

INTERNATIONAL APPROACHES TO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

EXPLORING THE CHALLENGES OF PROTECTING WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Anna Marconi-Betka

Head of the World Heritage Department
National Institute of Cultural Heritage

amarconi@nid.pl



Poland ratified the UNESCO World Heritage Convention on Tuesday, 29 June 1976

Poland had two Mandates to the World Heritage Committee 1976-1978 and 2013-2017

Among the first 12 sites inscribed in 1978 on the World Heritage List were 2 sites from Poland:
Historic Centre of Kraków
Wieliczka Salt Mine



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



World
Heritage
Convention

17 World Heritage sites

4 historic cities

3 sites being examples of wooden architecture

2 cultural landscapes

2 architectural ensembles

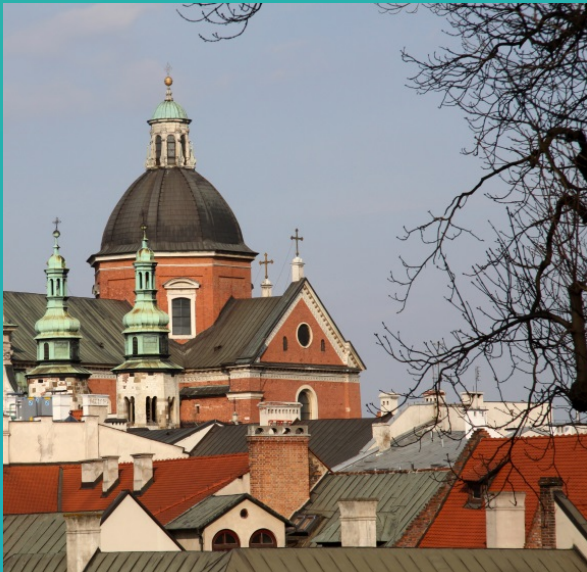
3 industrial and mining sites

1 memory site

2 natural sites

within them 3 transboundary and 1 transnational

Historic Centre of Kraków (1978, criterion iv)



The **Historic Centre of Kraków** is formed by three urban ensembles: the medieval chartered City of Kraków, the Wawel Hill complex, and the town of Kazimierz (including the suburb of Stradom). Outstanding examples of European urban planning, characterised by the harmonious development and accumulation of features representing all architectural styles from the early Romanesque to the Modernist periods.

Property: 149.65 ha
Buffer zone: 907.35 ha



The reconstruction of the Old Town in Warsaw after the WWII destruction in its historic urban and architectural form was the manifestation of the care and attention taken to assure the survival of one of the most important testimonials of Polish culture.

The reconstruction included the holistic recreation of the urban plan, together with the Old Town Market, townhouses, the circuit of the city walls, the Royal Castle, and important religious buildings.

Property : 25.93 ha

Buffer zone: 666.78 ha



Old City of Zamość is an example of a late 16th-century Central European town designed and built in accordance with Italian Renaissance theories on the creation of “ideal” cities.

It is a result of a very close cooperation between the town’s enlightened founder, Jan Zamoyski, and the distinguished Italian architect Bernardo Morando.

Property : 75.0391 ha

Buffer zone: 214.916 ha

Medieval Town Toruń (1997, criteria ii and iv)



Toruń is a remarkably well preserved example of a medieval European trading and administrative centre. It provides an exceptionally complete picture of the medieval way of life. Its spatial layout is a valuable source material for research into the history of urban development in medieval Europe, and many of its buildings represent the highest achievements in medieval ecclesiastical, military, and civil brick-built architecture.

Property : 48 ha
Buffer zone: 300 ha



The Churches of Peace located in the towns of Jawor and Świdnica are the largest timber-framed Baroque ecclesiastical buildings in Europe. They were built in the mid-17th century to a scale and complexity unknown in European wooden architecture before or since, following the provisions of the Peace of Westphalia, which concluded the Thirty Years' War in 1648.

Property: 0.23 ha

Buffer zone: 11.8 ha



These six wooden churches represent different aspects of medieval church-building traditions in Roman Catholic culture. They are located in the towns and villages of Blizne, Binarowa, Dębno Podhalańskie, Haczów, Lipnica Murowana, and Sękowa, which lie within the historic region of Małopolska, foothills of the northern part of the Western Carpathians.

Property: 8.26 ha
Buffer zone: 242 ha



The sixteen wooden tserkvas (churches) in Poland and Ukraine are examples of the once widespread Orthodox ecclesiastical timber-building tradition in the Slavic countries that survives to this day. They include Hutsul, Halych, Boyko and western Lemko types.

transboundary with Ukraine

Property: 7.03 ha

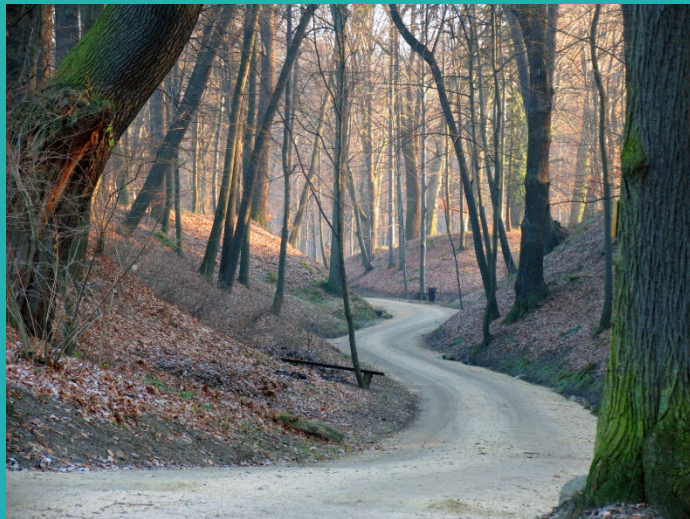
Buffer zone: 92.73 ha



Kalwaria Zebrzydowska is a cultural landscape of great spiritual significance. Its natural setting – in which a series of symbolic places of worship relating to the Passion of Jesus Christ and the life of the Virgin Mary was laid out at the beginning of the 17th century – has remained virtually unchanged. It is still today a place of pilgrimage.

Property: 380 ha
Buffer zone: 2 600 ha

Muskauer Park / Park Mużakowski (2004, criteria i and iv)



A landscaped park astride the Neisse River, it was created by Prince Hermann von Puckler-Muskau from 1815 to 1844. Blending seamlessly with the surrounding farmed landscape the park pioneered new approaches to landscape design and influenced the development of landscape architecture in Europe and America.

transboundary with Germany

Property: 348 ha

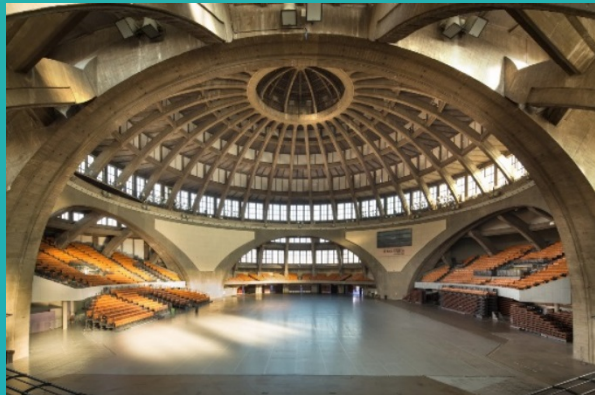
Buffer zone: 1 204.65 ha



This 13th-century fortified monastery belonging to the Teutonic Order was substantially enlarged and embellished after 1309, when the seat of the Grand Master moved here from Venice. A particularly fine example of a medieval brick castle, it later fell into decay, but was meticulously restored in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Many of the conservation techniques now accepted as standard were evolved here.

Property: 18.038 ha

Centennial Hall in Wrocław (2006, criteria i, ii and iv)

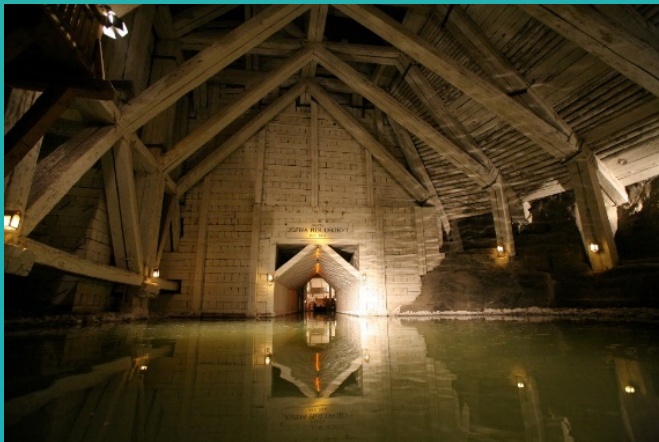


The Centennial Hall, a landmark in the history of reinforced concrete architecture, was erected in 1911-1913 by the architect Max Berg as a multi-purpose recreational building, situated in the Exhibition Grounds. In form it is a symmetrical quatrefoil with a vast circular central space that can seat some 6,000 persons. The 23m-high dome is topped with a lantern in steel and glass.

Property: 36.69 ha

Buffer zone: 189.68 ha

Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines (1978, 2013, criterion iv)



The deposit of rock salt in Wieliczka and Bochnia has been mined since the 13th century. This major industrial undertaking has royal status and is the oldest of its type in Europe. The site is a serial property consisting of Wieliczka and Bochnia salt mines and Wieliczka Saltworks Castle.

Property: 1 104.947 ha
Buffer zone: 580.601 ha

Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System (2017, criteria i, ii and iv)



One of the main mining areas of central Europe, the property includes the entire underground mine with adits, shafts, galleries and other features of the water management system. Most of the property is situated underground while the surface mining topography features relics of shafts and waste heaps, as well as the remains of the 19th century steam water pumping station. Tarnowskie Góry represents a significant contribution to the global production of lead and zinc.

Property: 1 672.76 ha

Buffer zone: 2 774.35 ha



Located in the mountain region of Świętokrzyskie, Krzemionki is an ensemble of four mining sites, dating from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age (about 3900 to 1600 BCE), dedicated to the extraction and processing of striped flint, which was mainly used for axe-making. With its underground mining structures, flint workshops and some 4,000 shafts and pits, the property features one of the most comprehensive prehistoric underground flint extraction and processing systems identified to date. The property provides information about life and work in prehistoric settlements and bears witness to an extinct cultural tradition. It is an exceptional testimony of the importance of the prehistoric period and of flint mining for tool production in human history.

Property : 349.2 ha

Buffer zone: 1 828.7 ha



Auschwitz Birkenau, monument to the deliberate genocide of the Jews by the German Nazi regime and to the deaths of countless others, bears irrefutable evidence to one of the greatest crimes ever perpetrated against humanity. It is also a monument to the strength of the human spirit which in appalling conditions of adversity resisted the efforts of the German Nazi regime to suppress freedom and free thought and to wipe out whole races.

Property : 191.97 ha

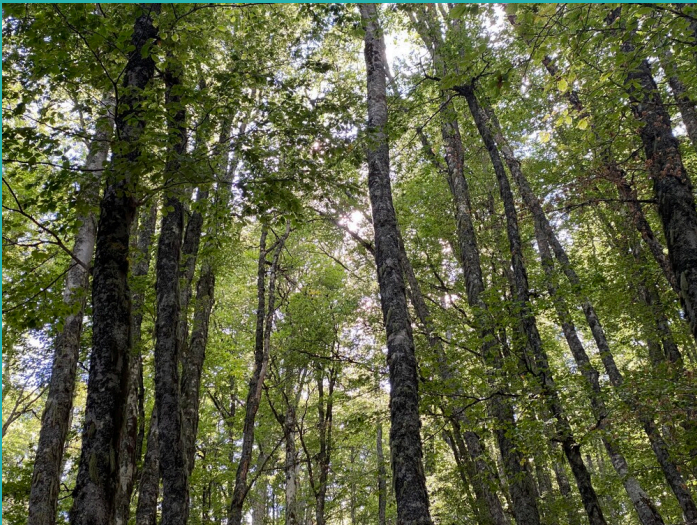


Białowieża Forest is a large forest complex located on the border between Poland and Belarus. This property includes a complex of lowland forests that are characteristics of the Central European mixed forests terrestrial ecoregion. The area has exceptionally conservation significance due to the scale of its old growth forests, which include extensive undisturbed areas where natural processes are on-going.

natural site, transboundary with Belarus

Property: 141 885 ha

Buffer zone: 166 708 ha



This transnational property includes 93 component parts in 18 countries. Since the end of the last Ice Age, European Beech spread from a few isolated refuge areas in the Alps, Carpathians, Dinarides, Mediterranean and Pyrenees over a short period of a few thousand years in a process that is still ongoing. The successful expansion across a whole continent is related to the tree's adaptability and tolerance of different climatic, geographical and physical conditions.

natural site, transnational with Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, France, Germany, Italy, North Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine

Property: 99 947.81 ha

Buffer zone: 296 275.8 ha

PROTECTION OF MONUMENTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

1. Entries in the **Register of Monuments**
2. Recognition as a national **Monument of History**
3. Establishment of a **cultural park**
4. Preservation agreement in **local spatial development plans**

Authorities and bodies responsible for monuments protection are:

1. Minister of Culture and National Heritage / General Monuments Inspector
2. Department for the Protection of Historical Monuments
of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
3. 16 Regional Monuments Protection Inspectors
4. The National Institute of Cultural Heritage

PROTECTION OF WORLD HERITAGE

- No dedicated designation to World Heritage sites and their protection
- The *Constitution of Poland* - international agreements are binding for the national law even if they are not directly implemented – lack of national executive regulations



- *World Heritage Convention (1972)* and the *Operational Guidelines* for the implementation of the WH Convention are applicable

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF WORLD HERITAGE

- Conservation, care, maintenance and safeguarding of monuments are responsibility of the **owner** or **holder**
- In case of World Heritage sites – the **site manager**
- They are supported by the authorities and bodies responsible for monuments protection

ROLE OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Guidance on improvement of conservation and management of World Heritage sites in Poland
- Capacity building among the owners or managers of WH sites and conservation authorities
- Preparing SOC reports; monitoring of WH properties
- Periodic Reporting: cycle I, II and III
- Organizing advisory, reactive monitoring and technical evaluation missions

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1999. - Eastern and Central Europe sub-regional UNESCO Workshop on Cultural Landscapes

2007 - Periodic Reporting Follow-up Meeting for Eastern and Central Europe

2012 - International World Heritage Expert Meeting on Criterion (vi) and Associative Values

2017 - First World Heritage Sites Managers' Forum

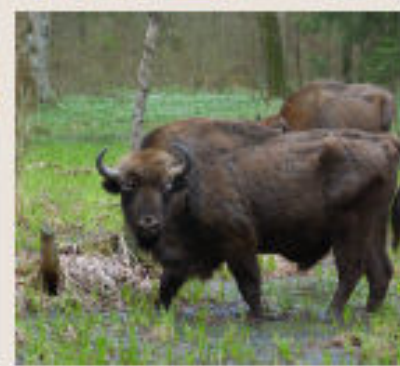
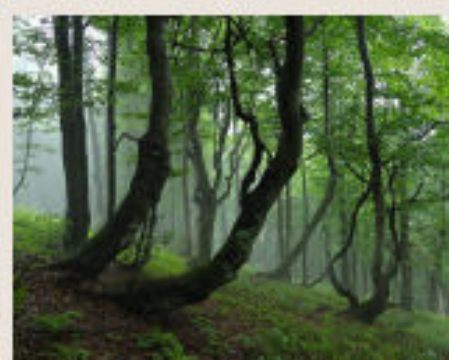
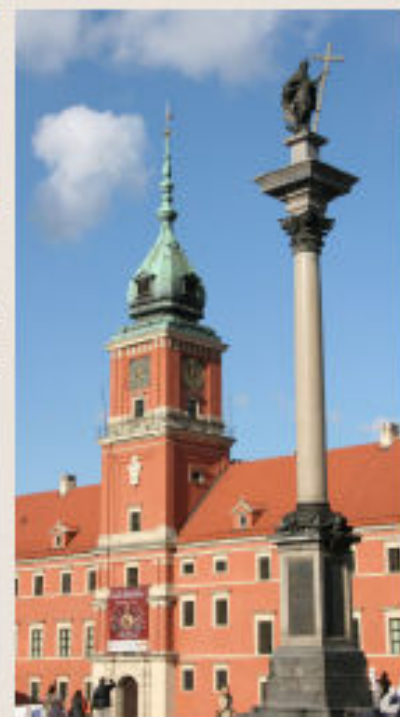
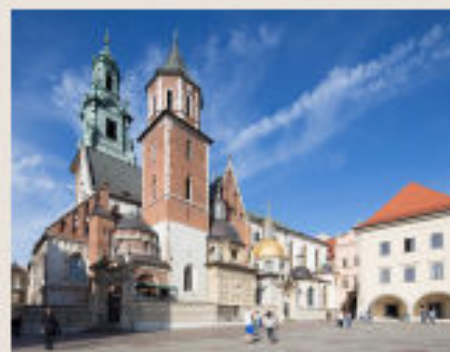
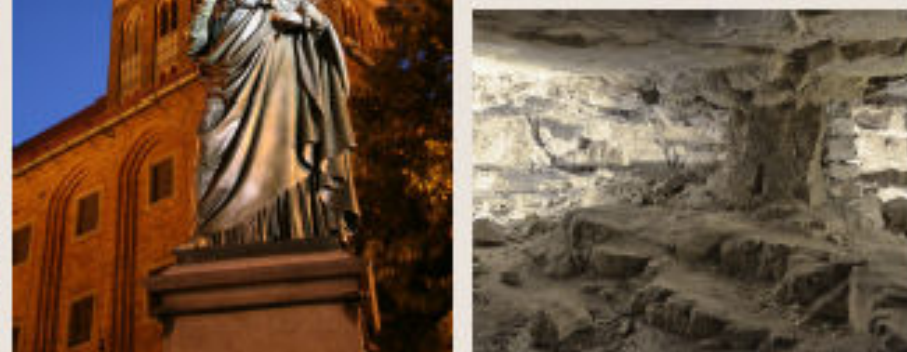
in conjunction with the World Heritage Committee Session in Kraków

2018 - International Conference - The Challenges of World Heritage Recovery

The Warsaw Recommendation on Recovery and Reconstruction of Cultural Heritage

WORLD HERITAGE RESOURCE MANUALS





CHALLENGES

- Lack of specific legal regulations concerning World Heritage properties
- Very diverse group of Site Managers
- Development pressures
- Climate change
- Unstable geopolitical situation

THANK YOU

