTM Zone 21N, WGS 1984

Easting 723886.478 Northing 600953.484

Easting 723962.655 Northing 600750.277

Easting 723305.846 Northing 600403.501

Easting 723098.660 Northing 600725.330

Cassipora Creek Cemetery:

UTM Zone 21N, WGS 1984

Easting 724005.00 Northing 598510.00

Easting 723945.00 Northing 598510.00

Easting 723945.00 Northing 598428.00

Easting 724005.00 Northing 598427.00

TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY

The Jodensavanne Archaeological Site consists of the Jodensavanne Settlement and the Cassipora Creek Cemetery. The two component parts are 2.3 kilometers from each other by

water and 3.7 kilometres by land. They are situated on high ground and are separated by a holiday river resort, a bridge, the Redi Doti Indigenous village, a dirt laterite road, dispersed pineapple farms and several ecological zones.

The Jodensavanne Settlement is bordered to the west by the Suriname River. The northern and southern boundaries are formed by an imaginary line from the riverfront towards the dirt road leading to the Indigenous villages, *Pierrekondre* and *Redi Doti*. The border line to the north, is situated at the right bank of the mouth of the Post Creek, while the southern line is partly bordering the Lot of the Chelius family. The eastern boundary of the Jodensavanne site is the dirt road to *Pierrekondre* and *Redi Doti*. The buffer zone of the Jodensavanne property comprises an area of 50 meters (11.59 ha) around the property.

The Cassipora Creek Cemetery is surrounded by dense forest and is bordered to the west by the Cassipora Creek and the Suriname River, while the northern, southern and eastern borders are formed by hills and valleys. The Cassipora Creek Cemetery buffer zone comprises an area of 1.29 ha around the property.

MAP OF NOMINATED PROPERTY AND BUFFER ZONES

See page 28-33.

CRITERIA UNDER WHICH PROPERTY IS NOMINATED

Criteria ii and iii

DRAFT STATEMENT OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE / BRIEF SYNTHESIS

The seventeenth century Jodensavanne Archaeological Site consist of two component parts, the Cassipora Creek Cemetery and the Jodensavanne Settlement. Although physically separated from each other, both Jewish diasporic sites are historically interconnected, the Cassipora burial ground being a remnant of an older Jewish community that ceased to exist in the early 1680s and whose members gradually integrated into the community of Jodensavanne, located along the Suriname River some two kilometres downstream of the Cassipora Creek community. These communities are an exceptional testimony of a Jewish civilization within the Atlantic Sephardic Diaspora situated at a frontier zone amidst Indigenous territory. Both the Cassipora Creek and Jodensavanne villages are entirely unparalleled in the Jewish diaspora. In the seventeenth century there were several early Jewish colonization attempts in the New World and the Guiana's of mainland South America. Most of these diasporic Jewish communities functioned within existing urban settings, were shorter lived, and did not exhibit such close interrelations with local African descendants. Established in the 1650s and 1680s, respectively, these sites constituted the only villages in the world at the time that were owned, governed, and inhabited by Jews, Mulatto Jews, freemen and slaves of African descent and had the most extensive arrangement of privileges and immunities anywhere in the early modern Jewish world. They feature among other things, one of the oldest surviving Jewish cemeteries of the Americas as well as remnants of brick foundations of houses and institutional buildings, and a consolidated ruin of a synagogue. Both villages emerged within a slave society where enslaved people of African descent increasingly outnumbered the Jews up to ninety percent of the population.

CRITERIA

Criterion (ii): The Jodensavanne Archaeological Site exhibits important interchanges as a result of its location in a frontier zone amidst Indigenous land and its existence in a slave society during the 17th through the 19th century. A context in which different cultures and ethnic groups came into contact, collided and connected with each other resulting in tangible and intangible interchanges.

Criterion (iii): The Jodensavanne Archaeological Site is an exceptional testimony within the Atlantic Sephardic Diaspora, of a Jewish civilization that was granted territorial and communal autonomy and that existed in a slave society and a frontier zone amidst Indigenous (Amerindian) territory, during the 17th through the first half of the 19th century.

INTEGRITY

The property is of sufficient size to include a significant proportion of the attributes which express its Outstanding Universal Value, but also to add new historical information based on archival research and ongoing archaeological research in the component parts that make up the property as well as in their respective buffer zones. The ruin of the *Beraha VeSalom* Synagogue and the three historic cemeteries (two Jewish and one Creole) are the most visual archaeological remnants which are in a relative good condition, especially if taken into account that the property had experienced several long periods of abandonment and neglect causing it to become a completely overgrown historical site amidst tropical wilderness. Endless efforts have been made during several decades, to rediscover and preserve the property by clearing the most important archaeological remnants, by making it accessible via boat and car, through implementing conservation projects, inventoring historic cemeteries and the remnants of the former Sephardic towns, documenting and mapping, and conducting archaeological excavations. The property has come a long way in becoming a heritage tourism attraction and to reach its present standards. There are however, some adverse effects such as weathering processes, wood decay and degradation and falling trees, but these are not irresolvable. Conservation strategies and actions can minimize or stabilize these negative impacts. In this regard, several conservation projects have been implemented over the years. In general, the component parts that make up the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site are well inventoried and documented, are frequently being researched and continue to express the exceptional cultural value and monumentality. The boundaries encompass all relevant elements that make up the OUV of this place of memory, of resistance, coexistence and interchange, survival, hope, and liberty.

AUTHENTICITY

In general, the authenticity of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site is relatively high. The nominated property has not suffered major structural changes over time. Conservation and consolidation works were carried out with great care and respect, taking into account the original shape, form, materials and substance. All features within the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site remain almost completely authentic with regard to their setting, form and design and materials and substance. Overall, the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site and its integral parts fulfill the criteria for authenticity as laid out by UNESCO's Operational Guidelines.

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Outstanding Universal Value, the authenticity and integrity of the nominated property and its buffer zones are protected by a legal and traditional system. Both systems are not mutually exclusive, but in fact supplement each other.

The component parts of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site (the former Jodensavanne village and the Cassipora Creek Cemetery) are legally protected by the 2002 Monuments Act. Based on this Act they were designated as an official archaeological monument by Ministerial Resolution of September 3, 2009 no. 873 (published in the Gazette (A.R.S.) of December 4, 2009, No. 97). They are the first listed monuments of the District of Para and are managed by the Jodensavanne Foundation¹ and the Village Council of the neighboring Indigenous village of Redi Doti.

The Jodensavanne Archaeological Site complies with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the UNESCO policy on engaging with Indigenous Peoples and the Operational Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention². The Jodensavanne Foundation and the Village Council of Redi Doti have signed a multi-year Memorandum of Cooperation, in which Redi Doti at the one hand acknowledges the co-responsibility for the preservation, protection and management of the cultural heritage of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site, while the Jodensavanne Foundation at the other hand recognizes its shared responsibility for the sustainable socio-economic development of Redi Doti. In agreement with the signed Memorandum, the Village Council has two representatives in the board of directors of the Jodensavanne Foundation. All maintenance personnel of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site are local inhabitants of the Redi Doti Indigenous village. Local Indigenous have free admission to the site. The Foundation also provides annually, a 'development incentive' of 10% of its ticket sales (after tax deduction) to the local NGO *Khoréro Móthóko* Foundation of Redi Doti, as an incentive to support local community activities. This heritage preservation cooperation model is unique, as it involves the local Indigenous community as custodians of the site.

Thus, given the aforementioned, the Indigenous people of the Redi Doti Village are partners in site conservation and protection activities. They have a principle role in managing, protecting and interpreting the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site. In line with the Operational Guidelines they are stakeholders and rights-holders, they are effectively participating in the daily management of the Site and are part of the decision making process through their representatives in the Foundation's Board and via the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Village Council and the Board of the Jodensavanne Foundation. Their traditional and Indigenous knowledge of the Site and its surroundings is of eminent importance to the conservation, management and understanding of the Site.

1. According to the bylaws of the Jodensavanne Foundation, its goals are to preserve, protect and maintain the remains, cemeteries and other archaeological objects of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site and utilize it in the interest of the Surinamese public and tourism.

2. World Heritage Centre - World Heritage and Indigenous Peoples (unesco.org).

The “Jodensavanne Settlement and Cassipora Creek Cemetery Management Plan 2020-2025”, which is an update of the 2008-2012 Management Plan, gives guidance for the management, protection, conservation and promotion of the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site.

NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF OFFICIAL LOCAL INSTITUTION/ AGENCY

Site Management Authority

Jodensavanne Foundation

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On-Site Management: Mr. Johan Sabajo (Daily management)

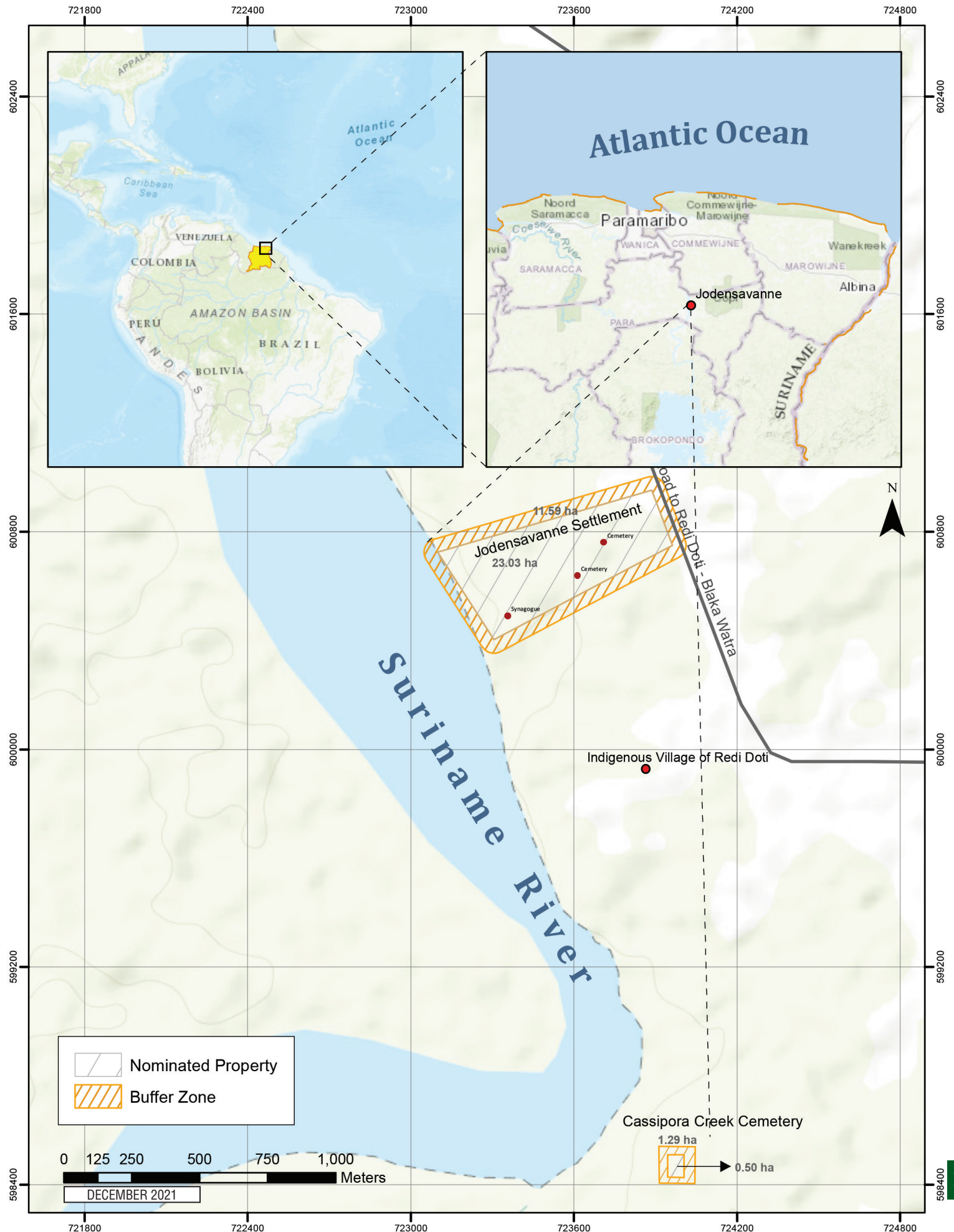
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District of Para

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Jodensavanne Archaeological Site: Location of Nominated Property



Aerial Map of Location of Nominated Property

Jodensavanne Settlement and Cassipora Creek Cemetery
UTM Zone 21N, WGS 1984



Aerial Map of Nominated Property

Jodensavanne Settlement and Buffer Zone
UTM Zone 21N, WGS 1984

Legend

- Buffer Zone (11.59 ha)
- Nominated Property (23.03 ha)

UTM Coordinates Jodensavanne Settlement

A: 723098.660 (x), 600725.330 (y)
B: 723305.846 (x), 600403.501 (y)
C: 723886.478 (x), 600953.484 (y)
D: 723962.655 (x), 600750.277 (y)



Aerial Map of Nominated Property

Cassipora Creek Cemetery and Buffer Zone
UTM Zone 21N, WGS 1984



- Legend**
- Buffer Zone (1.29 ha)
 - Nominated Property (0.50 ha)

UTM Coordinates Cassipora Creek Cemetery

- A: 723945.000 (x), 598510.000 (y)
- B: 723945.000 (x), 598428.000 (y)
- C: 724005.000 (x), 598510.000 (y)
- D: 724005.000 (x), 598427.000 (y)



Google Earth

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