

# KULDĪGA

Response to Additional  
Information Request  
of 20 December 2021

## Goldingen in Courland

Nomination for Inscription on  
the UNESCO World Heritage List





## INTRODUCTION

We thank ICOMOS for its continuous cooperation in the evaluation process of our nomination of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* (Latvia). We very much appreciated the opportunity for a personal exchange on open questions at the ICOMOS Panel on 26 November 2021 and we thank you for the welcoming and constructive atmosphere in which this exchange was conducted.

In the following responses we will consider the seven question areas, which emerged from the ICOMOS interim report: (1) justification for inscription, (2) comparative analysis, (3) boundaries of the nominated property, (4) management plan, (5) risk management, (6) visitor management and, finally, (7) the proposed watch tower. We will, as during our first additional information response, commence the response to each question, highlighting the methodology used for the response – specifically as we are not sure we understood the intention of all questions – to be then followed by the response we compiled towards these questions.

The updated version of the Management plan of the nominated property has been attached to the response, as well as legal documents - order of the Ministry of Culture that confirms the legal protection of the buffer zone of the nominated property and decision of Kuldīga Municipal Council that approves the Management plan.

## QUESTION AREA 1: Justification for inscription

Since question area 1 formulates more than one specific question, we will provide responses to the following questions:

*1a) ICOMOS would appreciate a more detailed description about the overall built fabric of Kuldīga and its development over time.*

*1b) The ICOMOS Panel found that it would be very helpful to understand in an easier way, preferably via a series of maps, how the urban structure (and in particular the plot layout) of the nominated property evolved, from the settlement in the 13th century to the present day.*

*1c) ICOMOS would also appreciate if the State Party could submit maps identifying the historic wooden buildings located within the nominated property.*

## Methodology

We are pleased to note that the additional information provided on 29 October 2021 facilitated ICOMOS to better understand the justification for inscription suggested in the nomination file. However, we understand that there are still some open questions to be addressed. In particular, we were pleased to learn that it would be useful to provide additional maps for a deeper understanding of the composition of the site. For an easier reading of our response, we divided the above-mentioned request into three fields of information that will be addressed separately: firstly, a description about the overall built fabric of Kuldīga and its development over time; secondly, a description of how the urban structure of the nominated property evolved, from the settlement in the 13th century to the present day; and thirdly, maps identifying the historic wooden buildings located within the nominated property.

## Response

*1a) ICOMOS would appreciate a more detailed description about the overall built fabric of Kuldīga and its development over time.*

In the process of the development of the nomination of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland*, all of the residential and public buildings within the nominated property were assessed according to their correspondence to the architectural building style of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. This data was collected in a database. To respond to the request made by ICOMOS, we converted this data into the map attached to this response (see Figure 8). In total, there are five categories with regard to the buildings' relation to the architectural typology of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia that are differentiated in the map. The following table illustrates individual examples for the different categories.





**Figure 1.** The old Town Hall at 5 Baznīcas Street represents the buildings that developed in the light of international encounters during the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia.

First, there are those buildings that were constructed during the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia and which established the new architectural typology that later became the norm and shaped the character of Kuldīga. The detailed characteristics of this typology were described in the additional information provided to ICOMOS on 29 October 2021. One example of a building integrating the typical elements that developed in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries in Kuldīga is the old Town Hall on the main square of Kuldīga. Buildings of this category are shown on the map in red and serve as reference point for buildings of later periods.

*Architectural typology: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*Construction time: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*(1561-1795)* ■

*Visualization in map: red filling*



**Figure 2.** The building at 6 Baznīcas Street represents the group of buildings built during the Russian Empire by craftsmen who were trained during the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia.

The second category includes buildings that were built after the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia ceased to exist, in the first decades of the time when the nominated property belonged to the Russian Empire, between 1795 and 1820. They are buildings that follow the building traditions of the ducal era and that were still built by the same generation of craftsmen as the buildings constructed in the final decades of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. One example of such a building is located on the corner of Baznīcas and Liepājas Street. It was built in 1801 and hence falls into the period of the Russian Empire, when classified according to its building period. The architectural typology, however, clearly continues to represent the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. Buildings of this category – constructed in the Russian Empire, but typologically belonging to the ducal era and built by Duchy craftsmen – are marked on the map in pink.

*Architectural typology: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*Construction time: Russian Empire (1795-1820)* ■

*Visualization in map: pink filling*



**Figure 3.** The building at 3 Petera Street (built in 1874) represents buildings constructed by subsequent generations of craftsmen in the Russian Empire that continue the Duchy typology.



**Figure 4.** The building at Grants Street/ Ventspils Street (built in 1855) represents buildings constructed by subsequent generations of craftsmen in the Russian Empire that continue the Duchy typology.

The third building category consists of houses that were built by subsequent generations of craftsmen between 1821 and today that, however, preserve and continue the architectural typology developed in the ducal era.

Figures 3 and 4 are examples of buildings also constructed during the time Kuldīga was under Russian rule, but after 1821. Buildings of this time are no longer the work of craftsmen who lived in the ducal era, but are the first structures created by the next generation. In 3 Pētera Street, we can find an example of a stone building that was built in 1874 – 80 years after the end of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. The building follows the typical layout from the 18<sup>th</sup> century with a clearly structured facade and a mantel chimney in the centre of the building. The roof is covered in clay tiles, the windows have wooden shutters and the door is delicately carved from wood with a transom window. The attic space is used for living. On the corner of Grants and Ventspils Street, a building from 1855 illustrates the continuation of wooden architecture built in the Russian empire that integrates the typical elements of the Duchy typology. Buildings built between 1821 and 1918 continuing the Duchy architecture are marked on the map in orange with a red outline.

*Architectural typology: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*Construction time: Russian Empire (1821-1918)*



*Visualization in map: orange filling + red outline*

During Latvia's first independence, from 1918 until 1940, building activities in the nominated property were minimal and concentrated on yard buildings.

*Architectural typology: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*Construction time: 1<sup>st</sup> independence of Latvia (1918-1940)*

*Visualization in map: orange filling + yellow outline*





**Figure 5.** The building at 7 Kaļķu Street (built in 1951) represents buildings constructed in the Soviet period that continue the Duchy typology.

In the Soviet period (1941-1990), building activities once more gained momentum. The building at 7 Kaļķu Street is an example of residential buildings constructed in Soviet times that do not follow the typical architecture that is commonly known of this period in other towns throughout Latvia and the Baltic States. Instead, this 1951 construction integrates typical elements that we find in houses original to the Duchy period, such as transom windows, window shutters, tin elements both in functional and ornamental details, as well as the combination of stone and wooden elements. Buildings built between 1941 and 1990 continuing the Duchy architecture are marked in orange with a light brown outline.

*Architectural typology: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*Construction time: Soviet period (1941-1990)*

*Visualization in map: orange filling + light brown outline*



**Figure 6.** The building at 2 Rumbas Street represents buildings constructed after 1991 that continue the Duchy typology.




Similar to Latvia's first independence, since the establishment of the second independence in 1991 urban development in Kuldīga mainly occurred outside of the area of the nominated property. Nevertheless, there are singular exceptions, such as the building depicted in Figure 6. This building is an example for the continuity of the Duchy typology today. Despite having been constructed more than 200 years after the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia ceased to exist, it clearly continues the architectural typology of the Duchy and blends into the historical streetscape. Buildings built after 1991 continuing the Duchy architecture are marked in orange with a dark brown outline.

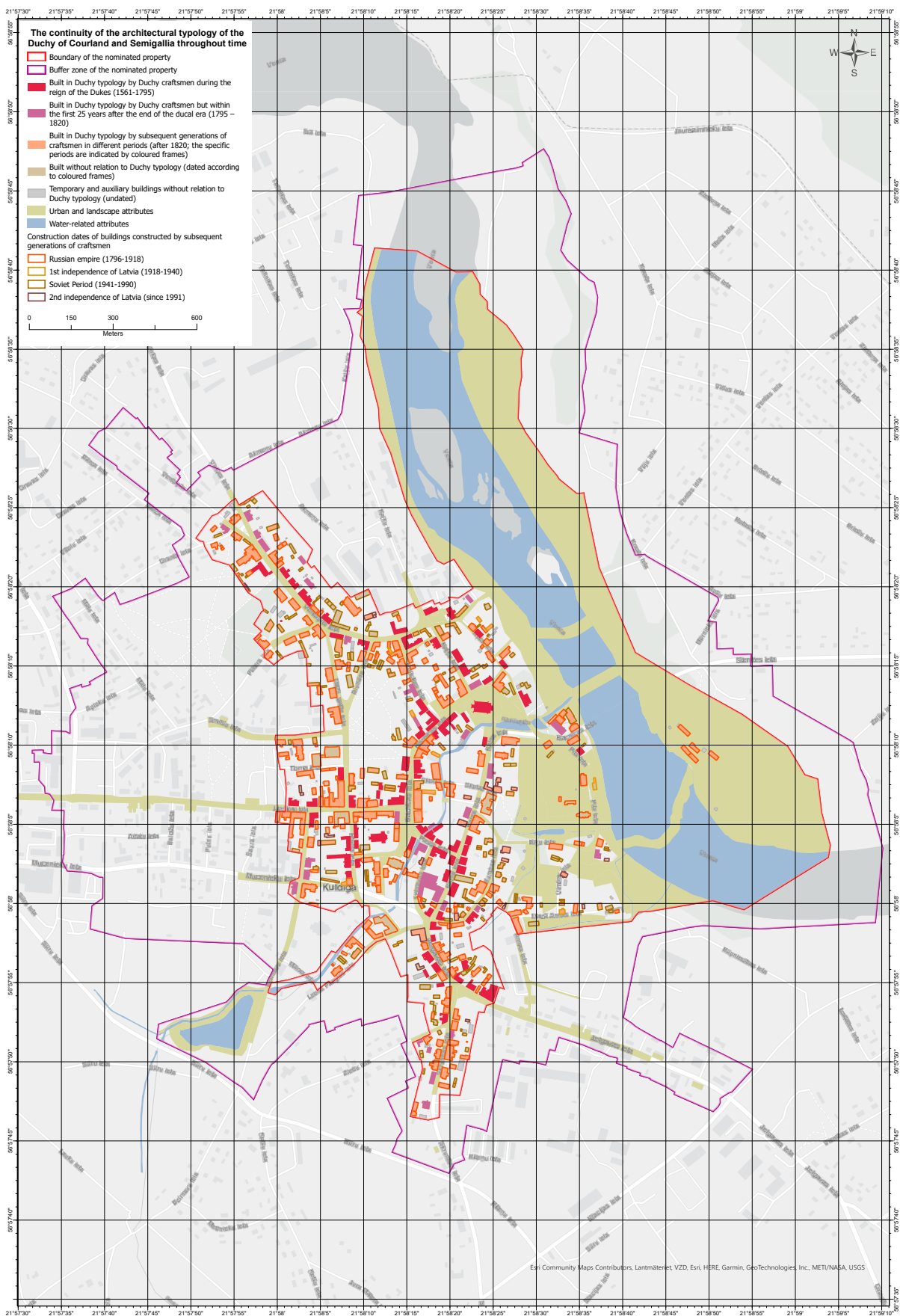
*Architectural typology: Duchy of Courland and Semigallia*

*Construction time: 2<sup>nd</sup> independence of Latvia (1991-)*

*Visualization in map: orange filling + dark brown outline*



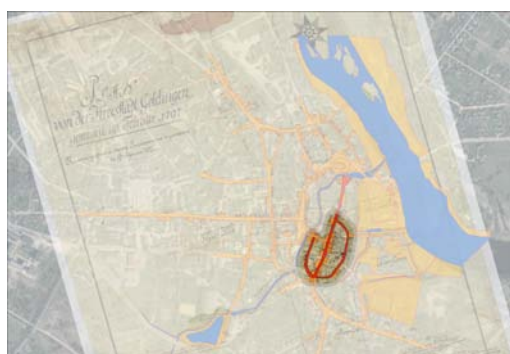
No Continuity Of Duchy Typology	 <p><b>Figure 7.</b> This residential building from the Soviet period at 7 Kalna Street represents buildings lying within the nominated property that do not continue the Duchy typology.</p>	<p>Finally, there is a small percentage of buildings in the nominated territory that does not follow the traditional building style established in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century. These buildings can be clearly distinguished as witnesses to later periods and were built mainly irrespective of local craftsmanship traditions. One such example is a building at 7 Kalna Street from 1951 (see Figure 7). Despite its evident visual correspondence to the Soviet building style, it also integrates clay tiles and wooden window frames that are a leftover from the earlier building typology, showing that even those buildings not continuing the Duchy typology have been somewhat influenced by it. Nevertheless, this building is considered not to be a succession to the architecture of the ducal era as the Soviet characteristics are marked significantly stronger. Buildings that, similar to this example, were built after the 18<sup>th</sup> century and illustrate a different building style, are marked in the map in beige. They do not contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the site.</p> <p><i>Architectural typology: Other</i>  <i>Construction time: diverse</i>  <i>Visualization in map: beige filling + </i>  <i>outline depending on construction date</i></p>
Other Buildings		<p>Wood sheds, greenhouses and other temporary building structures were not considered relevant for the assessment of successive architectural styles. They were not dated and are not relevant for Outstanding Universal Value. Buildings of this type are marked on the map with a grey filling.</p> <p><i>Architectural typology: not assessed</i>  <i>Construction time: undated</i>  <i>Visualization in map: grey filling </i></p>



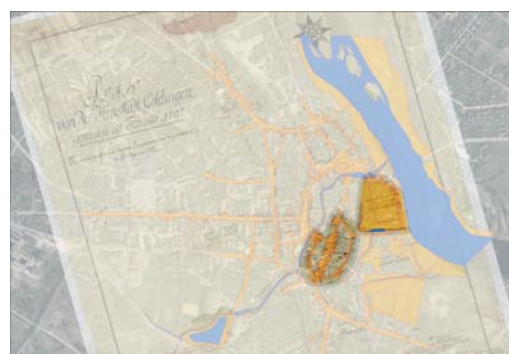
**Figure 8.** This map illustrates the continuity of the architectural typology of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia in later periods within the nominated property Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland.



1b) The ICOMOS Panel found that it would be very helpful to understand in an easier way, preferably via a series of maps, how the urban structure (and in particular the plot layout) of the nominated property evolved, from the settlement in the 13th century to the present day. Regarding the development of the nominated property, the following illustrations were included in the nomination:



**Figure 9.** Kuldīga in the 11<sup>th</sup> century



**Figure 10.** The development of the castle territory east of the existing village in the 13<sup>th</sup> century



**Figure 11.** The expansion of Kuldīga to the north of Alekšupīte river in the 16<sup>th</sup> century



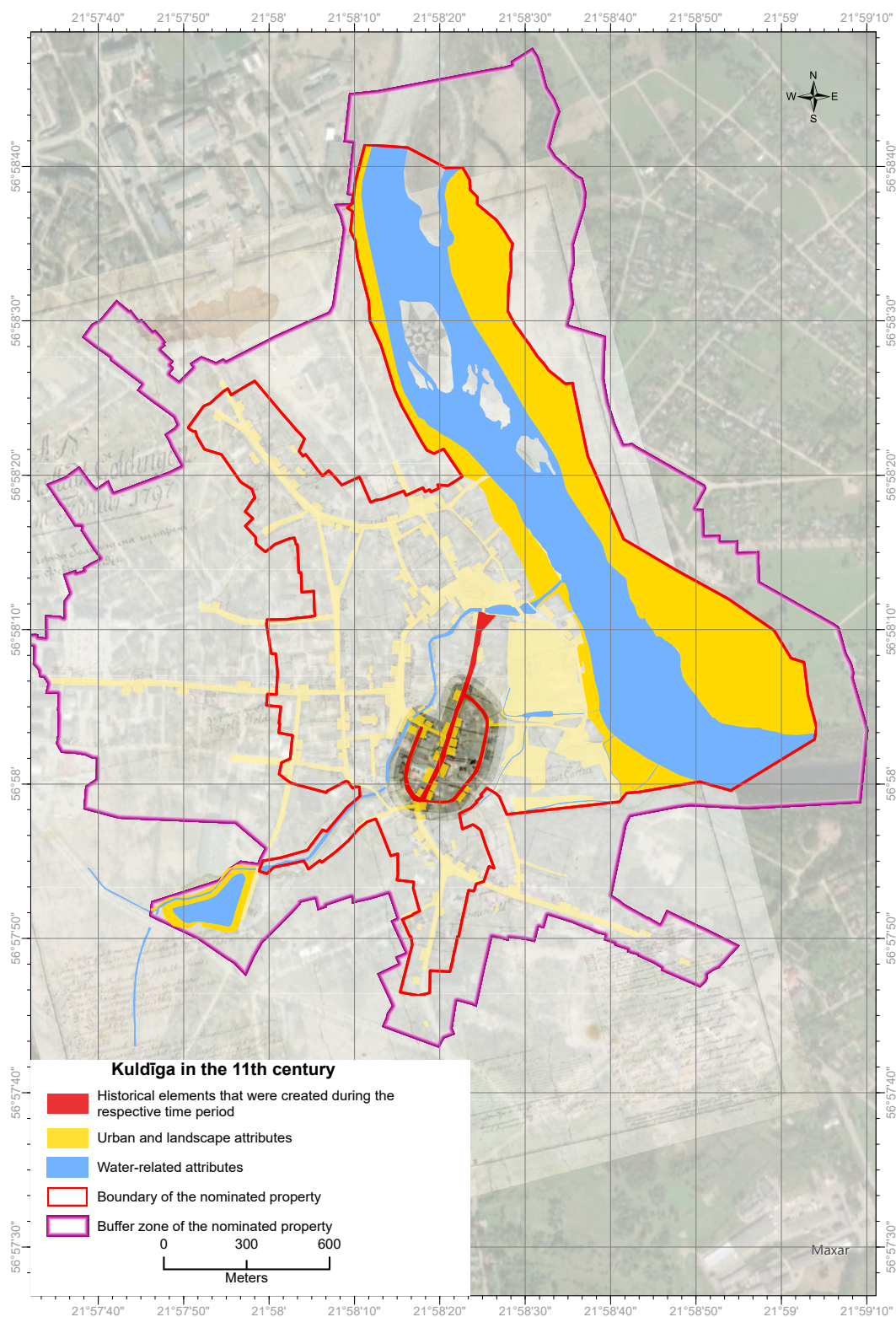
**Figure 12.** The Western expansion of Kuldīga in the 17<sup>th</sup> century



**Figure 13.** The expansion of Kuldīga on the outskirts of the town in direction of surrounding towns in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

These illustrations describe the urban expansion of the old town of Kuldīga from the early 13th century until the end of the 18th century, when the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia ceased to exist. The features marked in red are those that developed in the respective timeframe mentioned in the subheadings.

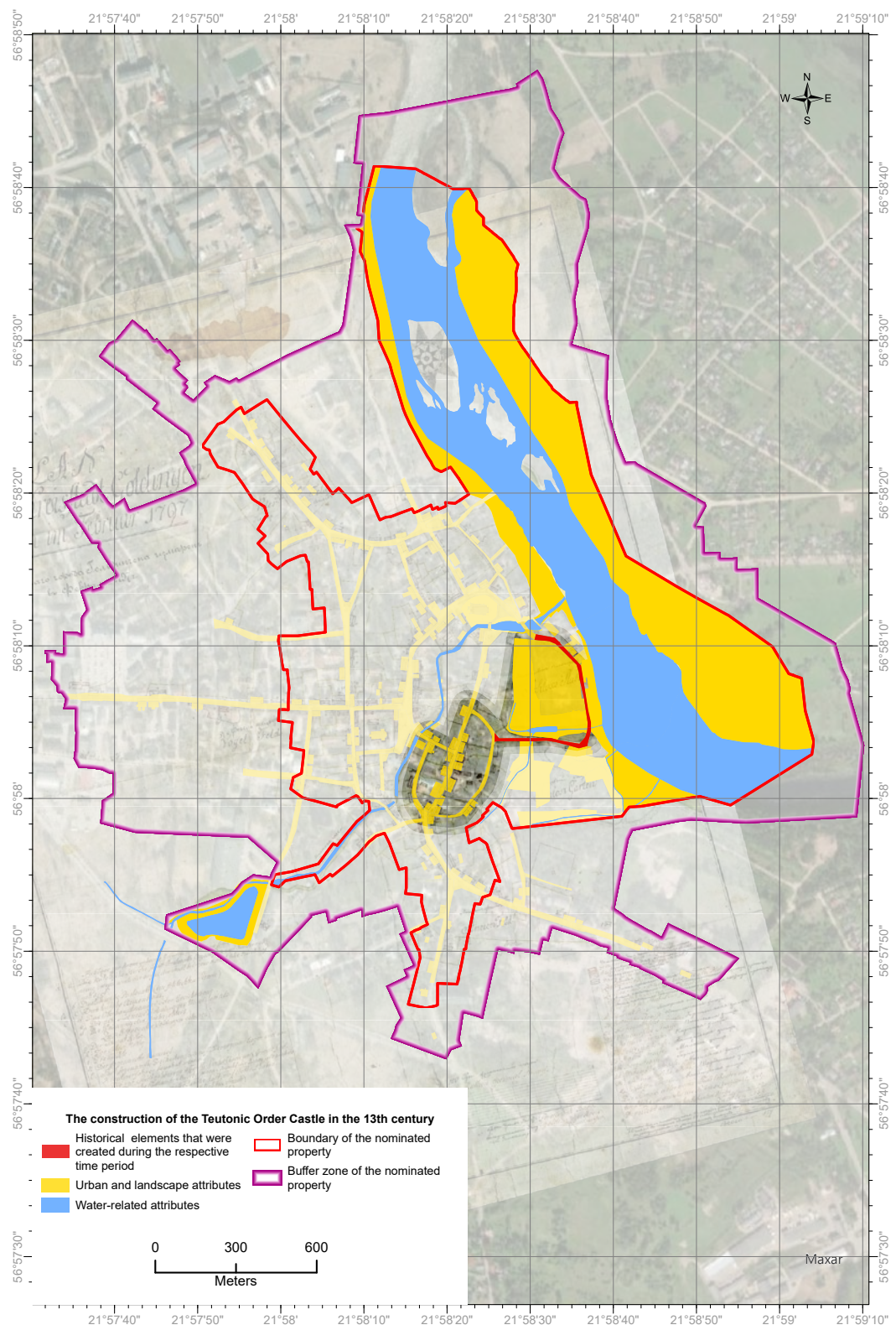
For a better understanding of the town development with regard to the nominated property, we are pleased to provide ICOMOS with a set of additional maps that we prepared for our response to the request presented in the course of the evaluation of our nomination file. The new maps integrate the property boundaries and therefore depict more clearly at what stages the development happened in- or outside the nominated property.



**Figure 14.** Kuldīga in the 11<sup>th</sup> century with relation to the nominated property.

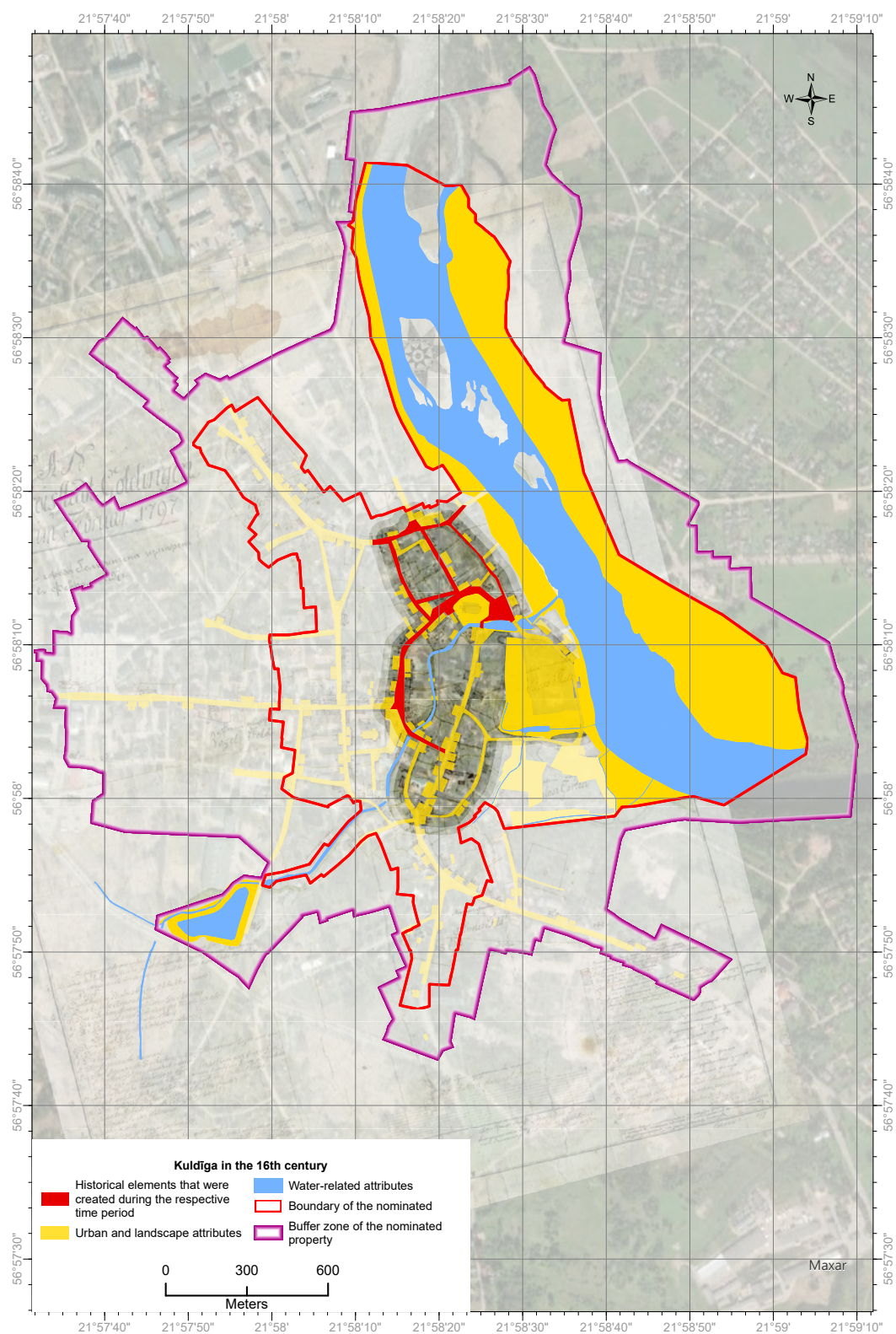
As described in the nomination file, the development of Kuldīga began in medieval times in the area called Kalnamiests (Mountain Hamlet), in the delta between the rivers Venta and Alekšupīte. Kalnamiests integrates the earliest streets of Kuldīga, which shape an oval that is located on the Eastern bank of Alekšupīte River. This urban structure of Kalnamiests has been preserved since the 11th century and predates the timeframe of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia.





**Figure 15.** The development of the castle territory east of the existing village in the 13<sup>th</sup> century with relation to the nominated property.

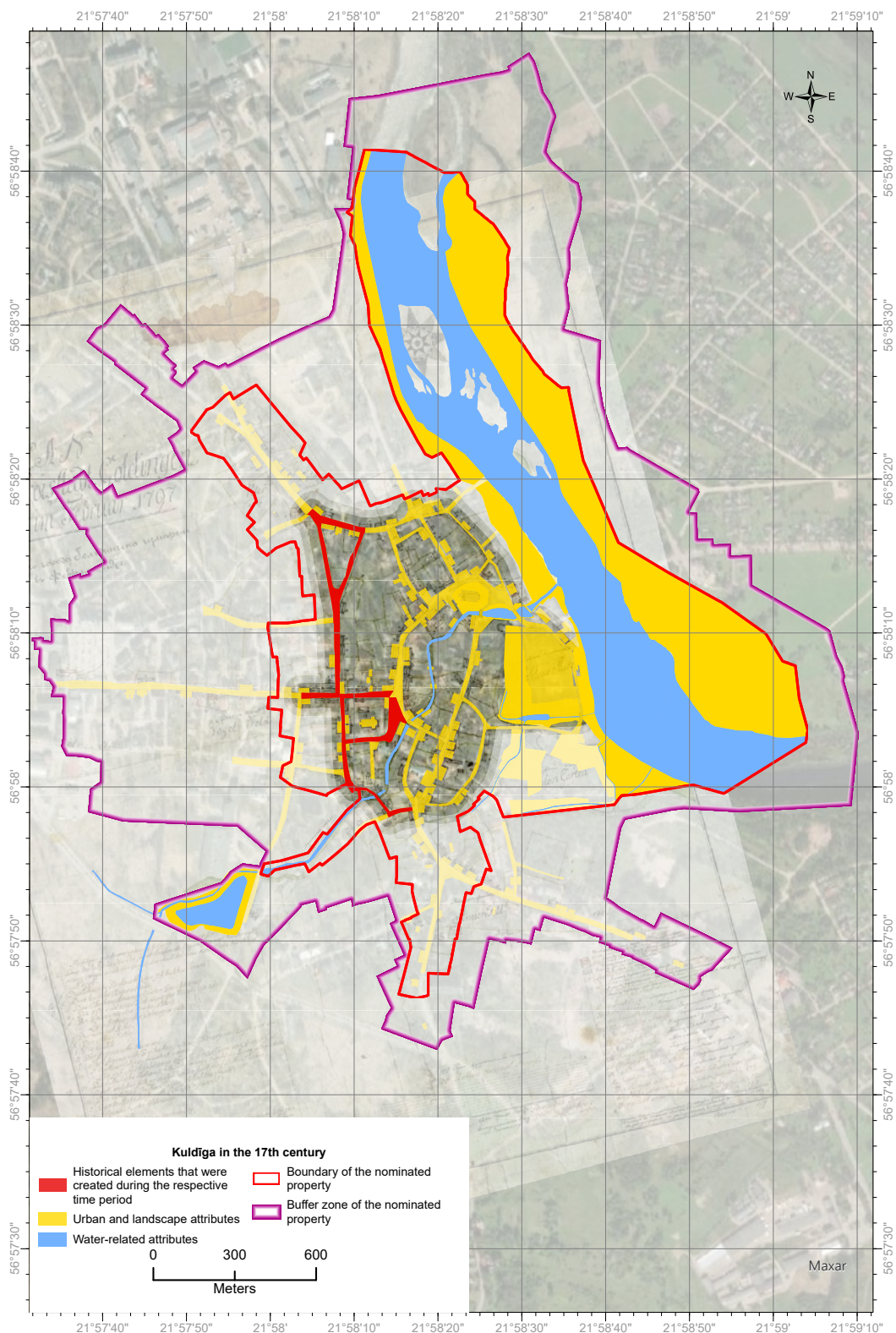
In the middle of the 13th century, the Teutonic Order built a castle next to the settlement, sitting just above the Ventas Rumba waterfall. The map illustrates the location of the castle and its inner routs that later got connected to the eastern most road of Kalnamiests: Rumbas Street. Today, the streets surrounding the castle are known as Pils Street and Dīķu Street. Similar to Kalnamiests, these streets predate the timeframe of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia.



**Figure 16.** The expansion of Kuldīga to the north of Aleksūpīte River in the 16<sup>th</sup> century with relation to the nominated property.

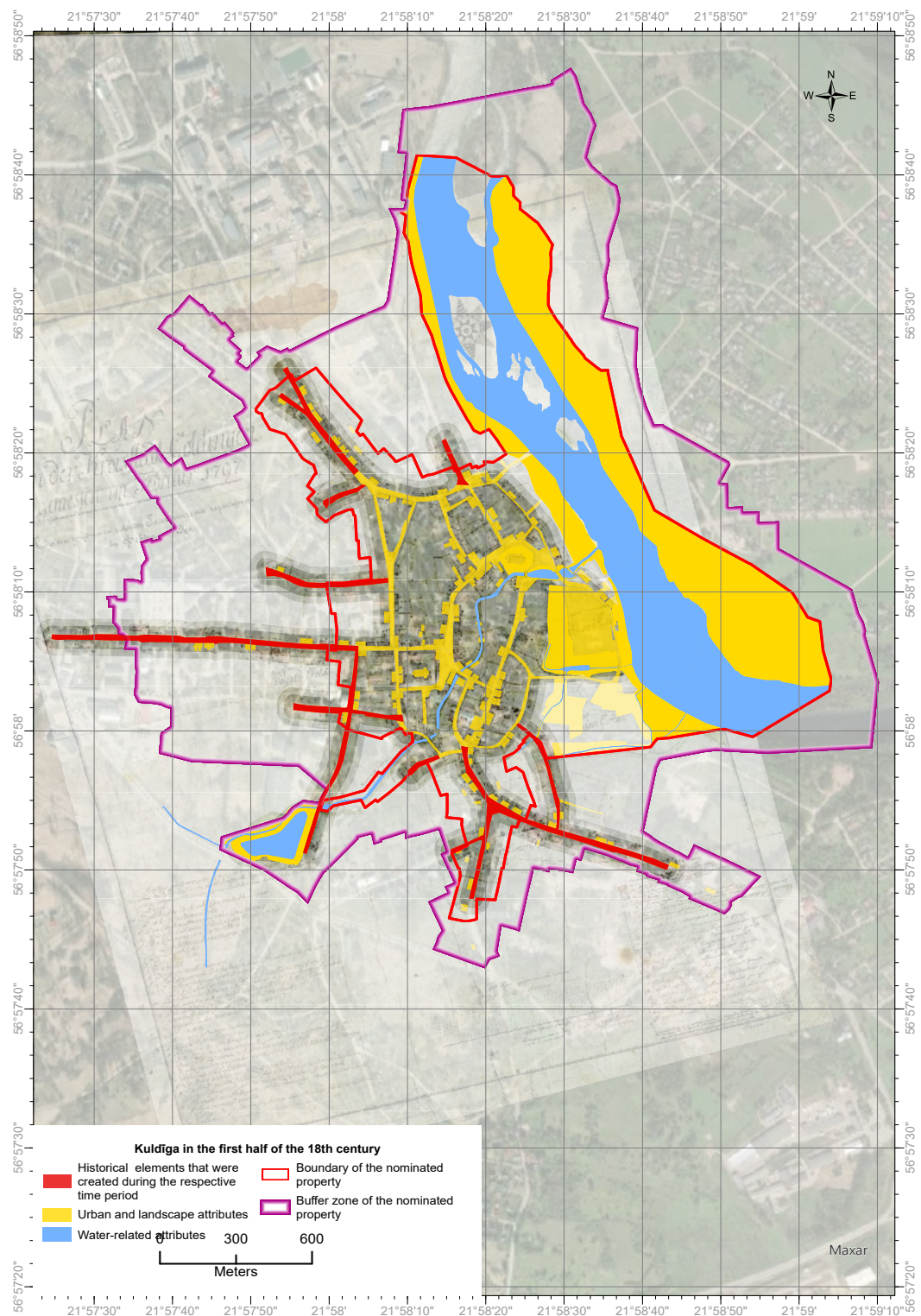
Already in the 14th century, Kuldīga, then a hamlet, joined the activities of the Hanseatic League and started to engage in international trade. During this time, a series of urban expansions succeeded in different stages, when the area north of the castle territory was developed. The first elements essential for the functionality of an organized town, such as market square and a church (St. Catherine's church), evolved. This was the first time Kuldīga expanded outside of the area surrounded by the two rivers. Thus Kuldīga extended north-west in an area called Pilsmiests (Castle Hamlet) with a total of six new streets as well as a market square located next to St. Catherine's Church. Two bridges were built over Alekšupīte River to facilitate moving between the different areas of the town; one of them north of the castle and the other on the western section of Kalnamiests. The bridge connected to the then built Baznīcas Street which continued along the western bank of Alekšupīte River, leading back to the church and the market square. Thus by the time when the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia was founded, in the 16th century, Kuldīga consisted of various districts with different functions, such as the castle territory, the medieval Kalnamiests and Pilsmiests that was the focal point of public functions in the town.





**Figure 17.** The Western expansion of Kuldīga in the 17<sup>th</sup> century with relation to the nominated property.

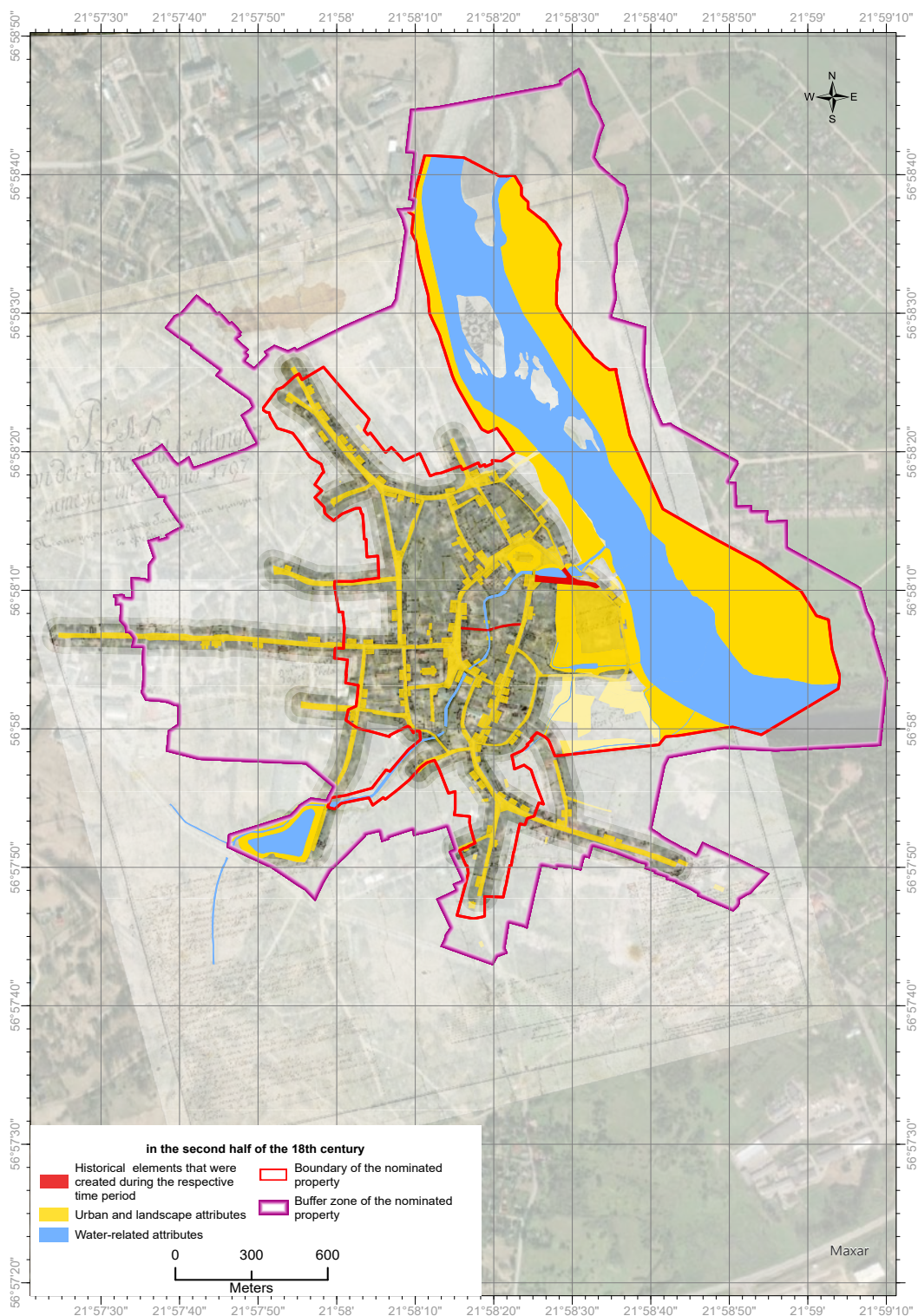
In the 17th century, the town grew further and this time expanded to the west. Additional streets were built, as well as a new town square and an additional bridge over Alekšupīte River on the southern end of the town. Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church was built and with it a whole complex directly related to the church.



**Figure 18.** The expansion of Kuldīga on the outskirts of the town in direction of surrounding towns in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century with relation to the nominated property.

In the 18th century, the final century under Duchy rule, the town for the first time started spreading to the north, west and south simultaneously and further expanded on the outskirts on the existing town. In this time, five roads were built that would connect Kuldīga to the surrounding towns – Ventspils, Aizpute, Liepāja, Skrunda and Jelgava. With relation to the nominated property, the 18th century marks the time when development surpassed the proposed property

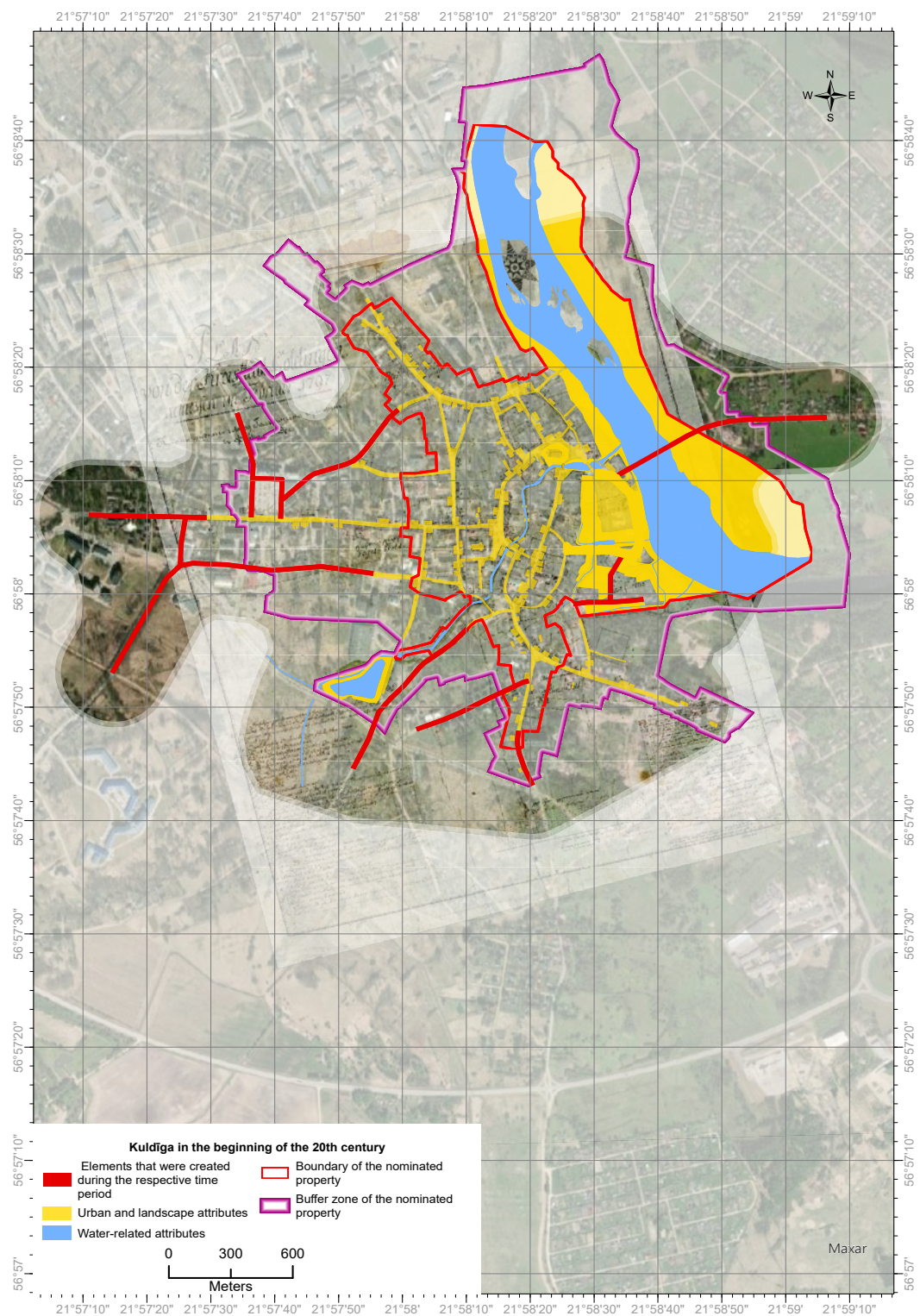




**Figure 19.** The expansion of Kuldīga on the outskirts of the town in direction of surrounding towns in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century with relation to the nominated property.

boundaries. Two additional bridges were built across Alekšupīte River – in Skolas Street and by the Mill Pond.

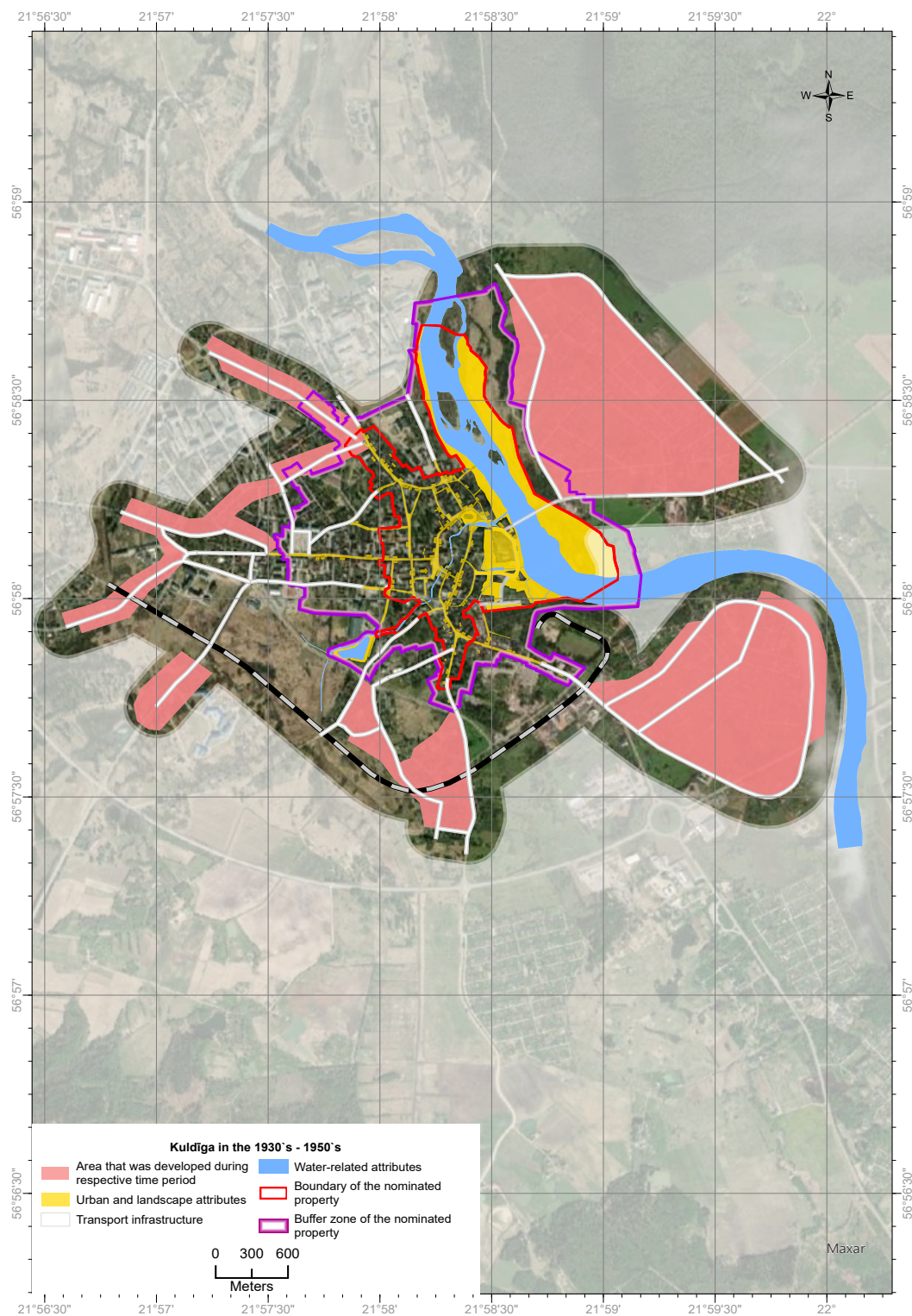
For ICOMOS to better grasp the development of the town after the Duchy period, we furthermore prepared additional maps from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. As can be seen in figures 20 to 22, only a few streets were built within the boundaries of the nominated property after the 18<sup>th</sup> century, whereas the majority of the developments happened on the town's outskirts.



**Figure 20.** The expansion of Kuldīga in the beginning of the 20th century.

In the second half of the 19th century, the brick bridge over Venta River was constructed, connecting Kuldīga to the east. Two additional streets were added in the direct south of the castle territory. In the south-western area of the nominated property, Leona Paegles Street was constructed on the eastern bank of Alekšupīte River. Apart from these streets, no further additions were made to the urban layout of the ducal era, and within the nominated property. In addition to the new connection to the eastern bank of Venta River, the main extensions of the town were located in the far west of Kuldīga.



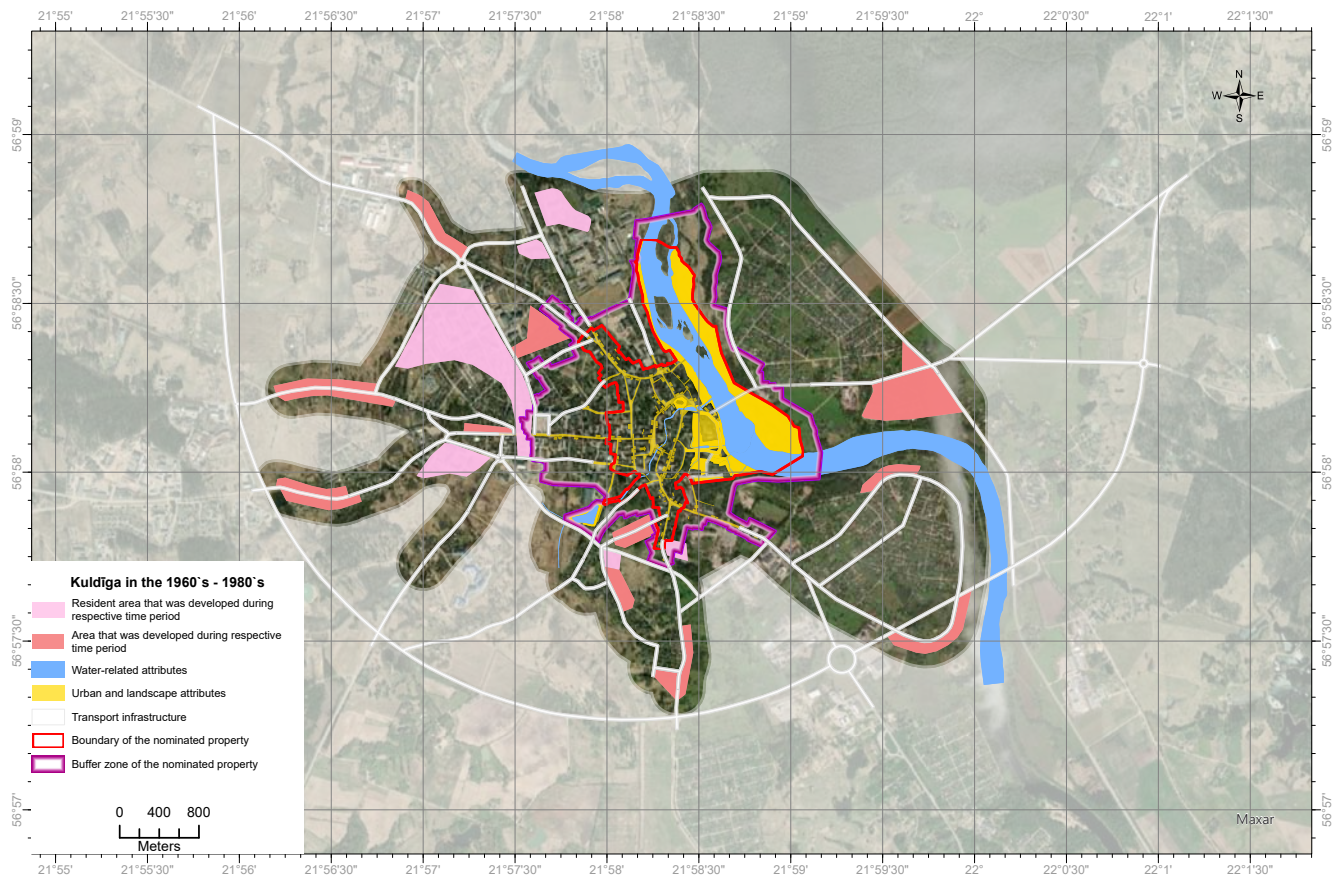


**Figure 21.** The expansion of Kuldīga in the 1930s – 1950s.

In the first half of the 20th century, in 1920s – 1930s, a significant growth of Kuldīga can be noted. In accordance with the town development plan of 1937, for the first time the town developed in all cardinal directions simultaneously. To the east, one major development area was located on the right bank of the river, across from the nominated property, while the second area was south-east of the old town, in the river bend. In the south, two main areas were developed for residential expansion. In these residential areas mainly single-family residential buildings were constructed. To the west, two streets were de-



veloped within the buffer zone, including the construction of the new town market square next to the extension of Liepājas Street, while all other expansions happened outside the buffer zone. In addition to the diverse residential areas, in this time, a railroad was constructed that connected Kuldīga to other towns in Latvia. The railroad that does not exist nowadays lied outside of both the nominated property and its buffer zone.



**Figure 22.** The expansion of Kuldīga in the 1960s – 1980s.

At the end of the 20th century, Kuldīga expanded further on the outskirts. According to the solutions foreseen in the town's General Plan of 1973, a ring road was constructed to divert the traffic developing from people commuting between the different Latvian towns. This development simultaneously minimised traffic in the old town, as all of the major residential areas that developed after the 18th century have direct access to the ring road.

Regarding the plot layout, it can be established that it is largely continuous, with some subdivisions especially in the time of the Russian empire in order to facilitate a higher density of living spaces in the town. In the World War 2, two areas – one around today's Park of 1905 and one around Raiņa and Mucenieku Streets – were bombed and a number of historical buildings was destroyed. These areas were never built up again, so that the historical plot layout in these areas is no longer existing. To best illustrate the continuity of the plot layout, we created a series of maps that show the nominated property and its buffer zone on a map from 1797, 1879, 1913, 1930 and 1972.



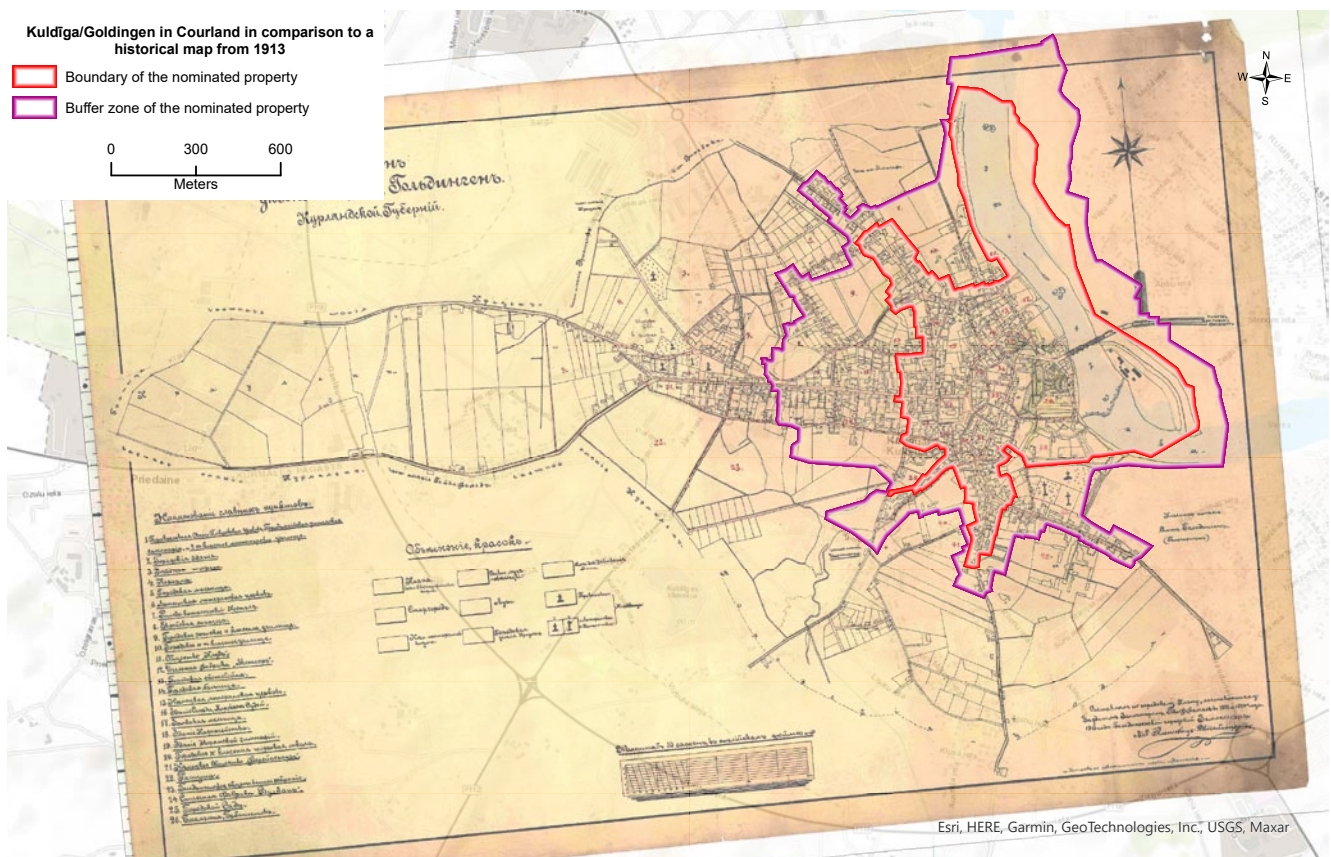
**Figure 23.** Overlay of the nominated property and its buffer zone on the map from 1797.



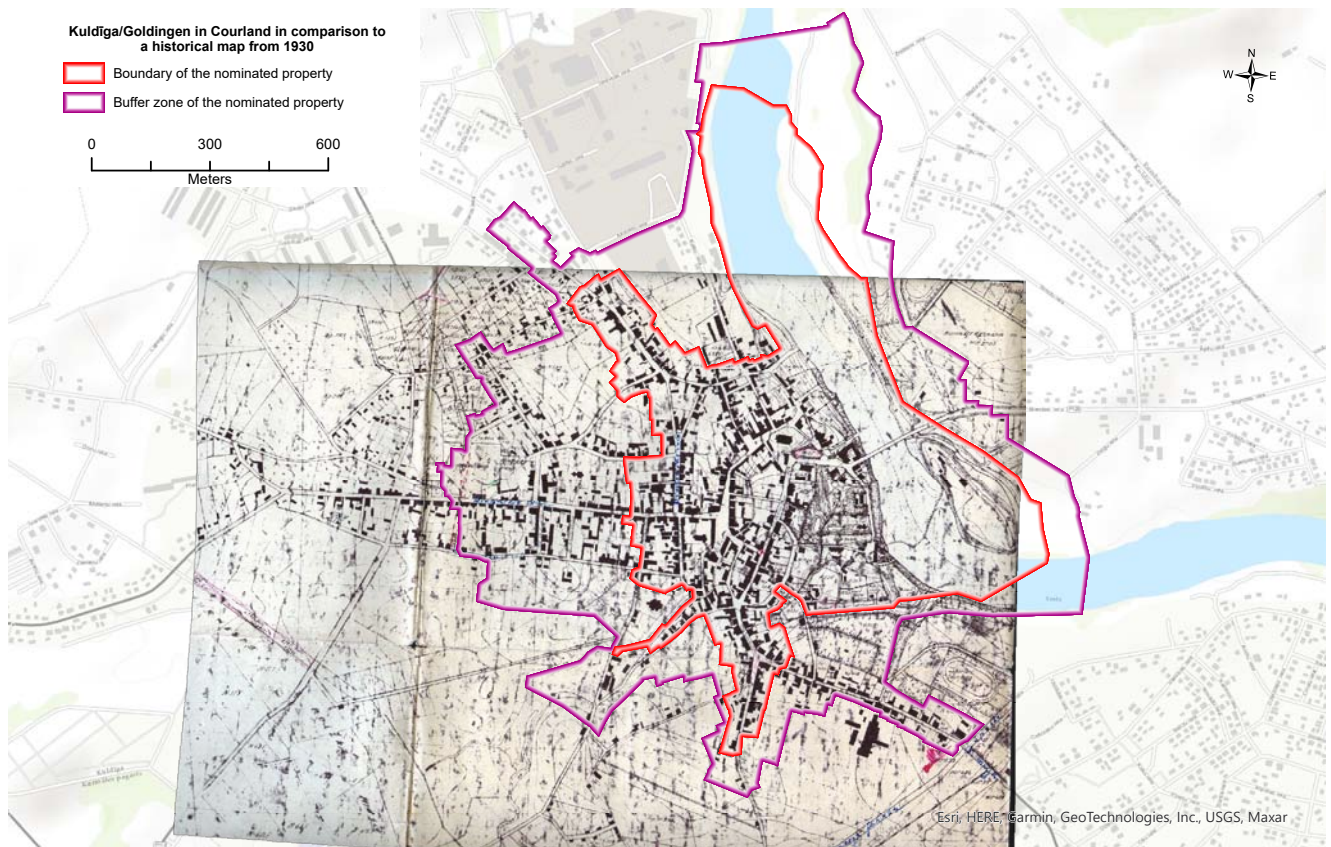


**Figure 24.** Overlay of the nominated property and its buffer zone on a map from 1879.



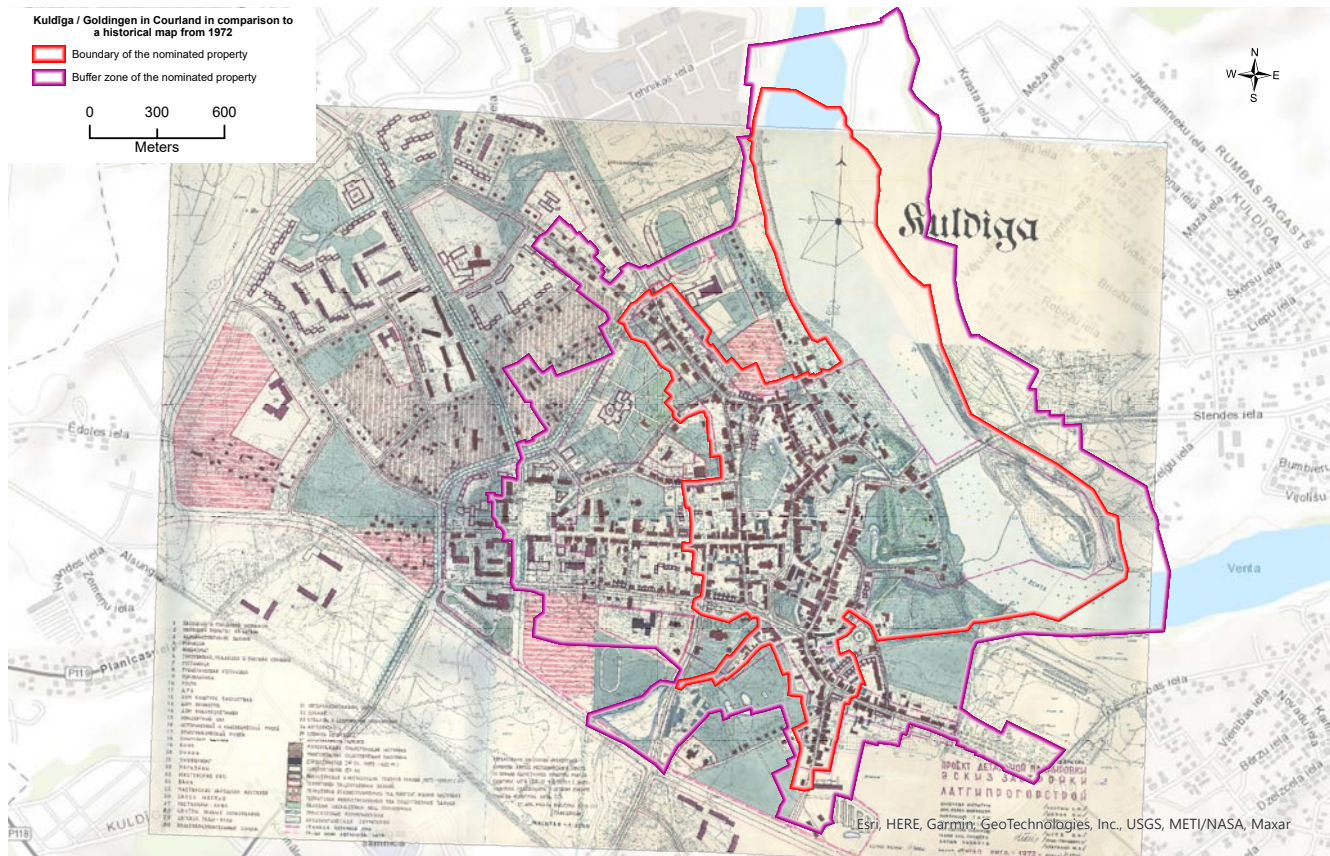


**Figure 25.** Overlay of the nominated property and its buffer zone on a map from 1913.



**Figure 26.** Overlay of the nominated property and its buffer zone on a map from 1930.









**Figure 27.** Overlay of the nominated property and its buffer zone on a map from 1972.

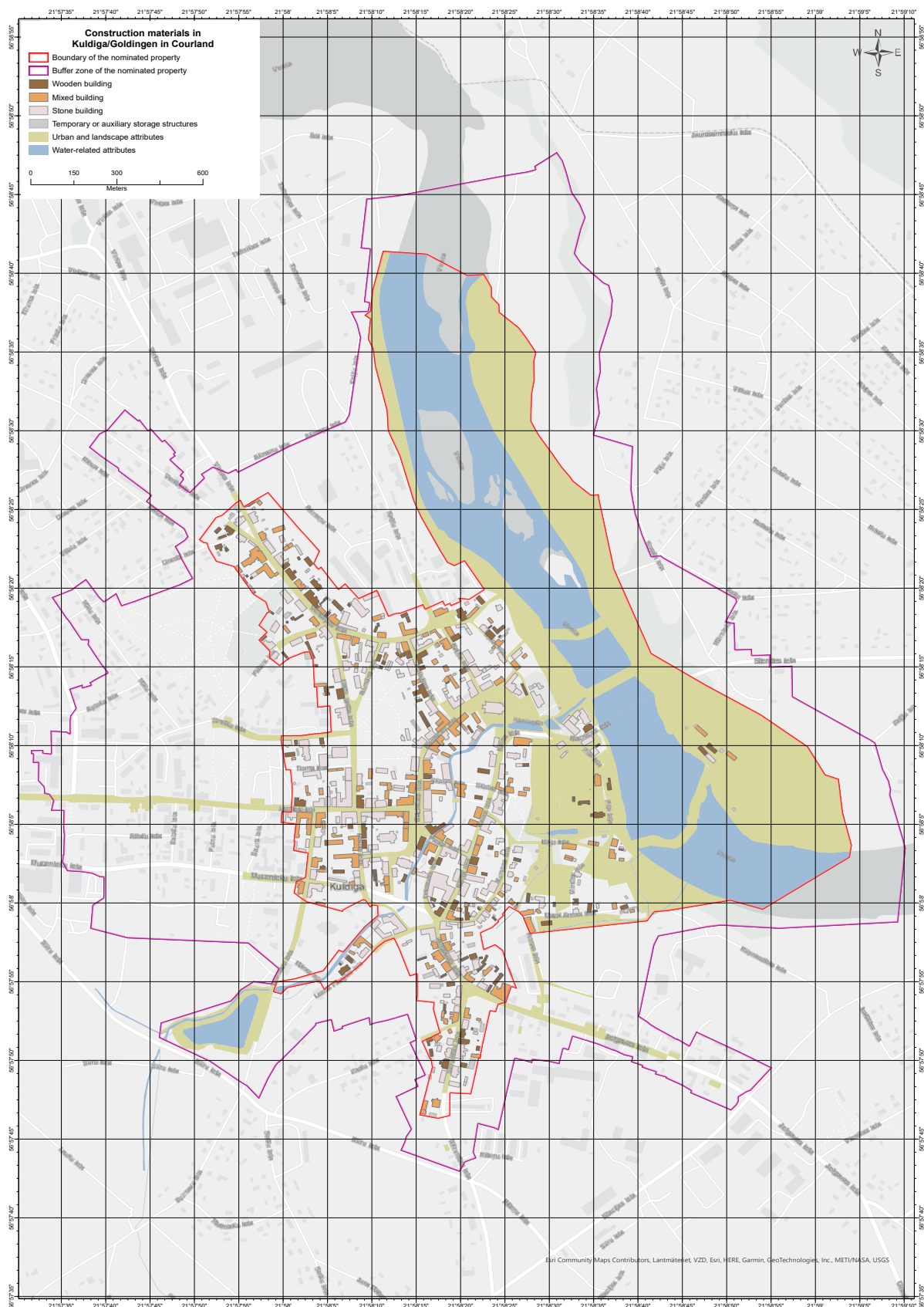


1c) ICOMOS would also appreciate if the State Party could submit maps identifying the historic wooden buildings located within the nominated property.

In addition to the map regarding the continuation of the architectural typology of the ducal era provided in response to question 1a, we also prepared a map that indicates the different building materials and their distribution throughout town (see Figure 32). In this context, buildings were marked as wooden, stone or combined. The following table outlines the methodology regarding the classification of buildings.

<div data-bbox="172 772 199 996">Wooden Buildings</div> <div data-bbox="215 472 818 896"></div> <div data-bbox="229 920 772 1008"><p><b>Figure 28.</b> The sexton's house (6 Raina Street) is an example of the typical wooden architecture found in Kuldīga.</p></div>	<p>Buildings depicted as wooden structures are all those that are entirely made from wood and hence have the largest resemblance to the vernacular building style, when all materials were local. The group includes all buildings that only have facades made from wood; excluding those where minimum one facade is made from stone. As the buildings were already constructed in the Duchy period and hence were influenced by the international encounters resulting from the politics of the dukes, they do also integrate other materials, for example, for the roofs, which are no longer made of wooden boards but predominantly from clay tiles. One example of such a building is the building at 6 Raina Street (Figure 28) which belongs to the catholic church complex developed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Similar to this example, the wooden buildings of the town sometimes sit on a stone plinth.</p> <p>Buildings of this category are marked in dark brown.</p> <p><i>Material: wood</i> <i>Visualization in map: dark brown</i></p>
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Buildings Of Combined Materials	 <p><b>Figure 29.</b> The front facade of the building at 17 Baznīcas Street is entirely covered in wood, but one of the side walls is a masonry structure.</p>  <p><b>Figure 30.</b> The building on the corner of Jelgavas Street/ Pasta Street is a wooden building on a stone basement. It is hence considered a building of “combined” materials.</p>	<p>As a result of the growing exchange with international craftsmen, the building materials in Kuldīga changed and buildings increasingly integrated both wood and stone. On the map below, we marked all buildings using both materials as “combined”. While for some, like the timber-framed buildings, the combination of both materials is clearly to distinguish, many others falling into this category are in fact predominantly wooden: The example displayed in Figure 29 shows a building at 17 Baznīcas Street. While its front facade entirely consists of wood, the building has one stone facade on the side as well as an extension in the back which is made from stone and hence the building is classified as “combined”.</p> <p>The building at 1 Jelgavas Street (Figure 30), on the other hand, is classified as “combined” because of its stone structure in the area of the developed basement and a stone wall on the eastern backyard facade towards Jelgavas Street.</p> <p>Buildings combining both materials are marked in light brown.</p> <p><i>Material: wood + stone combined</i>  <i>Visualization in map: light brown</i></p>
Stone Buildings	 <p><b>Figure 31.</b> This building at 1 Liepājas Street represents stone buildings of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia.</p>	<p>Finally, there is a number of buildings in the nominated property that consist entirely of stone. An example is the two-storey building at 1 Liepājas Street (Figure 31). Brick buildings were also included in this category.</p> <p>Buildings of this category are marked in grey.</p> <p><i>Material: stone</i>  <i>Visualization in map: grey</i></p>



**Figure 32.** This map illustrates the density and distribution of different building materials within the nominated property Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland.

## QUESTION AREA 2: **Comparative Analysis**

*The ICOMOS Panel would like to convey its appreciation for the expanded comparative analysis provided by the State Party on 29 October 2021, and notes the limitations expressed by the State Party to respond to ICOMOS' request because of the current sanitary conditions and the short period of time to do so. Therefore, ICOMOS would appreciate if the State Party could undertake further research to complement the information already provided, in order to reinforce the expanded comparative analysis.*

### **Methodology**

We are pleased to note that ICOMOS was satisfied with the general nature of our expansion of the comparative analysis, which we submitted as part of the additional information on 29 October 2021. We furthermore thank ICOMOS for the opportunity to further expand our research regarding the Comparative Analysis and to substantiate our findings by the means of additional materials. We are pleased to be given the chance to deepen our own knowledge in this regard and to understand even better the exceptionality of Kuldīga, which will be of great value for further management of the site.

In order to best respond to the request made by ICOMOS during our meeting in Chareton-le-Pont on 26 November 2021, and formally communicated in writing on 20 December 2021, we conducted two main activities in the past months which pursued the goal of validating and reinforcing the findings provided in October:

In the first step, we discussed how to best acquire the relevant maps to deepen the comparison regarding the continuity of the urban layout of the places discussed. In this context, we contacted the National Library of Latvia who immediately agreed to support us in using their experience as well as their network to organize all of the missing materials. In the second step, we arranged visits to all sites mentioned in our Comparative Analysis and took a series of photographs to document the occurrence of the different features in place in order to reassess our judgements regarding the comparability made based on the online research conducted in October 2021. After discussing our approach to the request made by ICOMOS, we decided to not include further towns from an even wider geo-political area, but to focus on expanding our knowledge regarding the towns that were the result of our research in October 2021.

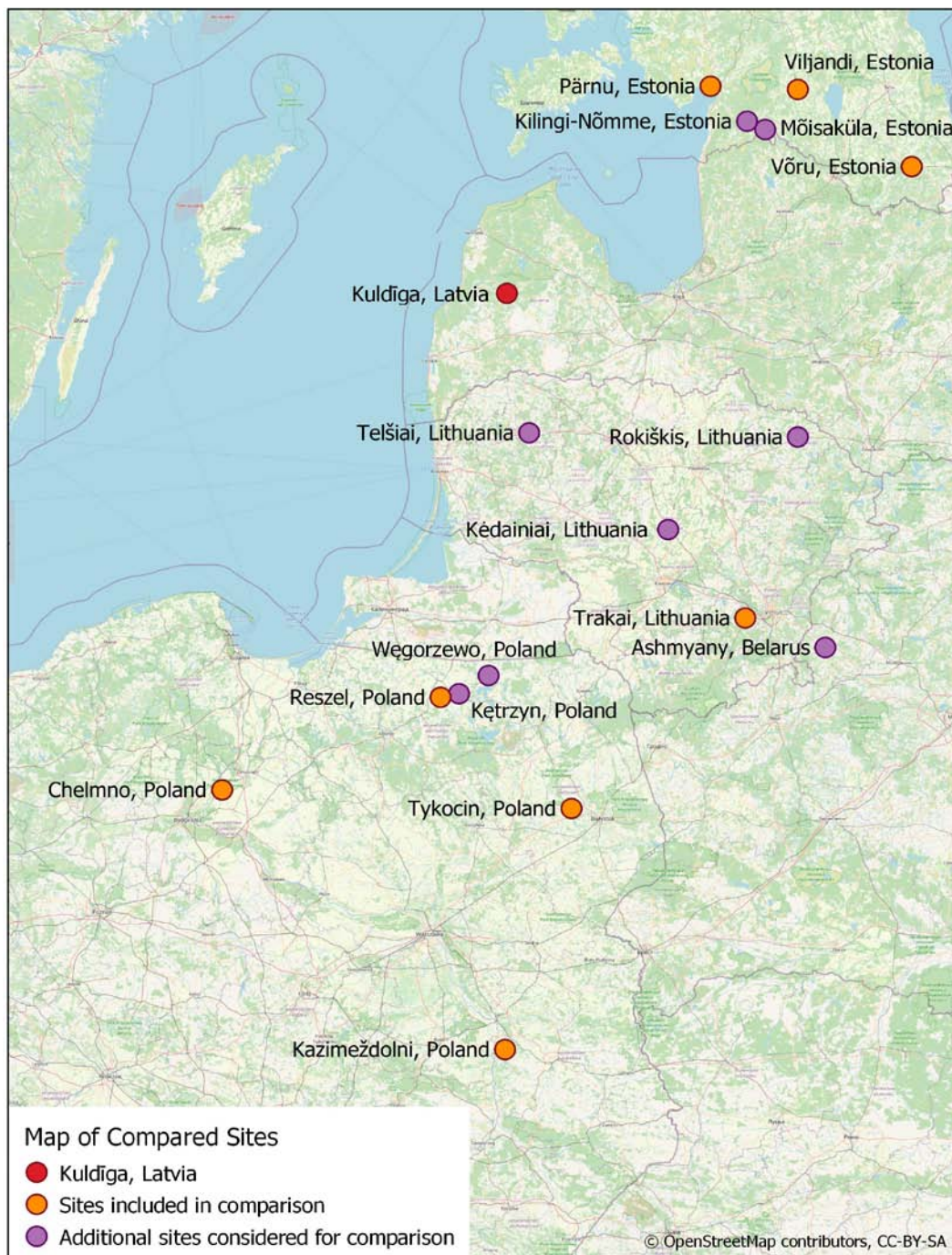
We would like to explicitly thank Dr. Mariusz Balcerek, Dagnija Baltiņa, Dr. Artur Goszczyński, Justina Jakštaite, Kati Männik, Karri Tiigisoone, Teele Ülesoo, Reinis Vāvers, Dr. Wojciech Walczak and Dr. Tomasz Wyżlic for supporting us in this matter.

To facilitate the reading of this document, we maintained the style and structure of the document submitted in October 2021.



## Response

**Figure 33.** Map of compared sites.

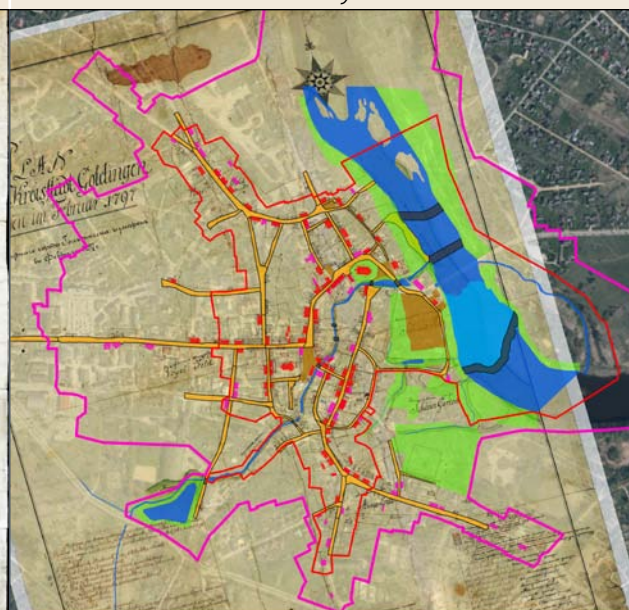


Historically

**Figure 34.** Map of Kuldīga of 1797.

The oldest map of Kuldīga dates to 1797. It includes detailed accounts of streets, squares, public buildings, private buildings, water crossings as well as landscape elements existing at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Today

**Figure 35.** Contemporary map of Kuldīga

Most elements of the urban layout described in the map from 1797 still exist today and can be recognised as such. This includes streets, squares, public buildings, private buildings, water crossings as well as landscape elements. Many of the later buildings were built on foundations of buildings from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, giving continuation to the plot layout of the time of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia and hence providing an exceptional continuity of the urban layout of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



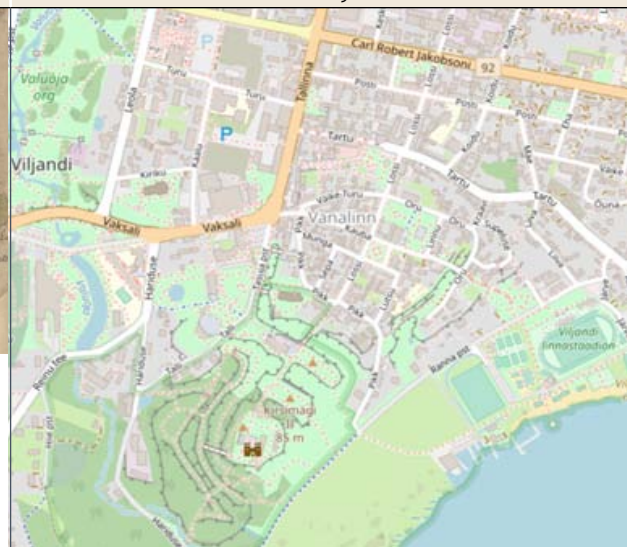
Historically

**Figure 36.** Map of Viljandi of 1790.

(EAA.308.6.364 sheet 1; map from 1790)




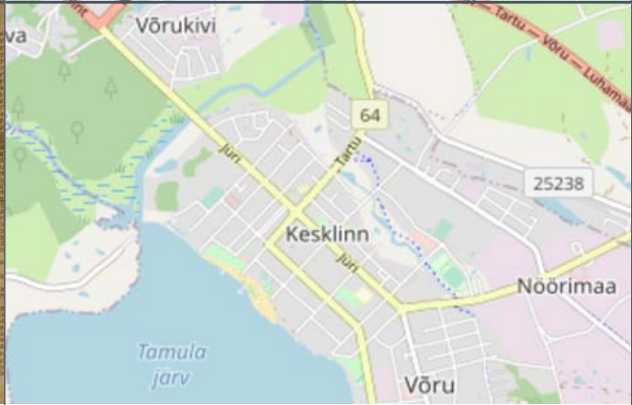
The earliest town map from Viljandi is from the late 18th century and hence was drafted at a similar time as the Kuldīga map. A total of 88 plots is listed in the historical centre, including, in most cases, name and profession of the respective resident. A further 48 plots are mentioned in the context of an expansion of the town to the North. The map indicates that the town was surrounded by fields.

Today

**Figure 37.** Contemporary map of Viljandi.

The historic urban layout of Viljandi, presented on the map, is still largely recognizable today, especially around the historical market place, but also along the Northern demarcation of the historical town called "Uus". The blocks and the connecting streets resemble the historical structure. Large streets built in later times as well as maintained landscape elements retrace the historical boundaries of the town. Despite the preservation of the urban layout per se, a comparison of both maps shows a significant difference in density. In the Northern expansion of the town each of the historical plots now holds up to 25 buildings. Within the historic core, this situation is less drastic. The market square and a moat East of the town can still be found today. A majority of plots and buildings North-East of the market square could not be preserved and the territory was transformed into a public park. The historical Northern demarcation of the town, "Uus" street, along with "Carl Robert Jakobsoni" street and "Tallinna" street, today forms the highway from Tartu via Viljandi to Kilingi-Nõmme, resulting in notable changes regarding the streets' material, but also the level of usage. In comparison, the historical streets in Kuldīga have been subject to a speed limit of 30 km/h to guarantee their preservation.



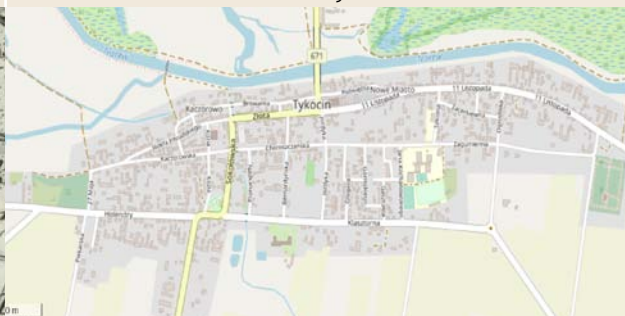
Site	Urban layout	
Pärnu, Estonia	Historically	Today
		
	<p><b>Figure 38.</b> Map of Pärnu of 1704. (LVVA.6828.4.545 sheet 1; map approximately from 1704)</p> <p>A town map from 1704 depicts the historic core of Pärnu. It shows a rectangular street grid that is surrounded by a fortification system. Within the fortification system there are ten bastions that are oriented towards planets and stars. This area is surrounded by a moat and fenced off once more by a city wall. To the west, the road to Tallin is marked, and to the east, the road to Rīga. East of the historic core, plots and buildings are shown which were later annexed to Pärnu.</p>	<p><b>Figure 39.</b> Contemporary map of Pärnu.</p> <p>The urban layout of Pärnu partially corresponds to that depicted in the 1704 map. While the general layout of the historic centre can be recognized until today, a series of differences must be noted. The moat and bastions have only been preserved fragmentally. Only the bastion marked on the historic map as “Lune” (moon) can be clearly distinguished today, as the moat is preserved in this area. The territory of the bastion itself is now a park. The streets leading outside of the town have been changed and those in the historic centre have been widened. The street called “Pikk” has developed into a major two-way street including a roundabout. The entire northern area of the town is defined by large shopping centres. The continuity of the urban layout cannot compare to Kuldīga.</p>
Võru, Estonia		
	<p><b>Figure 40.</b> Map of Võru of 1784. (LVVA.6828.4.529 sheet 1; map from 1784)</p> <p>This map allows for an understanding of the urban layout of Võru at the end of the 18th century. It shows its location between lake Tamula and the Coreli stream, as well as haystacks and willows surrounding the town. The plan depicts ten streets and one alley, which together form a grid of straight parallel and intersecting roads. A total of 90 plots is mentioned, the first one being the market square, all others being buildings with yards. Furthermore, three buildings are explicitly mentioned, including a school and a church. Three streets lead out of the town, two of them crossing the river via bridges.</p>	<p><b>Figure 41.</b> Contemporary map of Võru.</p> <p>A comparison with the historical map shows that the urban layout of Võru has been largely conserved. Some of the historical roads have been transformed into bigger streets, nevertheless respecting the historical urban layout. The market square has preserved its original location and, until today, an alley leads from this square to the bank of lake Tamula. The plot layout is only partially conserved and multiple plots now have prefabricated buildings, severely changing the original layout of single houses.</p>

Historically



**Figure 42.** Map of Tykocin of 1802. (The Library of Congress, Washington, DC, USA; map detail from 1802)  
There is no separate map of Tykocin from the late 18th century, so that the comparison is based on a detail of a map of the surrounding areas from 1802. The map is a black plan, indicating the built-up areas of the town. The monastery can be distinguished to the south and two sacral buildings are marked. There are roads leading out of town in all cardinal directions, including one street crossing the river to the north. The map does not indicate the location or density of residential buildings.

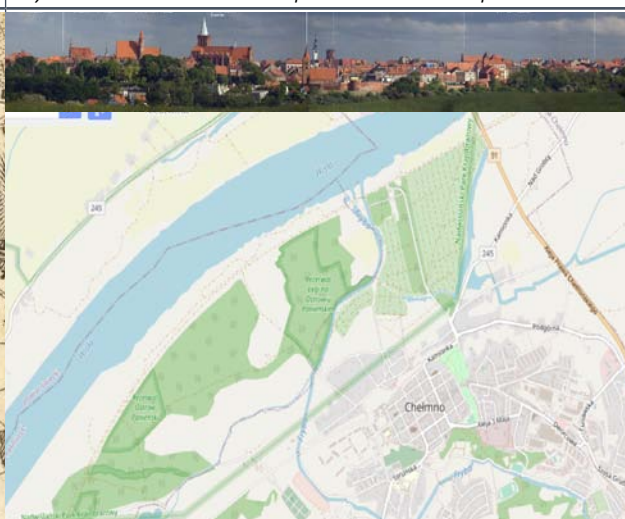
Today

**Figure 43.** Contemporary map of Tykocin.

The urban layout of Tykocin shows some continuity regarding the street layout and the location of public buildings. Both the synagogue and the Holy Trinity Church mentioned on the 1802 map continue to exist today. The monastery has been preserved and today serves as an elderly care home. The bridge crossing the river continues to be the main crossing; a smaller pedestrian crossing has been added over a barrage further to the west. The south-east of the town has been built up and the street layout in this area changed. Generally, the town seems to have conserved its size of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and no major extensions can be noted. However, a cross-country road crosses the town past its market square.







**Figure 44.** Map of Chełmno of 1802. (David Rumsey Map Collection; map detail from 1802)  
There is no separate map of Chełmno from the late 18th century, so that the comparison is based on a detail of a map of the surrounding areas from 1802. This detail shows the location of the town between the larger Vistula River to its north and Brynka and Fryba Rivers surrounding it south-west. The town was protected through a town wall and was connected to other towns by one street leading out of the town in the east and one in the south. A total of 23 building blocks and 5 churches are indicated on the map within the town boundaries.


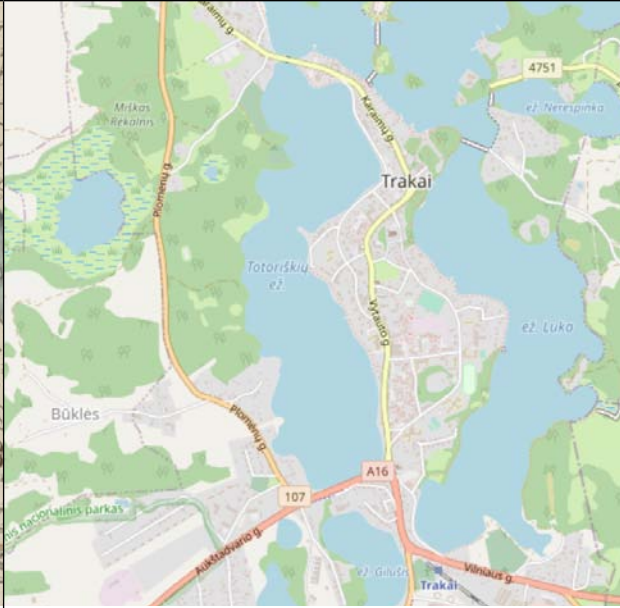
**Figure 45.** Contemporary map of Chełmno.

The urban layout of Chełmno has been largely preserved in its state from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The preserved town wall clearly defines the territory of the old town as opposed to later expansions outside. The market square corresponds to its historical location and the churches have been conserved, while more churches have been built since. The building blocks can be clearly identified in today's urban layout, with the difference that an additional row of building blocks has been added on the east of the town by separating the existing plots and inserting an extra street. The two main roads leaving the town still exist. The continuity of the urban layout seems comparable to that of Kuldīga.



Site	Urban layout	
Kazimierz Dolny, Poland	Historically	Today
		
	<p><b>Figure 46.</b> Map of Kazimierz Dolny of 1802. (Archiwum Map WIG; map detail from 1802)</p> <p>There is no separate map of Kazimierz Dolny from the late 18th century, so that the comparison is based on a detail of a map of the surrounding areas from 1802. The map indicates the general development of the urban layout on the bank of Vistula River, with a main street running towards the same and one running parallel to the water body. Due to the limited detail of the map, it is not possible to draw conclusions regarding the exact street layout or the location of specific public buildings.</p>	<p><b>Figure 47.</b> Contemporary map of Kazimierz Dolny.</p> <p>The old town of Kazimierz Dolny has grown significantly since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The continuity of plots and buildings cannot be judged based on the existing historic map, however, the density of the town suggests significant changes. The main street perpendicular to the river can be distinguished among a network of many streets that seem to have developed later. The streets connecting the town to other towns in the area have been preserved in their function. A judgment of the spatial dispersion of public and residential spaces is not possible based on the black plan from 1802.</p>
Reszel, Poland		
	<p><b>Figure 48.</b> Map of Reszel of 1869. (Biblioteka Narodowa; map detail from 1869)</p> <p>There is no separate map of Reszel from the relevant time, so that the comparison is based on a detail of a map of the surrounding areas from 1869 – 74 years after the Kuldīga map. The map shows the old town north of the river Sajna as well as a series of rectangular building blocks extending the historic town centre to the north. Two sacral buildings are indicated in the old town and the streets both in the old town and the later extensions can be clearly distinguished. A total of five streets leads out of the town. A mill pond is mentioned north-east and a cemetery on the western end of the town.</p>	<p><b>Figure 49.</b> Contemporary map of Reszel.</p> <p>The urban layout of Reszel shows a high continuity. New developments seem to have happened on the outskirts of the city, especially in the northern and eastern parts. All new constructions happened surrounding the old city, including Soviet style architecture. Both churches as well as the cemetery have been preserved. Building blocks both of the historic centre and the later extensions remain and the street layout is largely preserved. The cross-country road connecting Reszel to other towns goes around the historical urban fabric and does not harm it. Just the mill pond no longer exists. Overall, the continuity of the urban layout in Reszel seems to compare to that of Kuldīga.</p>



Site	Urban layout	
Trakai, Lithuania	Historically	Today
		
	<p><b>Figure 50.</b> Map of Trakai of 1800. (VUB01-000680139; map detail from 1800)</p> <p>There is no separate map of Trakai from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, so that the comparison is based on a detail of a map of the surrounding areas from 1800. In this map, the main road of Trakai is visible as well as two bridges connecting the island to the mainland. The map does not indicate the location of separate buildings.</p>	<p><b>Figure 51.</b> Contemporary map of Trakai.</p> <p>The street mentioned on the historical map can still be found today, and the locations of the bridges is also similar until this day. The existence of many historical houses especially on Karaimy street, close to the castle island, insinuates that the historical street layout was conserved in this area. This is also supported by the buildings surrounding the oldest church of the town.</p>



**Figure 52.** Streetscape of Kuldīga.

*The streetscape of Kuldīga is predominantly formed by facades of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries; giving a unique continuation of the visual qualities of a town developed during the times of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. The streets are entirely covered in cobblestone and roofs of the side-gabled buildings are covered in clay tiles. The historical urban fabric of the Old Town fulfils the highest standards of authenticity and integrity.*



**Figure 53.** Streetscape of Viljandi. (picture taken at 8 Vaike-Turu by Teele Ülesoo)

*The overall streetscape of Viljandi is comparable to Kuldīga as it conveys the image of a homogeneous architectural development manifested through historical urban fabric remaining in buildings as well as partially in street covers. The streetscape includes both wooden and masonry structures. It is well preserved and provides an authentic image of the historical urban fabric of the town.*





**Figure 54. Streetscape of Pärnu.** (picture taken at Rütli Street by Karri Tiigisoos)

Due to an air raid in 1944, over half of the town of Pärnu was destroyed, leaving little historical urban fabric. Major parts of the town have been rebuilt and the overall streetscape is heterogeneous, with buildings from different time periods. There are no historic street covers and roofs are not from the same time as the houses. The main pedestrian street, which has the highest density of historical urban fabric, features later architecture than Kuldīga, predominantly from stone and bricks. Pärnu does not compare to Kuldīga in terms of authenticity and integrity of the streetscape.



**Figure 55. Streetscape of Võru.** (picture taken at Koidula Street by Kati Männik)

Close to the shores of Lake Tamula, the streetscape of Võru is dominated by wooden buildings from the founding time of the town at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, with the addition of single 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings from stone and brick. There are some buildings resembling those of Kuldīga; however, the overall streetscape differs significantly as it is largely interrupted by buildings of later times that interfere with the authenticity of the town as a representative of a town of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Especially in the area east of the market square there is a high density of Soviet style buildings. The county school building, the Lutheran and the Orthodox church are the only public buildings remaining from the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century.





**Figures 56 and 57.** Streetscape of Tykocin.

(pictures taken by Wojciech Walczak)

*The streetscape in the centre of Tykocin features masonry and wooden structures both of the 18<sup>th</sup> and later centuries as well as cobblestone street surfaces. Several dwellings (especially on the main square) are set back from the street and have front gardens. The plots are often surrounded by fences and streets are comparatively wide, which gives the town an overall more suburban feel and which differs substantially from the town centre of Kuldīga. This characteristic is further strengthened when walking approximately 500 metres east out of town (from the main square). When walking through town, the streetscape changes significantly a number of times, for example to plain masonry structures with clay tile roofs that often are in need of restoration. In terms of authenticity some parts of the town are largely comparable to Kuldīga, while others cannot compare at all.*



**Figure 58.** Streetscape of Chełmno.

(picture taken at Grudziądzka Street by Mariusz Balcerek)

*The streetscape of Chełmno is largely shaped by masonry structures of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, hence testifying to a different time frame than Kuldīga. Buildings are of different heights, mainly from two to four storeys, giving the streetscape an overall more urban atmosphere. The general state of conservation is not comparable to the exceptionally well-preserved old town of Kuldīga.*





**Figure 59.** Streetscape of Kazimierz Dolny

(picture taken at Senatorska Street by Artur Goszczyński)

*The streetscape of Kazimierz Dolny combines buildings remaining from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries with later additions and hence must be considered largely heterogenous in architectural styles. The example of Senatorska Street illustrates how on one side of the street we find three-storey masonry townhouses from different periods that follow different architectural styles (including the so-called Celej building from the Renaissance era in the back), whereas on the opposite side of the road we see smaller houses of one storey and a converted attic that are stylistically unrelated to the masonry structures. The streetscape of Kazimierz Dolny cannot be compared to Kuldīga in communicating a single architectural style developed in a specific period and its continuation throughout time.*



**Figure 60.** Streetscape of Reszel.

(picture taken by Tomasz Wyzlic)

*There is indeed architectural cohesiveness in Reszel's streetscape, but the buildings do not look as homogenous as in Kuldīga, and one can perceive different tendencies with facade and roof designs. Streets in the city centre have kept the cobblestone covers, and clay tile roofs are present in approximately half of the buildings in the old town, while the other half uses more modern materials. As opposed to Kuldīga, the streetscape does not consist of separate, free-standing buildings, but of town houses of two to three storeys. Some facades show clear signs of modernization and rehabilitation (probably new plaster layers to cover imperfections and different paint colours) and cannot compare to Kuldīga regarding their authenticity.*





**Figure 61.** Streetscape of Trakai.

(picture taken by Justina Jakštaite)

*The streetscape of Trakai is preserved in its historical urban fabric and provides an overall homogenic image of the development of the town at a specific historical period. The streetscape is predominantly defined by front-gabled wooden houses with a facade defined by three windows on the ground floor and one below the high gable roof. The town provides high levels of authenticity and integrity and is well preserved.*



**Figures 62 and 63.** Architectural typologies of Kuldīga.

*The town has a variety of wooden, masonry and brick as well as half-timbered houses that integrate influences from other Hanseatic towns and Scandinavia as well as elements of vernacular architecture. Vernacular elements include high gable roofs as well as a tripartite layout with a mantel-chimney in the centre. Clay tile roofs and glass windows, on the other hand, show a change of materials inspired by international exchange in the 17th and 18th centuries. In this context, window shutters with fixation hinges made from tin developed to conserve the heat and to protect the delicate material from damage. The new roofing materials were commonly placed on the old roof, hence leaving a gap between the two roof layers. To prevent water damage, this gap was closed by delicately carved and ornamented windboards and cornices (influenced by both German and Norwegian designs), which can be seen all over the town until today. In the 18th century, front door portals were added to the houses, as well as semi-hipped and mansard roofs. Basements and attics were increasingly used, which led to the development of basement and gable windows.*





**Pictures 64 and 65.** Architectural typologies of Viljandi.  
(pictures taken at 6 Lossi Street and Tartu Street by Teele Ülesoo)

*The Estonian town of Viljandi compares to Kuldīga regarding its combination of wooden, masonry and brick buildings. Many of the buildings sit on stone plinths and have roof extensions with gable windows. Many doors have transom windows and are carved from wood with ornamental details. While these elements show common developments of both towns in the context of international exchange of members of the Hanseatic league, certain architectural elements typical for Kuldīga can only be found in a handful of buildings in Viljandi. This includes window shutters and architectural ornamentation. Roofing is largely heterogenous.*



**Pictures 66 and 67. Architectural typologies of Pärnu.**

(pictures taken at 20 Kuninga Street and 20 Pühaivamu Street by Karri Tiigisoos)

Typologically, there are similarities between the architecture of Pärnu and that of Kuldīga. Both towns feature buildings that were influenced by international exchange of Hanseatic towns in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Like Kuldīga, Pärnu has a variety of wooden houses on stone plinths with roof extensions as well as carved wooden doors with transom windows. There are also a few examples of half-timbered houses. Roofs are of newer materials and differ from house to house. It seems that Pärnu developed a somewhat comparable architectural style, yet, there are near to no remains of earlier building structures as the majority of houses has two floors and there are only few examples of 1- and 1.5-storey buildings. Due to severe destructions of the town in 1944, only a few examples of this architecture can be found throughout the town today, significantly limiting the integrity of the site. This proves once more the exceptionality of Kuldīga in preserving most of its historical urban fabric from the time of the Duchy.





Võru, Estonia

**Figures 68 and 69.** Architectural typologies of Võru.

(picture taken at Vabaduse and Koidula Streets by Kati Männik)

*In Võru, the dominant architectural style of the historical urban fabric consists of wooden houses of one to two-and-a-half storeys with high gabled roofs, often from corrugated iron, and windows without shutters. As the town's founding date is only some years earlier (1784) than the dissolution of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia (1795), the timeframe of construction even of the earliest buildings is naturally later than that of most of Kuldīga's dwelling houses. There are some buildings corresponding to the wooden architecture of Kuldīga, but typical elements of the Kuldīga constructions are missing. Roofs from clay tiles are almost non-existent and the existing doors with transom windows are much simpler than in Kuldīga, lacking the delicate ornamental wood carvings and tinworks. Generally, the town does not display the international influences of Kuldīga and the integration of different materials in a continuous building style cannot be found. Many buildings suffer from later changes that take away from their authenticity, while the continuous interruptions of the historical urban fabric by especially Soviet buildings minimise the town's integrity.*



**Figures 70 and 71.** Architectural typologies of Tykocin.

(pictures taken by Wojciech Walczak)

*The typology of dwellings that developed in Tykocin is somewhat similar to Kuldīga both regarding the visual appearance and the combination of different materials. The town has various masonry structures with semi-hipped roofs covered in clay tiles, some featuring windows with wooden shutters, however lacking fixation hinges. In most buildings, there are no basement or gable windows indicating the usage of these spaces provoked by growing population numbers due to economic growth. Wooden buildings with high gable roofs as well as individual examples of timber-framed houses add to architectural styles used in the town. While the general architectural style compares to Kuldīga, the houses found in Tykocin are lacking various elements typical for the architectural development represented by Kuldīga. The typology is not used homogenously throughout town, but stands out in single buildings which are interrupted by buildings of a different style.*





**Figures 72 and 73.** Architectural typologies of Chełmno.

(pictures taken at Rynek and Biskupia Streets by Mariusz Balcerek)

*Chełmno is influenced by many different historical periods, which results in a combination of buildings from different timeframes that do not follow a single architectural typology. The townscape include a Renaissance cathedral on the market square, several gothic churches as well as residential buildings from the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century. Newly constructed houses appear next to historical, less conserved buildings. The dominant typology differs greatly from Kuldīga, as it is shaped by large masonry buildings of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The town is not comparable to Kuldīga with regard to architectural typologies and styles.*



**Figures 74 and 75.** Architectural typologies of Kazimierz Dolny

(picture taken at Rynek Market Square by Artur Goszczyński)

The market square of Kazimierz Dolny, which was originally built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, is listed as a national monument as it preserves buildings from the high times of the merchant town in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Despite thematic similarities in being trading hubs of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the architectural styles of Kazimierz Dolny and Kuldīga differ significantly. Generally, the Polish town features a significant number of masonry townhouses and we do not see buildings similar to the prominent architectural style of Kuldīga. The Renaissance buildings have evident influences of Italian architecture.





Reszel, Poland

**Figures 76 and 77.** Architectural typologies of Reszel.

(pictures taken by Tomasz Wyżlic)

*Although the streetscape is mostly homogenic, most constructions use a later architectural style than in Kuldīga, which is partially the result of a big fire in 1806 that destroyed most of the town centre. Houses mostly have two floors, using the attics as additional floors that have window openings oriented towards the streets. Facades display a sober design in terms of decoration, often painted with pastel neutral colours (beige, light blue, grey, mustard...). Similar to later buildings in Kuldīga, the first floor often is used for shops and the upper floors are residencies. The buildings have wooden window frames, but no window shutters, carved doors, transom windows etc. Wooden buildings or buildings of combined materials do not exist.*



**Figure 78.** Architectural typologies of Trakai

(picture taken by Justina Jakštaite)

*Dwelling houses in Trakai are predominantly front-gabled wooden buildings with high gable roofs, often made from corrugated iron, hence not preserving the historical material. The buildings follow a different architectural style, closer to vernacular shapes that lack the elements inspired by international exchange which can be found in Kuldīga. Window shutters as well as carved front doors are no significant element of the local architecture; semi-hipped and mansard roofs only exist sporadically. Clay tiles cannot be found. Overall, the town of Trakai, located approximately 400 km south of the former Duchy of Courland and Semigallia, confirms that the architectural style that developed in Kuldīga is in fact different from architectural styles in the wider geo-cultural region.*





**Figures 79 and 80.** Local craftsmanship in Kuldīga.

*In Kuldīga, several crafts developed based on the international exchanges and the new materials accessible to the craftsmen during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The newly developed crafts mainly focused on tin and glass works as well as wood carving. The results of these works can be found in the windboards placed on roofs, in transom and gable windows, in window hinges and in doors. All these elements play an important role in the ornamentation of houses in Kuldīga until today and are considered in the construction of new buildings for them to blend in with the historical urban fabric. Materials and methods used during the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia were passed down from generations and are used in the construction of new buildings within the old town. The local craftsmanship is an important point of identification for the local population. The image shows a recently added building in the historic town centre, which is entirely based on the tradition of regional craft skills but which can be identified as recent addition based on typology and architectural details.*



**Figures 81 and 82.** Local craftsmanship in Viljandi.

(Pictures taken at 13 Pikk Street and Kaidu Street by Teele Ülesoo)

*Like Kuldiga, Viljandi was a member of the Hanseatic league that was originally founded by the Teutonic Order. The towns were influenced by similar international exchanges, with the difference that Viljandi was historically situated within the Duchy of Livonia. Its international relations reflect in the development of craft skills, including the delicate forging of tin elements for door handles and transom windows. In comparison to Kuldiga, these crafts are however used to a far lesser extent in the construction of new buildings. The city centre and the main square of Viljandi include several new buildings that do not follow the historic architecture and the traditional crafts used in their construction. The new buildings stick out in the in comparison to the older buildings within the area.*



**Figures 83, 84 and 85.** Local craftsmanship in Pärnu.

(Pictures taken at 26 Kuninga Street, 11 Kuninga Street and 10/12 Nikolai Street by Karri Tiigisoos)

Like Kuldīga, the town features architectural details that originate from its international trade with members of the Hanseatic League, such as metal anchors on the front facades between the ground and first floor of buildings. The doors of the remaining wooden buildings are decoratively carved. The transom windows, however, are less sophisticated than in Kuldīga and there are only few examples of window shutters and fixation hinges. In the context of new constructions, there are both houses that follow the traditional crafts of the town and buildings that are completely unaware of this aspect in close proximity to each other. The town hence partially compares to Kuldīga with regard of the continuation of local craftsmanship inspired by international exchange. Yet, there seem to be no comparably strong guidelines regarding the usage of traditional crafts in building new houses.





**Figures 86, 87 and 88.** Local craftsmanship in Võru.

(Pictures taken at Koidula Street and New Katariina Alley by Kati Männik)

Very few of the elements of local craftsmanship found in Kuldīga can be found in the buildings of Võru. There are carved wooden doors with transom windows, however, the level of detail is significantly less and the delicate tin forging elements so typical for Kuldīga cannot be found in Võru. The wood carving found in window frames follows a different style and does usually not include tin elements or window shutters. It is obvious that the conservation especially of wooden elements has not been a priority and many of them are in urgent need of restoration. Most of the buildings in the near surroundings of the few aspects somewhat comparable to Kuldīga are rather modern and do not consider the craftsmanship of the area. There are significant interruptions of the historical streetscape by Soviet style building blocks. The above-mentioned elements of the 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings are no longer included in newer constructions and are not an important feature of the architecture today. There is no evident continuity of local craftsmanship.



**Figures 89 and 90.** Local craftsmanship in Tykocin.

(picture taken by Wojciech Walczak)

*Whereas the architecture of Tykocin is often similar to the architectural styles of Kuldīga, there are several differences regarding the local craftsmanship. One element typical for local craftsmanship in Kuldīga is the use of tin for functional as well as ornamental details. Such elements cannot be found in the architecture of Tykocin. In the context of new constructions, several buildings incorporate the architectural style of the historical urban fabric, insinuating a continuation of local craft traditions with modern materials. However, there are even more new constructions that are insensitive to local craftsmanship, leaving behind a mixture of different styles in some of the streets in the town centre, such as Złota Street, only 200 metres west of the main square. A general continuity of local craftsmanship on a big scale like in Kuldīga cannot be found, however, some of the newer constructions might be the most comparable examples outside of Kuldīga with regard to the continuity of a specific architectural style in later periods.*





**Figures 91 and 92.** Local craftsmanship in Chełmno.

(Picture taken at Grudziadzka and Rybacka streets by Mariusz Balcerek)

The town of Chełmno does not seem to have developed a specific craft tradition that could be identified in buildings constructed at different times in history. The building style as well as the local craftsmanship commonly reflect the construction time of each building, without integrating specific elements that could be considered a typical local tradition present in buildings from different times. This reflects, for example, in the art nouveau ornamentation found in some of the buildings from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A few buildings have carved wooden doors with transom windows similar to Kuldiga, however, they are comparatively rare. With regard to new constructions, they are not particularly sensitive to the surrounding architecture. The example from Rybacka street is only 140 metres away from the main square of Chełmno with its large townhouses and the Renaissance cathedral.





Kazimierz Dolny, Poland

**Figures 93, 94 and 95.** Local craftsmanship in Kazimierz Dolny.

(pictures taken at Senatorska and Nadwiślańska Streets by Artur Goszczyński)

At the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Armenian, Greek and Jewish merchants settled in Kazimierz Dolny and until today, the town is known as a centre for the arts and crafts. Like Kuldīga, the town's craft tradition has been shaped by international influences. Yet, as both towns experienced different international influences, they follow different craft traditions and the elements of local craftsmanship in Kazimierz Dolny cannot be compared in style to the ones in Kuldīga. The example of a new building at Nadwiślańska Street (centre and right image) furthermore shows that new constructions in Kazimierz Dolny are not sensitive to local craftsmanship. They cannot compare to the careful considerations taken to integrate new building fabric into the historic environment, as done in Kuldīga.



**Figures 96 and 97.** Local craftsmanship in Reszel.

(pictures taken by Tomasz Wyżlic)

*While in the city centre constructions seem to work in accordance with the streetscape, in the outside areas the cohesive narrative is not followed. In the outside areas, although historical maps suggest there must have been edifications, we can find examples of Soviet-like housing buildings that contrast the old city centre in terms of architectural style. The buildings in the city centre do not usually have added decoration on doors and windows, and elements that define the architectural typology of buildings in Kuldīga can hardly be found. Local craftsmanship does not seem to be a defining element of Reszel, hence also missing from new constructions.*



**Figures 98 and 99.** Local craftsmanship in Trakai.  
(Pictures taken by Justina Jakštaite)

*The town was under Lithuanian and later Polish rule and is largely shaped by the existence of a big Karaïm community, which can also be seen in the existing wooden synagogue from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. None of the elements of local craftsmanship found in Kuldīga can be found in the buildings of Trakai. Instead, the town has its own elements of local craftsmanship. The decorative elements seen beneath the windboards of the wooden buildings show a Russian influence, which differs from the stylistic development found in Kuldīga. With regard to the continuity of local craftsmanship, the traditional houses are sometimes surrounded by new buildings that are insensitive to the traditional architecture and craftsmanship, showing less awareness for this aspect than in Kuldīga.*



Site	Continuity of landscape elements
<b>Kuldīga/ Goldingen in Courland</b>	<i>Kuldīga was founded next to the Ventas Rumba waterfall, in the south of Venta River. Alekšupīte is a second river playing a key role in the town development of Kuldīga. The water bodies as well as the green spaces correspond to those mentioned on the 1797 map, hence confirming a continuity of landscape elements and no human intervention with them. They continue to define the boundaries of the historical old town.</i>
<b>Viljandi, Estonia</b>	<i>The town of Viljandi was founded on a hill just above Viljandi Lake. The remains of the Order Castle are embedded in a park; the castle territory can be clearly distinguished by a ditch surrounding it. Through the continuity of these landscape elements, the historical boundaries of the town can still be perceived today.</i>
<b>Pärnu, Estonia</b>	<i>The setting of the old town of Pärnu is framed by Pärnu River to the north of the town and the Baltic Sea to the south. South of Louna Street there are several park territories that insinuate the historical boundaries of the old town and the castle at its centre.</i>
<b>Võru, Estonia</b>	<i>The town of Võru is defined by Tamula Lake to the south, Vanajõgi River to the west and Koreli oja River to the north, which mark the founding territory of the old town until today.</i>
<b>Tykocin, Poland</b>	<i>Tykocin was founded on the southern border of Narew River. No other landscape elements can be distinguished that would have defined the original setting of the old town.</i>
<b>Chełmno, Poland</b>	<i>Chełmno is delimited by Visla River to the north, Fryba River surrounding the town from the west to the south, and different green spaces to the East. The original setting of the old town is clearly visible in today's layout of the town.</i>
<b>Kazimierz Dolny, Poland</b>	<i>Kazimierz Dolny was founded on the bank of Visla River. The historic relation of the town and the river, as well as other landscape elements, has been preserved.</i>
<b>Reszel, Poland</b>	<i>The town is delimited by Sajna River to its eastern and western side and green spaces give further continuation to the original boundaries of the town. The mill pond to the east of the town does no longer exist.</i>
<b>Trakai, Lithuania</b>	<i>The town of Trakai was founded in 1337 in a distinctive location on the Lake Galve. The two castles, as well as the entire town that developed around them, are surrounded by water. This location makes for a high continuity of landscape elements.</i>

## Summary

We consider that spending additional time on the in-situ research regarding the expansion of the Comparative Analysis as proposed by ICOMOS as well as obtaining and analysing the relevant historical maps provided us with valuable additional insights into comparable sites in the wider geo-political region that further strengthen the heritage value of Kuldīga. We are pleased to report that the expansion of our research did not generate outcomes substantially different from those in October and that we did not have to make major adjustments to our conclusions. The following text is hence largely similar to earlier versions of this Comparative Analysis, with some minor adjustments and additional details added, wherever considered relevant.

It could be shown that while there are several historical urban centres that developed in the region in a similar timeframe, and hence compare in the context of the regional-chronological framework, none presents a comparable combination of the identified types of attributes. Based on a thematical comparison, Viljandi (Estonia), Trakai (Lithuania) and Kazimierz Dolny (Poland) somewhat resemble Kuldīga regarding their engagement in international trade and their regional importance. When considering the typological framework, none of the discussed towns entirely compares to Kuldīga, as they either lack authenticity or integrity, or do not show the same level of integration of internationally inspired elements into local architectural traditions.

Site	Chronological-regional framework	Thematical framework		Typological framework
	16-18th century	Town of regional importance	Trading hub	Architecture
Kuldīga/ Goldingen in Courland				
Viljandi, Estonia				
Pärnu, Estonia				
Võru, Estonia				
Tykocin, Poland				
Chełmno, Poland				
Kazimierz Dolny, Poland				
Reszel, Poland				
Trakai, Lithuania				

In the combination of all attributes, Viljandi, Estonia, is the best comparable town outside of the former territory of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. Similar to Kuldīga, Viljandi shows continuity of the urban layout as well as landscape elements that preserve the historical setting of the town centre that developed in the relevant period. The streetscape is homogenous and can be considered authentic regarding the preserved historical urban fabric. The architectural style found in Viljandi shows similar influences of international encounters that are expressed especially in the combination of materials. However, it showed that most craft elements that are typical for the architecture of Kuldīga lack from the buildings in Viljandi, showing a different development of local craftsmanship. Newer buildings are not built in consideration of local craft traditions as carefully as it is the case for Kuldīga. While Viljandi is comparable to Kuldīga regarding the chronological-regional as well as the thematical framework, a typological comparison shows different stages of development. Viljandi cannot express the development and continuity of crafts inspired by international encounters that we see in Kuldīga. The differences regarding local craftsmanship and the lack of architectural elements typical for the style that developed in Courland, limit the level to which the towns can be compared in context of the Outstanding Universal Value proposed in the nomination dossier.

For Pärnu, Estonia, the historical landscape setting and the urban layout of its centre can still be perceived today. Both towns were shaped by international encounters with members of the Hanseatic league. The integration of these elements into vernacular architecture, and especially their continuation in the construction of new buildings nowadays, is, however, significantly stronger in Kuldīga than it is in Pärnu. The biggest difference must be noted in the context of the streetscape of the towns, as that of Pärnu is largely heterogeneous, as the city was severely destroyed during World War II. Albeit existing similarities regarding the architectural typology, the destructions from 1944 largely affect the integrity of the old town. Given the outstanding

levels of authenticity and integrity seen in Kuldīga and the severe destruction of Pärnu, Pärnu cannot compare to Kuldīga, even though it might be considered the town that comes closest to Kuldīga regarding its architectural style influenced by the Hanseatic League.

The town of Võru, Estonia, was founded at the end of the 18th century. The historical map of the town as well as the continuity of landscape elements suggest the continuity of the urban layout designed in the 1780s within the boundaries defined by the landscape elements. The historic streetscape shaped by wooden buildings has been largely interrupted by buildings of later times, such as prefabricated building blocks from the Soviet period, that interfere with the authenticity of the town. Despite sharing the common trait of having preserved 18th century wooden buildings, typologically, the houses differ, and elements of the craftsmanship found in Kuldīga cannot be found here. The authenticity and integrity of the site have to be considered problematic and hence the site cannot compare with Kuldīga's ability to authentically represent an urban centre of the 17th and 18th centuries.

With Latvia's northern neighbour providing the most similar examples, there are also some similarities that can be found in towns of Poland. The small town of Tykocin, which was a county seat in the 16th to 18th century, on the first impression seems very similar to Kuldīga, especially regarding its architectural typology, which combines buildings of different materials and shows similar elements as Kuldīga, such as clay tiles and wooden shutters, that are often also integrated in new constructions. Nevertheless, the streetscape lacks the urban character of a trading hub of the 17th century, and due to the smaller size of the town certain elements characteristic for the architectural style that developed at the time in Kuldīga, such as gable windows, are not present in the streetscape.

For Chełmno, Poland, the urban layout has been largely preserved. The preserved city wall served as a barrier for further development inside the old town so that urban development of later periods occurred in the surrounding areas. Despite its relatively high comparativeness regarding the continuation of the urban layout, the architectural typology shows a later development than Kuldīga, with a strong focus on multi-storey masonry buildings of the 19th and 20th centuries and only few examples of wooden structures from earlier times. As a result of several wars that affected the town in the 17th century, it cannot communicate the town's development of the 17th and 18th centuries and hence does not compare to Kuldīga. There is no local crafts tradition evident in buildings of different building periods and new constructions follow the style of each respective era.

The town of Kazimierz Dolny has strong thematic similarities to Kuldīga as a trading hub of the 17th century. The urban layout of the time has been conserved in its main street Senatorska and the preserved Renaissance buildings suggest the same for the central square of the town. Typologically, Kazimierz Dolny was influenced by different international encounters than Kuldīga, showing Italian influences, among others. The streetscape however presents a large mixture of different architectural styles and construction periods. New buildings are built irrespective of their concordance with the historical urban fabric. Only the landscape elements show continuity. Kazimierz Dolny cannot compare to Kuldīga.

Reszel was widely known as a crafts centre in the 16th century, especially regarding goldsmithing and carpentry. Due to a big fire at the beginning of the 19th century, the city was however widely destroyed and the influence that the local craftsmanship might have had on the development of the architecture at the time is difficult to judge. It can no longer testify to the timeframe in question and does not compare to Kuldīga regarding authenticity and integrity of historical urban fabric from the 17th and 18th centuries. Only with regard to the continuation of the urban layout, both towns are comparable.



Finally, the Lithuanian town of Trakai was also compared more closely. It shows similarities regarding its historical importance as a regional centre of one of the two parts of the Duchy of Lithuania in the 14th and 15th century, hence pre-dating the timeframe of Kuldīga. It shows continuity regarding its urban layout and has large areas of a homogeneous streetscape consisting of traditional architecture. Due to its unique location on several islands on Lake Galve, the landscape elements have been preserved. A comparison of architectural typology however proved that the architecture greatly differs from the style seen in Kuldīga, as it is closer to vernacular architecture and less influenced by international encounters. The same applies for local craftsmanship. The evident differences regarding the architectural typology make the site not comparable with Kuldīga in the context of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

In conclusion, the expansion of the Comparative Analysis, as suggested by ICOMOS, reinforced the exceptionality of Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland as a representation not only of an urban centre of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia but also as a unique testimony to urban development of the 16th to 18th century in North-Eastern Europe as a whole. Its high levels of authenticity and integrity, the homogenic streetscape, and the continuity of local craftsmanship that developed during the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia cannot be matched by any other town in the relevant geo-cultural area.

Site	Urban layout	Streetscape	Architectural typologies and styles	Local craftsmanship inspired by international exchanges during the duration of the Duchy	Continuity of landscape elements
Kuldīga/ Goldingen in Courland					
Viljandi, Estonia					
Pärnu, Estonia					
Võru, Estonia					
Tykocin, Poland					
Chełmno, Poland					
Reszel, Poland					
Kazimierz Dolny, Poland					
Trakai, Lithuania					

### QUESTION AREA 3: Boundaries of the nominated property

*Based on the information received from the technical evaluation mission, the ICOMOS Panel noted that the ruins of the ducal castle/residence area are partly within the boundary of the nominated property and partly in the buffer zone. ICOMOS would be pleased if the State Party could give consideration to revise the boundary of the nominated property in order to include all the archaeological remains of the ducal residence. In addition, the ICOMOS Panel noted that the boundary related to the area of the river valley landscape could also be expanded to include a larger part of the scenery of the river and would be pleased if the State Party could consider this revision as well. It was also noted that the boundaries of the nominated property and the buffer zone do not exactly match those of the national designation of urban construction monument and its individual protection zone. Information included in the nomination dossier stated that “[d]uring the course of preparing the nomination file a draft amendment to the individual protection zone has been prepared, in order to align it with the boundaries of the nominated property and its buffer zone” (page 227). ICOMOS would appreciate if the State Party could consider the revision of the boundaries of the urban construction monument and its individual protection zone so that they coincide with the boundaries of the nominated property and its buffer zone to facilitate their management; and to address the concerns expressed above by ICOMOS, regarding the ducal residence area and the river valley landscape. Therefore, ICOMOS would appreciate it if the State Party could initiate the necessary process to take measures to address its concerns regarding the delimitation of the nominated property and the buffer zone and would appreciate receiving information on the progress made in this regard and timetable for its full implementation.*

#### Methodology

We acknowledge that ICOMOS had a series of questions with regard to the delimitation of the nominated property and its buffer zone, and that it suggests to revise parts of the proposed boundaries. In order to address the issues raised by ICOMOS we had a series of consultations with diverse specialists as well as the National Heritage Board of Latvia to assess to what extent the proposed changes are feasible. Ultimately, these discussions led to an adjustment of the boundaries which we are pleased to present in an updated map. In addition to the visual representation, we are furthermore submitting statements regarding the adopted changes to further elaborate on the outcomes of the discussions with regard to the following points mentioned by ICOMOS:

*3a) ICOMOS would be pleased if the State Party could give consideration to revise the boundary of the nominated property in order to include all the archaeological remains of the ducal residence;*

*3b) In addition, the ICOMOS Panel noted that the boundary related to the area of the river valley landscape could also be expanded to include a larger part of the scenery of the river and would be pleased if the State Party could consider this revision as well;*

*3c) It was also noted that the boundaries of the nominated property and the buffer zone do not exactly match those of the national designation of urban construction monument and its individual protection zone. ICOMOS would appreciate if the State Party could consider the revision of the boundaries of the urban construction monument and its individual protection zone so that they coincide with the boundaries of the nominated property and its buffer zone to facilitate their management;*

*3d) ICOMOS would appreciate it if the State Party could initiate the necessary process to take measures to address its concerns regarding the delimitation of the nominated property and the buffer zone and would appreciate receiving information on the progress made in this regard and timetable for its full implementation.*





## Response

*3a) ICOMOS would be pleased if the State Party could give consideration to revise the boundary of the nominated property in order to include all the archaeological remains of the ducal residence.*

Regarding the archaeological remains of the ducal residence, we were somewhat unsure what parts of the castle ICOMOS considered to be missing, as all known archaeological remains lie within the boundaries proposed in the nomination file. Nevertheless, ICOMOS' remark resulted in a reconsideration of the southern boundary in the area historically marked as the "Schloß Garten" (castle garden). As this area is still clearly demarked by waterbodies already mentioned in the 1797 map and some of the green spaces continue to exist, we considered this area to in fact strengthen the argument of continuity of the urban layout and the landscape in Kuldīga. In addition, this area is under national protection as it is part of the monument of archaeology "Old Town of Kuldīga" and it lies within the protection zone of the monument of archaeology "Kuldīga Medieval Castle", and hence could be relevant for future archaeological research in the context of its function during the time of the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. Based on these considerations, the boundaries were adjusted as can be seen under (1) on the attached map (Figure 100).

*3b) In addition, the ICOMOS Panel noted that the boundary related to the area of the river valley landscape could also be expanded to include a larger part of the scenery of the river and would be pleased if the State Party could consider this revision as well.*

We also discussed ICOMOS' remarks regarding the inclusion of a wider part of the riverscape, which we considered to be very valuable. As a result, we expanded the northern boundaries along Venta River in a way that includes the river and its banks up to the point where the river bends eastwards. In this way, when standing on the brick bridge that nowadays is the main access point to the nominated property, all of the visible river landscape now lies within the boundaries. This edition is marked on the map as (2).

*3c) It was also noted that the boundaries of the nominated property and the buffer zone do not exactly match those of the national designation of urban construction monument and its individual protection zone. ICOMOS would appreciate if the State Party could consider the revision of the boundaries of the urban construction monument and its individual protection zone so that they coincide with the boundaries of the nominated property and its buffer zone to facilitate their management*

Regarding the concordance of the national designation of the urban construction monument and its individual protection zone (IPZ) with the boundaries of the nominated property and its buffer zone, the site management of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* had extensive discussions with specialists of municipal and responsible national institutions to analyse in what way such an amendment would be both possible and wanted in order to protect the versatile culture heritage. As a result of these consultations, it was agreed upon that some editions are in fact relevant, which resulted in additional minor amendments to the original boundary proposal. As can be seen in the points marked as (3) and (4) in Figure 100, there were some areas off Ventspils Street in the north of the nominated property, where the delimitation of the nominated property and the urban construction monument differed by only a few square metres. To eliminate this discrepancy, the boundaries of the nominated property were enlarged to match the urban construction monument. In the area of the archaeological monument south of the castle territory (marked as (1)), the boundary was extended in a way that it includes not only the area by Rumbas Street that is part of the urban construction monument and that was originally

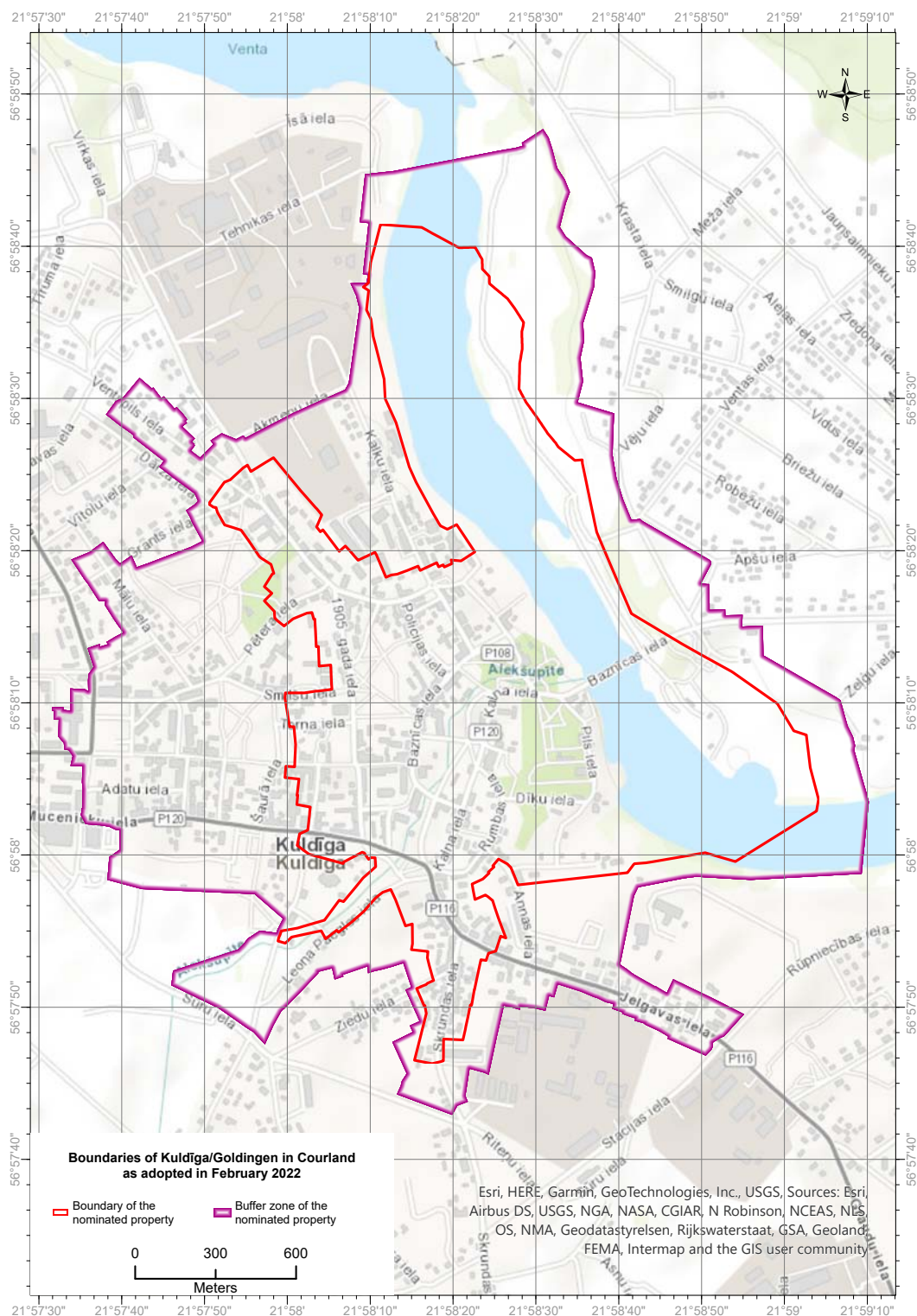
excluded from the nominated property, but it now further includes the territory of the archaeological monument until Mazā Annas Street, as described above. Despite the newly included area surpassing the territory that is nationally protected as an urban construction monument, this area falls under the national legislation that protects archaeological monuments, which corresponds to the value carried by this territory and therefore is not considered problematic.

While the intensive discussions resulted in the inclusion of the above-mentioned territories, it was decided that the areas marked as (5), (6), and (7) are not to be included in the nominated property, despite them being protected as part of the urban construction monument. This decision is justified by the lack of attributes in the respective territories. An expansion of the boundaries of the nominated property would hence lead to the inclusion of urban fabric that is entirely unrelated to the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia. We understand that ICOMOS' proposal to align the nominated property with the urban construction monument aimed at the facilitation of site management. However, due to the lack of attributes in the described areas, different management responses are necessary for those areas in comparison to the nominated property. For this reason, an extension of the nominated property in the designated areas is not feasible. Simultaneously, it is considered equally unfeasible to reduce the size of the urban construction monument to match the nominated property, as the areas discussed nevertheless carry value regarding the depiction of different building phases in Kuldīga. The urban construction monument and the nominated property conserve different values, so that a differentiation between the two is to be seen as a strength rather than a weakness of the strategic site management. The National Heritage Board supports the common framework of this decision and confirms that it is not intended nor considered necessary to merge both heritage designations.

Regarding the buffer zone of the nominated property and the individual protection zone of the urban construction monument, a process of alignment was started in the second half of 2021 and the decision to merge them has been officially confirmed in February 2022. In practice, this means that the individual protection zone was changed to match the buffer zone of the nominated property. As can be seen in Figure 101, the individual protection zone was reduced in sections (a), (b) and (c).



**Figure 101.** Revision of the individual protection zone of the urban construction monument.



**Figure 102.** Boundaries of Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland as adopted in February 2022.



*3d) ICOMOS would appreciate it if the State Party could initiate the necessary process to take measures to address its concerns regarding the delimitation of the nominated property and the buffer zone and would appreciate receiving information on the progress made in this regard and timetable for its full implementation.*

In order to ensure that the new individual protection zone of the urban construction monument “The Historical Centre of the Town of Kuldīga” which corresponds to the existing buffer zone of the nominated property is uniform and protected on the national level, the necessary decisions have been taken on both local government and national level.

Within the framework of elaboration of the “Local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley that amends the spatial plan”, Kuldīga Municipality has approved and publicly discussed the initiative to inscribe the area of the individual protection zone of the urban construction monument “The Historical Centre of the Town of Kuldīga” (at the same time – buffer zone of the nominated property) on the list of state protected cultural monuments as an urban construction monument of local importance.

Successively, the National Heritage Board on February 9, 2022 has taken a decision that approves inscription of the urban construction (architecture) monument “The Outskirts of the Historical Centre of Kuldīga with Venta Valley” on the list of state protected cultural monuments as an urban construction monument of local importance. The Minister of Culture Mr. Nauris Puntulis, in his turn, has signed the order for approval of this monument in February 24, 2022. It will enter into force after publication in the official gazette “Latvijas Vēstnesis”. A copy of the Order of the Minister of Culture as well as its English translation has been added to this response.

## QUESTION AREA 4: Management Plan

*It is noted that the management plan included in the nomination dossier is still a draft. ICOMOS would appreciate an update regarding the current status of this plan and would be grateful if its final version could be included as part of the response to this interim report. In addition, ICOMOS would also like to know how the management plan will be integrated or will relate to the local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley that is also being developed. ICOMOS would likewise appreciate receiving information about this local plan.*

### Methodology

We understand that ICOMOS wishes to learn more about the current status of the Management plan of the nominated property and relation of this document with the “Local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley that amends the spatial plan”. Our response will be split into three parts, according to the questions raised by ICOMOS. For an easier understanding, we first describe the two documents and then address their interconnection:

4a) *ICOMOS would appreciate an update regarding the current status of this plan [the Management plan];*

4b) *ICOMOS would likewise appreciate receiving information about this local plan.*

4c) *ICOMOS would also like to know how the management plan will be integrated or will relate to the local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley.*

### Response

4a) *ICOMOS would appreciate an update regarding the current status of this plan [the Management plan]*

In 2021, Kuldīga Municipality team continued working on two important strategic documents that are aimed to protect the Outstanding Universal Value that forms the basis of the World Heritage nomination *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* – the Management plan of the nominated property and the “Local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley that amends the spatial plan”.

The Management plan is an important tool that will help the Site Management team of the nominated property to ensure harmonious coexistence of protection of the values, accessibility of the nominated property to visitors and sustainable development of the local community.

Taking into consideration the commitments that Kuldīga Municipality had undertaken in the process of elaboration of the nomination application, as well as the highly appreciated response from ICOMOS both during the technical evaluation mission to *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* was carried out by Ms. Kirsti Kovanen (Finland) from 18 to 22 August 2021, and during the meeting at the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel with the Latvian State Party, the updated and final version of the Management plan includes two important additional annexes that deal with tourist flow management in Kuldīga old town (Annex 2) and a comprehensive and detailed risk management plan (Annex 3).

The final version of the Management plan with 3 annexes as described above has been approved by a decision of Kuldīga Municipal Council on January 27, 2022. A copy of the decision (excerpt from the Minutes of the Meeting of Kuldīga Municipal Council) and the English translation of the document have been annexed to this response.

Annex 2 of the Management plan of the nominated property “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan” has been elaborated by a team of tourism management specialists with

international experience lead by Dr. geogr., leading researcher and associated professor of Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences. The document thematically emphasizes issues of tourism flow management, preventively planning to reduce the negative impact of tourism and the risks that could be caused by a spontaneous large flow of visitors.

While the Management plan of the nominated property “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan” has been approved and is in force, it will be an integral part of the Kuldīga Municipality Sustainable Tourism Development Strategy for 2028 that, in its turn, is the thematic annex of the Sustainable Development Strategy of Kuldīga Municipality 2022-2046. Both strategic documents - Kuldīga Municipality Sustainable Tourism Development Strategy for 2028 and Sustainable Development Strategy of Kuldīga Municipality 2022-2046 – are in the elaboration process. First edition of both documents underwent the public consultation process in December, 2021. It is planned that both documents will be approved in May, 2022 by a decision of Kuldīga Municipal Council.

The actions and content of the “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan” are fully derived from the Kuldīga Municipality Sustainable Tourism Development Strategy for 2028, and the development goals and directions of the above-mentioned tourism strategy follow from the Sustainable Development Strategy of Kuldīga Municipality 2022-2046.

Annex 3 of the Management plan of the nominated property “Risk Management Plan” is described in greater detail in the response to Question 5.

*4b) ICOMOS would likewise appreciate receiving information about this local plan. ICOMOS would also like to know how the management plan will be integrated or will relate to the local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley.*

Preservation of the nominated property and its buffer zone is currently provided by an existing legal framework, the Spatial Plan of Kuldīga Municipality for 2013-2025, as explained in the nomination dossier. The document defines 10 historical protection zones and common conditions for management of the urban construction monument No. 7435 “The historical centre of the town of Kuldīga” that is listed among the state protected cultural monuments, the nominated property and its buffer zone that coincides with the individual protection zone of the urban construction monument.

The “Local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley that amends the spatial plan” is a document that will amend the conditions of the spatial plan within the boundaries of the nominated property, the urban construction monument “The historic centre of the town of Kuldīga” and the individual protection zone of the urban construction monument that coincides with the buffer zone of the nominated property.

The aim of the elaboration of the local plan is to review all existing conditions, including the rules for the use and building up of the site as well as functional zoning, and develop them in a balanced manner for the area of the nominated property, the urban construction monument and its individual protection zone, as well as paying additional attention to the preservation of the attributes that form the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland*.

There have already been two editions of the local plan, and the third version is currently being drafted. Each of the editions of the documents has undergone public consultation processes, giving everyone interested the opportunity to get acquainted with the elaborated document and express their views. Each edition of the local plan has been sent for evaluation and comments to various state institutions involved, such as the National Heritage



Board and the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO and others. The local architects, who are experts and have broad knowledge about the area, have been deeply involved in the elaboration of the local plan.

The spatial plan and the local plan are municipal level planning documents that set regulations for construction, but, as already explained in the nomination dossier, the nominated property and its Outstanding Universal Value have national cultural heritage protection status. In order to strengthen heritage protection on the national level, during the elaboration process of the local plan the involved specialists of both local and national institutions came to a conclusion that the individual protection zone of the urban construction monument No. 7435 “The historic centre of the town of Kuldīga” that coincides with the buffer zone of the nominated property should have national cultural heritage status of its own.

On February 24, 2022 the Ministry of Culture has issued an order that approves the status of the urban construction monument No. 9320 “The Outskirts of the Historical Centre of Kuldīga with Venta Valley” as a monument of architecture (urban construction) of local importance in the list of state protected culture monuments. Thus it has gained national cultural heritage protection status.

All the proposals received have been examined by the working group of specialists and by the involved institutions. Decisions will be made about incorporation or non-integration of the proposals and the follow-up process. If the third edition was the final version, it could provisionally enter into force at the end of 2022 or early 2023. In addition, attention is drawn to the fact that, until the local plan has been ultimately approved, the present set of conditions defined in the spatial plan stays in force and hence guarantees preservation of heritage and the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, at a very strict and responsible level, as has been done so far.

In comparison to the spatial plan, the conditions under the local plan remain to a large extent the same in both functional use and strict building regulations, which set out in detail the preservation and continuation of the built heritage. The content and formalities of both existing and future regulations correspond to those adopted at national level by the National Heritage Board and superior local and national planning documents and regulations. The existing framework and its succession in the local plan serves and will serve as an important instrument for protecting, maintaining and controlling the development initiatives in the old town of Kuldīga and its adjacent area.

*4c) ICOMOS would also like to know how the management plan will be integrated or will relate to the local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley.*

Both documents – the Management plan of the nominated property and the “Local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Valley that amends the spatial plan” – have been elaborated in close connection with each other, since both of them aim at protection and preservation of the values that form the Outstanding Universal Value of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland*.

The local plan is being developed in the overall context of the Management plan of the nominated property: the vision, objectives and actions of the Management plan are directly linked to the management and conservation of the territories and in particular the attributes of the nominated property.

The existence of the local plan reflects the high understanding of the values of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* and the public, professional and political commitment to preserve it.

The local plan is an instrument for achievement of the strategic objective “CONSERVATION & MAINTENANCE” defined in the Management plan of the nominated property. The document includes conditions that are related to the activities included in the Management plan, for example, in order to prevent construction of big shopping centres, to facilitate pedestrian priority, and to improve the condition of the degraded territories and sites.

Also the local plan deals with activities under the strategic objective “INVOLVEMENT”. It aims to facilitate cooperation and dialogue of the municipality with architects and construction experts practicing in the old town of Kuldīga, to organise discussions with different inhabitant groups on heritage issues, and similar activities.

The local plan is a tool which, together with other management and monitoring activities, helps to manage the risks assessed and to prevent hazards to the potential World Heritage site.

## QUESTION AREA 5: Risk management

*The nomination dossier includes several references to multiple fires throughout the 16th and 17th centuries, which destroyed significant numbers of the town's wooden buildings. A number of references to past floods are also included in the dossier. ICOMOS notes that fires and floods continue to be among the main factors affecting the nominated property today; therefore, it considers that further consideration on how to integrate risk management within the overall management system is needed. ICOMOS would welcome detailed information on the measures being taken in this regard, and would like to know, in particular, if such measures take climate change into consideration.*

### Response

We note that ICOMOS considers fires and floods, and especially their potential increase with regard to climate change, to be among the main factors affecting the property at present. We want to express our gratitude towards ICOMOS for calling attention to the necessity to further elaborate on the risk management strategies of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* in general, and on the strategies regarding fire and floods in particular. Preparing the available information to answer ICOMOS request gave us the opportunity to critically assess the already existing strategies and to further improve them, wherever necessary.

The general disaster risk management (DRM) of Kuldīga falls under the Civil Protection Plan of the Kuldīga Municipality in its version from 2022. This plan includes a detailed risk analysis as well as response strategies for all risks considered possible not only for the city of Kuldīga, but for the entire municipality. It clearly indicates responsibilities and gives information regarding the likeliness of different hazards. The plan is revised every four years and is an integral part of the legally required national security system consisting of actors of local and national institutions as well as other stakeholders of emergency services. Among its objectives are the maintenance of the safety of the population, capacity building in the field of DRM, as well as risk prevention, disaster response, and post-disaster recovery. While the Civil Protection Plan evaluates all possible disasters for the entire region (including less likely events such as earthquakes and terrorism), the Disaster Response Plan of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* functions as an addition to the overall emergency response procedures. The plan is valid specifically for the territory of the nominated property and adapts and deepens the overall DRM strategies regarding the protection of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

In response to the present question, we are pleased to submit the risk management plan, which is annexed (Annex 3) to the Management Plan of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland* for detailed accounts regarding the general measures taken with regard to factors affecting the property, their impact upon the site's attributes and the current risk response mechanisms. The specific measures taken with regard to fire, floods and climate change are integrated in this plan.



## QUESTION AREA 6: **Visitor management**

*The ICOMOS Panel noted that visitor numbers have grown considerably over the years and that accommodations available on site include mainly apartments and holiday homes. If the nominated property was to be inscribed on the World Heritage List, it could potentially lead to an increase in the number of visitors and result in more residential buildings used as touristic accommodations. The ICOMOS Panel considered that this is a matter of concern, since the nomination dossier mentions statistics that indicate a gradual decrease in the number of inhabitants in Kuldīga. (page 215). Therefore, ICOMOS would appreciate if the State Party could provide information on measures undertaken to respond to these issues and on visitor management in general.*

### **Response**

We note that ICOMOS considers increase in the number of visitors and the possibility of more residential buildings being used as touristic accommodation among the factors that might affect the nominated property in the future. We would like to express our thankfulness to ICOMOS for addressing these issues that are important for protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, at the same time providing harmonious balance between serving tourists, managing their stay in Kuldīga and the interests of the local community that need to be taken into careful consideration.

As mentioned previously in response to Question 4, Kuldīga Municipality has attracted a team of tourism management specialists with international experience lead by Dr. geogr., leading researcher and associated professor of Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, that elaborated “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan“, which is annexed to the Management Plan of the nominated property. The “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan“ is part of the strategic document “Kuldīga Municipality Sustainable Tourism Development Strategy for 2028” that is being elaborated and is planned to be approved in May, 2022. When developing the documents, recommendations from the UNESCO World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Guidelines and the guidelines of the EUROPARC Charter for Sustainable Tourism have been taken into account.

The “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan“ in detail addresses the issues of the capacity of Kuldīga old town in the context of tourism flow and guest accommodation in Kuldīga old town. Evaluation of the present situation and issues to be solved are followed by definite actions that are to be implemented in order to provide sustainable management of tourist traffic in Kuldīga, sustainable development of the tourist accommodation sector in Kuldīga and sustainable visitor flow management in Kuldīga. In response to the present question, we are pleased to submit the “Kuldīga Old Town Visitor Flow Management Plan“, which is annexed (Annex 2) to the Management Plan of *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland*.

## QUESTION AREA 7: Watch tower

*The ICOMOS Panel discussed the possible construction of the new watch tower, and if it could have potential visual impacts on the townscape of Kuldīga. Therefore, ICOMOS would like to know if a Heritage Impact Assessment was undertaken or is planned to be.*

### Response

We are grateful for the serious consideration ICOMOS has given to the issue of the possible construction of a new watch tower and are happy to provide information about this issue.

The potential location of the watch tower is within both the buffer zone of the nominated property and the nature reserve “Venta Valley”. The nature reserve was established in 1957 and has been included in the list of specially protected nature sites of European interest, NATURA 2000 sites, since 2004.

Kuldīga Municipality started working on the project of the watch tower in 2002 and finalized the construction of a tower on the left bank of Venta River in 2006. The initial watch tower was constructed with co-financing of the EU for ecotourism infrastructure development, and it received the annual Architecture Award in Latvia in 2007. In 2015, the initial tower was dismantled due to its bad technical condition.

Taking into consideration the popularity of the watch tower that has been expressed in several surveys of the local community and tourists, and in order to organise visitor flow for viewing the scenery and diminish anthropogenic pressure to the neighbouring areas, including sensitive biotopes, as well as give visitors an opportunity to have a look at the nominated property from a different view perspective, the municipality currently has an initiative to construct a new watch tower using more durable but environmentally friendly materials (metal, wood) in the same location of the previous tower.



**Figure 103.** Visualisation of the potential watch tower – view from the parking place. Please note that the visualization, so that you can better see the image of the tower, does not include the existing surrounding plants and large trees that would not really allow such a view because they would cover it at human height. Visualisation by authors of the project – company Arhitektu birojs “MAAJA”

The construction plan was assessed and approved in accordance with the procedures laid down in the legislation, in addition to assessing the impact on the landscape and the environment, including the urban construction monument and its individual protection zone, as well as the area of NATURA2000. The assessment did not directly apply the ICOMOS guidelines, due to the fact that it is not included in the World Heritage list, but it included impact assessment regarding:

- a panorama of the old town from various viewpoints, mainly from the old town, the old brick bridge and Mārtiņšala island;
- functional opportunities for decentralisation of tourism;
- reduction of the anthropogenic pressure of the nature area;
- involvement of the population and the desire for such a watch tower;
- existing remaining infrastructure for the former location of the tower: access routes for transport and pedestrians, communications, toilets and parking areas;
- visual and design solutions of the tower which were significantly improved and sensitively integrated into the surrounding landscape during the elaboration process.



**Figure 104.** Panorama analysis. View from the middle of the old brick bridge to north to the possible watch tower and town. Visualisation by authors of the project – company Arhitektu birojs “MAAJA”



**Figure 105.** Panorama analysis. View from the left bank of Venta River to Pārventa Park and watch tower. Visualisation by authors of the project – company Arhitektu birojs “MAAJA”

The potential visual impact of the new watch tower was thoroughly analysed in discussions of the Old Town Environment Commission of Kuldīga Municipal Council. Several architects practicing in the old town of Kuldīga as well as heritage specialists participated in the discussions and expressed their views on the project. The initial proposal of the architects that had elaborated the project was turned down as inappropriate, and the nature of the project was changed, so that it, with its form and finishing materials, would better fit into the landscape.



In 2017 the project was also publicly discussed as it foresaw cutting of several trees in the area next to the potential location of the watch tower where a scenic walking path has been established.

Apart from Kuldīga Municipality, the present solution of the visual integrity of the watch tower has been evaluated and accepted as visually suitable and harmless solution by several national institutions:

- National Heritage Board;
- State Environmental Service;
- Nature Conservation Agency.

Since the approval of the project by the municipality and the national institutions in 2017, the municipality has been trying to identify potential sources of financing, including EU funds, for implementation of the project.

By assessing the visual impact on the landscape, the nature of potential heritage site and the anthropogenic pressure, and in consultations with the responsible authorities, in order to diminish the visual impact on the scenery of the Venta Valley and there would be no construction and visual impact to the nominated property, a solution has been adopted to implement the watch tower project without the originally planned cableway across the Venta River and landing platform.

Taking into consideration the explanations in this document, we kindly ask for ICOMOS' recommendations regarding the impact assessment that has been previously carried out by the municipality. If ICOMOS experts consider that an additional impact assessment should be conducted, the municipality commits to perform Heritage Impact Assessment.



## KULDĪGAS NOVADA DOME

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KULDĪGAS NOVADA DOMES SĒDES  
PROTOKOLS

Kuldīgā

2022. gada 27. janvārī

Nr. 1

[..]

**56. Par UNESCO nominācijas “Kuldīga / Goldingena Kurzemē” pārvaldības plāna un tā pielikumu par risku un tūrisma vadību apstiprināšanu***Ziņo I. Bērziņa*

Kuldīgas novada Dome 2016. gada 28. aprīlī pieņēma lēmumu “Par UNESCO Pasaules mantojuma Latvijas nacionālajā sarakstā iekļautās nominācijas virzību uz Pasaules mantojuma sarakstu” (protokola Nr. 4, p. 8.).

Līdz 2021. gada 1. februārim Kuldīgas novada pašvaldība (turpmāk tekstā Pašvaldība) plānveidīgi gatavo Kuldīgas nominācijas failu UNESCO Pasaules mantojuma sarakstam.

2020. gada 25. martā Pašvaldība noslēdz līgumu ar SIA Metrum (Izpildītājs) – par Kuldīgas UNESCO nominācijas pārvaldības plāna sagatavošanu UNESCO pasaules mantojuma nominācijas pieteikuma sadaļai, atbilstoši darbības pamatnostādņēm Pasaules mantojuma konvencijas īstenošanai: <https://whc.unesco.org/document/178167>.

Nominācijas pārvaldības plāns (turpmāk tekstā – Pārvaldības plāns) saskaņā ar Attīstības plānošanas sistēmas likumu ir izstrādāts kā politikas plānošanas dokuments Pašvaldības noteiktajai nominācijas teritorijai un tās buferzonai, bet tā stratēģiskie mērķi un plānotās rīcības, kā arī pārvaldības, attīstības u.c. aspekti iziet ārpus definētās zonas un skar daudz plašākas nozīmes jomas un teritorijas.

Pamatojoties ar Attīstības plānošanas sistēmas likuma 11. panta piekto daļu ir izdoti Ministru kabineta 2009. gada 25. augusta noteikumi Nr. 970 „Sabiedrības līdzdalības kārtība attīstības plānošanas procesā” (turpmāk – Noteikumi Nr. 970). Noteikumi nosaka sabiedrības līdzdalības kārtību Saeimas, Ministru kabineta, tiešās valsts pārvaldes iestāžu, valsts pārvaldes iestāžu, kas nav padotas Ministru kabinetam, plānošanas reģionu un pašvaldību attīstības plānošanas procesā. Kuldīgas UNESCO Nominācijas Pārvaldības plāna publiskā apspriešana notika atbilstoši Noteikumu Nr. 970 prasībām no 2020. gada 6. novembra līdz 4. decembrim.

2021. gada janvārī Latvijas Kultūras ministrija UNESCO Pasaules mantojuma birojam iesniedza nomināciju “Kuldīga / Goldingena Kurzemē”. Iesniegtās nominācijas Pasaules mantojuma sarakstam izvērtē padomdevēj institūcija Starptautiskā ievērojamu vietu un pieminekļu padome (ICOMOS). Ņemot vērā ekspertu ieteikumus, lēmumus par vietu iekļaušanu Pasaules mantojuma sarakstā pieņem UNESCO Pasaules mantojuma komiteja. Kā noteikts Pasaules mantojuma konvencijas īstenošanas pamatnostādņēs, padomdevējām institūcijām ir lūgts iesniegt īsu starpposma ziņojumu par katru nomināciju līdz 2022. gada 31. janvārim.

2021. gada 20. decembrī ICOMOS nosūtīja vēstuli *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland (Latvia) – Starpziņojums un papildu informācijas pieprasījums* (Our Ref. GB/AS/EG/1658/IR), kurā lūdz Pašvaldību sniegt papildu informāciju par izvirzītā objekta UNESCO nominācijas “Kuldīga / Goldingena Kurzemē” pārvaldības plāna un tā pielikumu par risku vadību apstiprināšanu Kuldīgas pašvaldībā.

Ņemot vērā iepriekš minēto un pamatojoties uz Ministru kabineta 2009. gada 25. augusta noteikumiem Nr. 970 „Sabiedrības līdzdalības kārtība attīstības plānošanas

procesā”, likuma “Par pašvaldībām” 15. panta pirmās daļas 5. punktu un 21. panta pirmās daļas 23. punktu, atklāti balsojot ar 14 balsīm „par” (*A. Kimbors, A. Roberts, B. Freija, D. Kalniņa, A. Zankovskis, I. Astaševska, I. Bērziņa, K. Ansons, S. Vaivade, N. Kleinberga, R. Lapukis, R. Ernsons, R. Karloviča, L. Robežniece*), „pret” nav, „atturas” nav, Kuldīgas novada dome **nolemj:**

1. Apstiprināt UNESCO nominācijas “Kuldīga / Goldingena Kurzemē” pārvaldības plānu un tā pielikumus par risku un tūrisma vadību.
2. Uzdot Kuldīgas novada pašvaldības būvvaldei sagatavot atbildi uz vēstuli: “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland (Latvia) – Starpziņojums un papildu informācijas pieprasījums” (Our Ref. GB/AS/EG/1658/IR). Iesniegt ICOMOS līdz 2022. gada 28. februārim elektroniski, kā norādīts vēstulē (un nedēļas laikā papīra formātā, pa pastu). Vēstules kopiju nosūtīt: Latvijas Kultūras ministrijai, Latvijas Ārlietu ministrijai, Nacionālai kultūras mantojuma pārvaldei, UNESCO Latvija Nacionālai komisijai.

**Pielikumā:** UNESCO nominācijas “Kuldīga / Goldingena Kurzemē” pārvaldības plāns ar pielikumiem nominācijas pieteikuma sadaļai.

**Lēmums nosūtāms:** Kuldīgas novada būvvaldei.  
[..]

Sēdi vadīja

Kuldīgas novada domes priekšsēdētāja

(paraksts)

I. Bērziņa

Protokolēja

lietvede

(paraksts)

E. Nudiena

#### ***IZRAKSTS PAREIZS***

Kuldīgas novada pašvaldības

lietvede

(paraksts)\*

E. Nudiena

Kuldīgā, datums skatāms laika zīmogā

\* ŠIS DOKUMENTS IR PARAKSTĪTS AR DROŠU ELEKTRONISKO PARAKSTU UN SATUR LAIKA ZĪMOGU





## KULDĪGAS NOVADA DOME

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KULDĪGAS NOVADA DOMES SĒDES  
PROTOKOLS

Kuldīgā

2022. gada 27. janvārī  
[..]

Nr. 1

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KULDIGA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

January 27, 2022

No.1

**56. On approval of the Management Plan of the UNESCO nomination “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland” and its annex on risk and tourism management***Reported by I. Bērziņa*

On April 28, 2016, Kuldīga Municipal Council adopted a decision “On the Progress of the Nomination inscribed into the Latvian National List of UNESCO World Heritage to the World Heritage List” (Minutes No. 4, item 8).

Until 1 February 2021, Kuldīga Municipal Council (hereinafter referred to as the Municipality) shall systematically prepare the Kuldīga Nomination File for the UNESCO World Heritage List.

On March 25, 2020, the Municipality enters into an agreement with SIA Metrum (Executor) – on the preparation of the Kuldīga UNESCO Nomination Management Plan for the UNESCO World Heritage Nomination Application Section, in accordance with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention: <https://whc.unesco.org/document/178167>.

The Nomination Management Plan (hereinafter – the Management Plan) has been developed in accordance with the Development Planning System Law as its policy planning documents for the nomination area and buffer zone determined by the Municipality, but its strategic objectives and planning actions, as well as management, development, etc. aspects affect much wider areas and territories.

Based on Section 11, Paragraph five of the Development Planning System Law, Cabinet Regulation No. 970 of 25 August 2009 “Procedures for Public Participation in the Development Planning Process” (hereinafter – Regulation No. 970) has been issued. The Regulations prescribe the procedure for public participation in the development planning process of the Saeima (the Parliament), the Cabinet of Ministers, direct public administration institutions, public administration institutions that are not subordinated to the Cabinet of Ministers, planning regions and local authorities. The public discussion of the Kuldīga UNESCO Nomination Management Plan took place in accordance with the requirements of Regulation No. 970 from November 6 to December 4, 2020.

In January 2021, the Latvian Ministry of Culture submitted a nomination “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland” to the UNESCO World Heritage Office. The nominations for the World Heritage List are evaluated by the advisory body International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). Decisions on the inscription of sites into the World Heritage List are made by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, taking into account expert advice. As set out in the Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, advisory bodies are requested to submit a short interim report on each nomination by 31 January 2022.

On 20 December 2021, ICOMOS sent a letter to *Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland (Latvia) – Interim Report and Request for Additional Information* (Our Ref. GB / AS / EG / 1658 / IR) requesting the Municipality to provide additional information on the nomination of the proposed site “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland” Management Plan and its annex on risk management in Kuldīga municipality.

Taking into account the above and on the basis of Cabinet Regulation No. 970 of 25 August 2009 “Procedures for Public Participation in the Development Planning Process”, Section 15, Paragraph one, Clause 5 and Section 21, Paragraph one, Clause 23 of the Law “On Local Governments”, by open voting with 14 votes “for” (*A. Kimbors, A. Roberts, B. Freija, D. Kalniņa, A. Zankovskis, I. Astaševska, I. Bērziņa, K. Ansone, S. Vaivade, N. Kleinberga, R. Lapukis, R. Ernsons, R. Karloviča, L. Robežniece*), “against” no, “no abstentions”, Kuldīga Municipal Council **decides**:

1. To approve the Management Plan of the UNESCO nomination “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland” and its annexes on risk and tourism management.
2. To instruct the Kuldīga Municipality Building Authority to prepare a reply to the letter: “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland (Latvia) – Interim report and request for additional information” (Our Ref. GB / AS / EG / 1658 / IR). Submit to ICOMOS by 28 February 2022 electronically as indicated in the letter (and within one week on paper, by post). Send a copy of the letter to: the Ministry of Culture of Latvia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, the National Cultural Heritage Board, the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO.

**In the Annex:** Management plan for the UNESCO nomination “Kuldīga / Goldingen in Courland” with annexes to the nomination application section.

**The decision shall be sent:** Kuldīga Building Authority.  
[..]

The meeting was chaired by  
Mayor of Kuldīga Municipal Council

(signature)

I. Bērziņa

Minutes by  
Clerk

(signature)

E. Nudiena

***COPY CORRECT***

Kuldīga Municipal Council

Clerk

(signature)\*

E. Nudiena

Kuldīga, the date is stamped

\* THIS DOCUMENT IS SIGNED WITH A SECURE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE AND CONTAINS A  
TIME STAMP



Kultūras ministrija

K. Valdemāra iela 11a, Rīga, LV - 1364, tālr. 67330200, fakss 67330293, e-pasts [pasts@km.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@km.gov.lv), [www.km.gov.lv](http://www.km.gov.lv)

## RĪKOJUMS

Rīgā

24.02.2022.

Nr.2.5-1-30

Izdots saskaņā ar Ministru kabineta  
2003.gada 29.aprīļa noteikumu Nr.241  
„Kultūras ministrijas nolikums”  
9.11.punktu

### **Grozījums Kultūras ministrijas 1998.gada 29.oktobra rīkojumā Nr.128 “Par Valsts aizsargājamo kultūras pieminekļu sarakstu”**

Pamatojoties uz likuma “Par kultūras pieminekļu aizsardzību” (turpmāk – Likums) 14.panta devīto daļu un izvērtējot Nacionālās kultūras mantojuma pārvaldes (turpmāk – Pārvaldes) iesniegto Valsts aizsargājamo kultūras pieminekļu saraksta (turpmāk – Pieminekļu saraksts) grozījumu projektu, Kultūras ministrija ir konstatējusi:

1. Pārvalde ir iesniegusi Kultūras ministrijā rīkojuma projektu par Kuldīgas vēsturiskā centra nomales ar Ventas senleju (turpmāk – Objekts) iekļaušanu Pieminekļu sarakstā.

2. Saskaņā ar Likuma 1. un 2.pantu un 14.panta sesto daļu izvērtēta Objekta atbilstība kultūras pieminekļa statusam un pieņemts lēmums (Pārvaldes Kultūras pieminekļu uzskaites komisijas 2022.gada 9.februāra sēde Nr.04–6.6/2 1.§) rosināt iekļaut Objektu Pieminekļu sarakstā kā vietējās nozīmes arhitektūras (pilsētbūvniecības) pieminekli. Atbilstoši Ministru kabineta 2021.gada 26.oktobra noteikumu Nr.720 “Kultūras pieminekļu uzskaites, aizsardzības, izmantošanas un restaurācijas noteikumi” (turpmāk – Noteikumi Nr.720) 14.punktā noteiktajam, Kuldīgas novada pašvaldība ir saskaņojusi ierosinājumu piešķirt Objektam vietējās nozīmes arhitektūras (pilsētbūvniecības) pieminekļa statusu. Ierosinājumam Objektam piešķirt vietējās nozīmes arhitektūras (pilsētbūvniecības) pieminekļa statusu ir veikta publiskā apspriešana – no 2021.gada 19.aprīļa līdz 2021.gada 16.maijam un no 2021.gada 15.jūlija līdz 2021.gada 11.augustam projekta ““Lokālpilnvarojums Kuldīgas vecpilsētai Ventas



aizsargjoslas (aizsardzības zonas) grozījumu ar priekšlikumiem uzturēšanas nosacījumiem” ietvaros.

3. Saskaņā ar Likuma 1.pantu kultūras pieminekļi ir kultūrvēsturiskā mantojuma daļa – kultūrvēsturiskas ainavas un atsevišķas teritorijas, kā arī atsevišķi kapi, ēku grupas un atsevišķas ēkas, mākslas darbi, iekārtas un priekšmeti, kuriem ir vēsturiska, zinātniska, mākslinieciska vai citāda kultūras vērtība un kuru saglabāšana nākamajām paaudzēm atbilst Latvijas valsts un tautas, kā arī starptautiskajām interesēm. Atbilstoši Likuma 2.pantam nekustami kultūras pieminekļi – kompleksi objekti – ir arheoloģiskās senvietas, arhitektūras ansamblī un kompleksi, pilsētu un citu apdzīvoto vietu vēsturiskie centri, ielas, laukumi, kvartāli, kultūrslānis, kapsētas, kultūrvēsturiskas ainavas, piemiņas vietas, vēsturiskas vietas un teritorijas. Likuma 14.panta sestā daļa nosaka, ka Pieminekļu sarakstā kā vietējās nozīmes kultūras pieminekli var iekļaut objektus ar zinātnisku, kultūrvēsturisku vai izglītojošu nozīmi, kas raksturīga konkrētas pašvaldības teritorijā.

4. Objekts ir kombinēta cilvēka un dabas veidota Kurzemes mazpilsētām raksturīga pilsētvide un ainava ar neregulāru ielu tīklu, mazstāvu apbūvi, raksturīgu pagalmu telpu un skatu perspektīvām, kas atbilst Likuma 1., 2. un 14.pantam un Noteikumu Nr.720 2., 3. un 4.punktam.

Objekta saglabājamās vērtības: pilsētas plānojuma struktūra, apbūves principu sistēma; pilsētas telpiskais risinājums ainavā, reljefs, panorāma, siluets, skatu perspektīvas, ielu un jumtu ainava; vēsturiskā apbūve, atsevišķas unikālas celtnes, apbūves atsevišķi elementi; vēsturiskie industriālie objekti un inženierbūves, kas piešķir pilsētai vai tās daļai savu raksturīgo seju; pilsētai raksturīgo tradicionālo materiālu lietojums, kolorīts, būvformas un paņēmieni; apzaļumojuma sistēma, zaļās zonas, parki, skvēri, stādījumi; vēsturiskās ūdenstilpnes un krastmalas; kvartālu iekštelpa, vēsturisko ēku pagalmi.

5. Pamatojoties uz Likuma” 14.panta devīto daļu, kā arī uz iepriekš konstatēto, Kultūras ministrija NOLEMJ:

**izdarīt ar Kultūras ministrijas 1998.gada 29.oktobra rīkojuma Nr.128 “Par valsts aizsargājamo kultūras pieminekļu sarakstu” 2.punktu apstiprinātajā Valsts aizsargājamo kultūras pieminekļu sarakstā grozījumu un iekļaut Valsts aizsargājamo kultūras pieminekļu sarakstā šādu objektu:**

9320	Vietējās nozīmes	Arhitektūra (pilsēt būvniecība)	Kuldīgas vēsturiskā centra nomale ar Ventas senleju	Kuldīgas novads, Kuldīga; Kuldīgas pilsētas vēsturiskajam centram piegulošā	17.gs.– 20.gs. 30.gadi
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6. Objekta teritorijas kartogrāfiskais materiāls ir šā rīkojuma pielikums.

7. Atbilstoši Likuma 23.panta pirmajai daļai Objekta individuālā aizsardzības zona noteikta "0".

8. Lēmuma pamatojums: likuma "Par kultūras pieminekļu aizsardzību" 1., 2. un 14.pants, 23.panta pirmā daļa, Administratīvā procesa likuma 13.pants, 62.panta pirmā daļa, 65.panta otrā daļa, 66.panta pirmā daļa, Ministru kabineta 2021.gada 26.oktobra noteikumu Nr.720 "Kultūras pieminekļu uzskaites, aizsardzības, izmantošanas un restaurācijas noteikumi" 2., 3., 4. un 14.punkts, Ministru kabineta 2003.gada 29.aprīļa noteikumu Nr.241 "Kultūras ministrijas nolikums" 9.11.punkts.

9. Rīkojums stājas spēkā nākamajā dienā pēc publicēšanas oficiālajā izdevumā "Latvijas Vēstnesis". Mēneša laikā no šā rīkojuma spēkā stāšanās to var pārsūdzēt saskaņā ar Administratīvā procesa likuma 184.panta pirmās daļas 1.punktu, 188.panta pirmo un otro daļu un 189.panta pirmo daļu šo lēmumu var pārsūdzēt Administratīvās rajona tiesas Liepājas tiesu namā (Lielā iela 4, Liepāja, LV-3401).

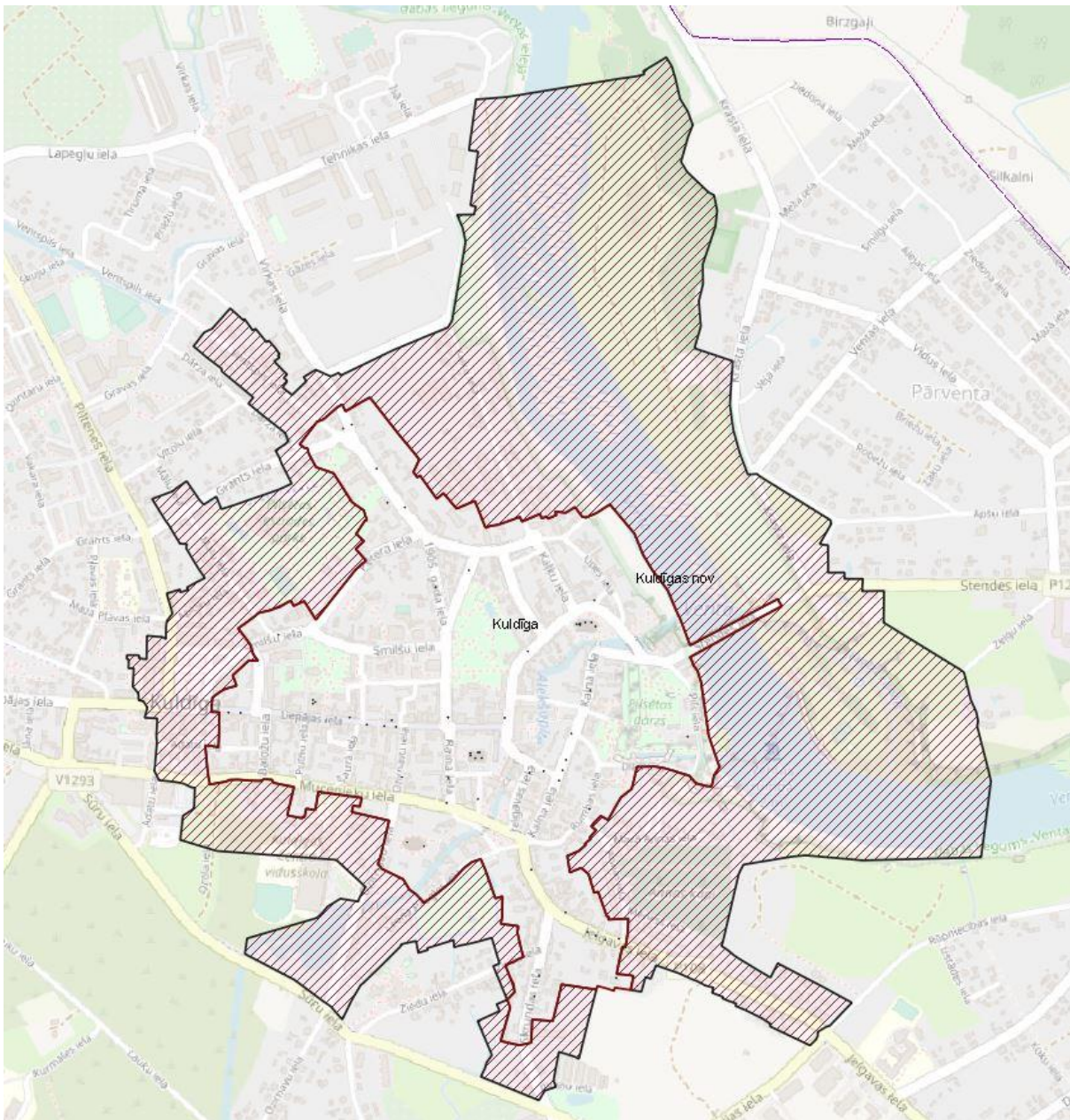
Kultūras ministrs


(paraksts\*)

N.Puntulis

\* Dokuments ir parakstīts ar drošu elektronisko paraksts

Kuldīgas vēsturiskā centra nomale ar Ventas senleju  
Kuldīgas novads, Kuldīga; Kuldīgas pilsētas vēsturiskajam centram pieguļošā teritorija  
Vietējās nozīmes arhitektūras (pilsētībūvniecības) piemineklis



 - kultūras pieminekļa teritorija





Kultūras ministrija

K. Valdemāra iela 11a, Rīga, LV - 1364, tālr. 67330200, fakss 67330293, e-pasts [pasts@km.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@km.gov.lv), [www.km.gov.lv](http://www.km.gov.lv)

## RĪKOJUMS

Rīgā

Nr.

## ORDER

Rīga

24.02.2022.

No. 2.5-1-30

Issued in accordance with Clause 9.11 of the  
Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 241 of 29 April 2003  
“Regulations of the Ministry of Culture”

### **Amendment to the Order No. 128 of the Ministry of Culture of October 29, 1998 “On the List of Cultural Monuments Protected by the State”**

Based on Section 14, Paragraph nine of the Law “On Protection of Cultural Monuments” (hereinafter – the Law) and evaluating the draft amendment to the List of State Protected Cultural Monuments (hereinafter – the List of Monuments) submitted by the National Heritage Board (hereinafter – the Board), the Ministry of Culture has established:

1. The Board has submitted to the Ministry of Culture a draft order on the inclusion of the outskirts of the historical center of Kuldīga with the Venta Valley (hereinafter – the Site) in the List of Monuments.

2. In accordance with Sections 1 and 2 and Section 14, Paragraph six of the Law, the compliance of the Site with the status of a cultural monument has been assessed and a decision has been made (Meeting No. 04–6.6/2 §1 of the Commission for the Registration of Cultural Monuments of the Board of February 9, 2022) to encourage the inclusion of the Site in the List of Monuments as an architectural (urban planning) monument of local significance. According to the provisions of Clause 14 of Cabinet Regulation No. 720 of October 26, 2021 “Regulations on the Registration, Protection, Use and Restoration of Cultural Monuments” (hereinafter – Regulations No. 720), Kuldīga Municipality has approved the proposal to grant the Site the status of an architectural (urban planning) monument of local significance. The proposal to grant the Site the status of an architectural (urban planning) monument of local significance has been publicly discussed – from April 19, 2021 to May 16, 2021 and from July 15, 2021

to August 11, 2021, within the framework of the project “Local plan for the old town of Kuldīga in Venta Venta that amends the spatial plan” and “Amendments to the protection zone (protection zone) of the national urban construction monument “The Historical Centre of the Town of Kuldīga” (national protection No. 7435) with proposals for maintenance conditions”.

3. According to Section 1 of the Law, cultural monuments are part of the cultural and historical heritage – cultural and historical landscapes and separate territories, as well as separate cemeteries, groups of buildings and separate buildings, works of art, equipment and objects of historical, scientific, artistic or other cultural value, and the preservation of which for future generations is in the interests of the State and people of Latvia, as well as international interests. According to Section 2 of the Law, immovable cultural monuments – complex objects – are archeological sites, architectural ensembles and complexes, historical centers of cities and other settlements, streets, squares, quarters, cultural layers, cemeteries, cultural and historical landscapes, memorial sites, historical sites and territories. Section 14, Paragraph six of the Law stipulates that objects with scientific, cultural-historical or educational significance that are characteristic of the territory of a particular municipality may be included in the list of Monuments as cultural monuments of local significance.

4. The Site is a combined man-made urban environment and landscape typical of small towns of Kurzeme with an irregular network of streets, low-rise buildings, typical courtyard spaces and scenic views, which complies with Sections 1, 2 and 14 of the Law and Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Regulations No. 720.

Preservable values of the Site: structure of the town plan, system of building principles; spatial solution of the town in the landscape, relief, panorama, silhouette, view perspectives, street and roof landscape; historical buildings, separate unique buildings, separate parts of buildings; historical industrial objects and engineering structures that give the town or a part of it its characteristic features; the use of traditional materials characteristic to the town, colors, building forms and techniques; landscaping system, green areas, parks, squares, flower beds; historic water bodies and shores; quarter insides, courtyards of historic buildings.

5. Based on Section 14, Paragraph nine of the Law, as well as on the above, the Ministry of Culture DECIDES:

**to amend the list of State Protected Cultural Monuments approved by Paragraph 2 of Order No. 128 of the Ministry of Culture of October 29, 1998 “On the List of State Protected Cultural Monuments” and to include such an object in the list of State Protected Cultural Monuments:**

<b>9320</b>	Local significance	Architecture (urban planning)	The Outskirts of the Historical Centre of	Kuldīga Municipality, Kuldīga; The territory adjacent to the	17th century– 1930s
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			Kuldīga with Venta Valley	historical centre of Kuldīga	
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6. The cartographic material of the Site territory is an Annex to this Order.

7. According to the first part of the Section 23 of the Law, the individual protection zone of the Site is set to “0”.

8. Grounds for the decision: Sections 1, 2 and 14, the first part of the Section 23 of the Law “On Protection of Cultural Monuments”, the first part of the Section 62, the second part of the Section 65, the first part of the Section 66 of the Administrative Procedure Law, Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 14 of Cabinet Regulation No. 720 of October 26, 2021 “Regulations on the Registration, Protection, Use and Restoration of Cultural Monuments”, Cabinet Regulation No. 241 of April 29, 2003 “Regulations of the Ministry of Culture” Clause 9.11.

9. The Order enters into force on the day following its publication in the official gazette "Latvijas Vēstnesis". Within one month from the entry into force of this Order, it may be appealed in accordance with Clause 1 of the first part of the Section 184, first and the second part of the Section 188, and the first part of the Section 189 of the Administrative Procedure Law at 4 Liepāja Court House, Liepāja, LV-3401).

Minister of Culture

(signature\*)

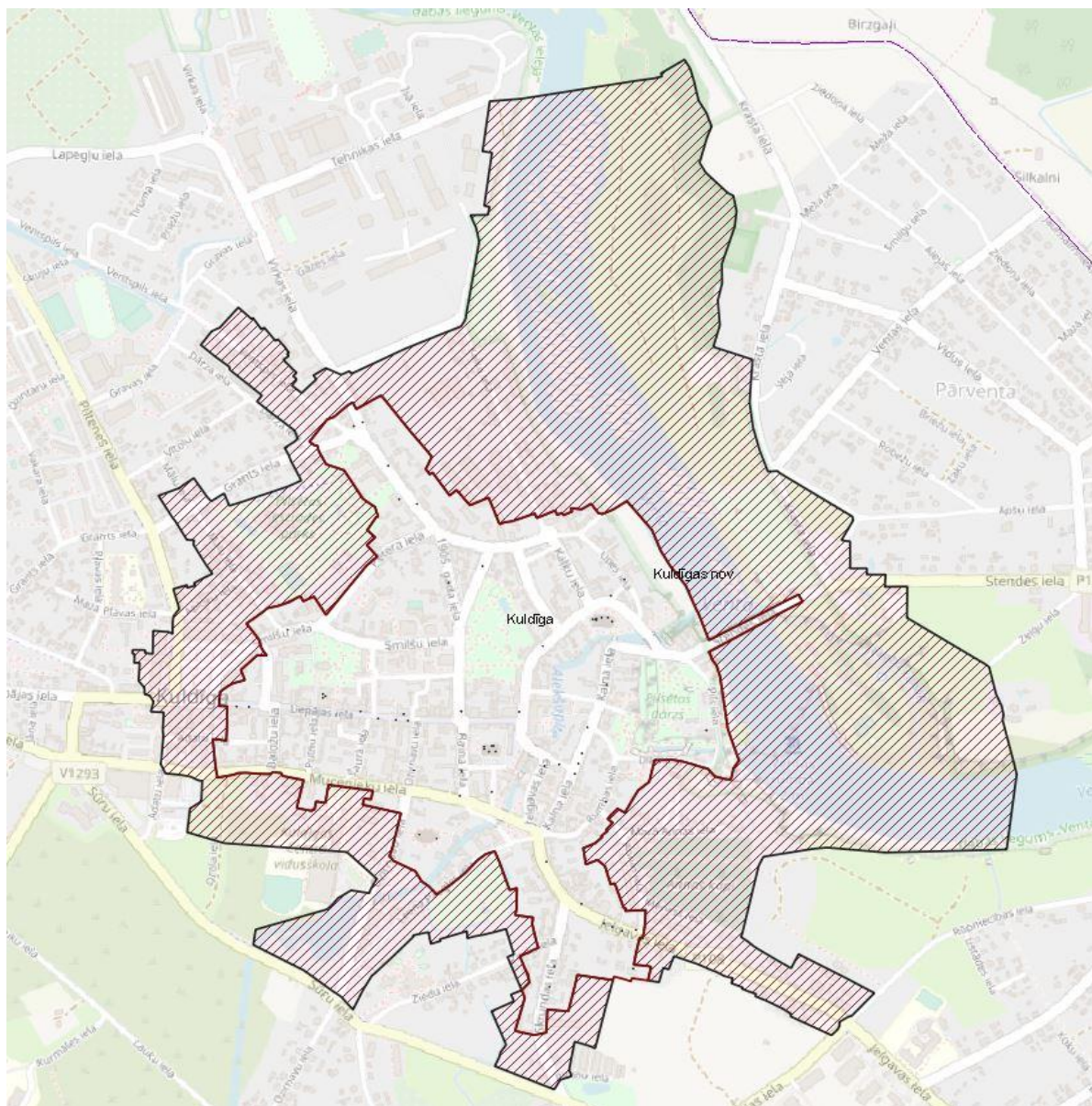
N.Puntulis


\* The document is signed with a secure electronic signature

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The Outskirts of the Historical Centre of Kuldīga with Venta Valley  
Kuldīga Municipality, Kuldīga; The territory adjacent to the historical center of Kuldīga  
Architectural (urban planning) monument of local significance



 - territory of the cultural monument

