

## DETERMINATION OF THE HISTORICAL CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AND ITS APPLICATION IN LANDSCAPE PROTECTION AND PLANNING

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### Abstract

The historic cultural landscape represents a significant natural and cultural heritage. Thanks to its specific features (landmarks), cultural and historical values and attractiveness, the cultural landscapes have a high potential for the development of recreation and tourism. The Czech Republic is an area with a high concentration of preserved fragments of historic cultural landscapes. However, some of them have not yet been sufficiently explored and identified, as a result of that the protection of landscape values and character, as well as its use for education and recreation are not adequately addressed. In order to identify and subsequently protect them, we developed in cooperation with partners methodologies for identification, interpretation, typology, and presentation of historic cultural landscapes of the Czech Republic. These are currently being tested on the example of the South Moravian Region. The obtained results are usable not only for heritage management and ensuring general landscape protection, but also as a tool of identification of tourist attractors. The paper presents the mentioned above methodologies and points out the possibilities of their application in landscape protection and development of recreation.

**Keywords:** landscape heritage, historic landscape typology, tourism, landscape planning, Czech Republic

### Introduction

The historic cultural landscape represents a significant natural and cultural heritage and co-creates the cultural identity of the site and inhabitants. Cultural landscapes are primarily based on the combination of natural and human activities that occur in the area of interest (Taylor, Lennon, 2011). Landscapes can be considered as a kind of historical document, a palimpsest, in which the historical land use pattern is partly recorded. Landscapes began to be understood as an object of heritage protection in the Czech Republic as early as 1956. The general protection of the historic landscape characteristics shaping the character of the landscape and its identity was also supported by the European Landscape Convention in 2000.

The Czech Republic is a territory with a high concentration of preserved fragments and elements of historic cultural landscapes despite the fact that area was significantly changed and unified during the period of Communism. The remnants of historic elements and structures of common landscapes have long been neglected values of the landscape and have only sporadically been the subject of interest for conservation. As a result of the lack of systematic research on the territory of the Czech Republic, the protection of the heritage values of the common landscape and its use for education and recreation has not been systematically used.

Research in the field of identification and interpretation of historic cultural landscapes has been carried out at the Department of Landscape Planning of the Faculty of Horticulture, Mendel University in Brno for a long time, mainly thanks to the support of the projects of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic for National and Cultural Identity (NAKI). Thanks to the support of a number of research projects, a typology of historic cultural landscapes of the Czech Republic has been created, key elements and landmarks of individual landscape types have been defined and a number of methodologies have been developed to specify the correct way of interpretation and presentation of historic cultural landscape types. The developed methodologies were subsequently verified on a number of case areas, processed at various scales of details so that the results obtained are usable in the field of spatial planning, general landscape protection and heritage management.

## Materials and methods

The identification of valuable types of historic cultural landscape is based on the correct identification of historical landscape elements and structures – features/landmarks of the historic cultural landscape. The method of identifying features varies depending on the category of historic cultural landscape. The basic categories were defined in 1992 at a special meeting of the ICOMOS/IFLA Bureau. They are designed landscapes, organically evolved landscapes, and associative landscapes.

The prerequisite for the identification of a designed landscape is the definition of the spatial design of landscape composition (compositional elements, units, axes and lines) and the correct interpretation of the compositional purpose (more in Kulišťáková et al., 2014). Organically evolved landscapes can be identified mainly by comparing historical and contemporary forms of land use (e.g. Jelen, Šantrůčková, Komárek, 2021; Ehrlich et al., 2020). Associative landscape types are the most difficult to identify, where the key is to evaluate the relevant association (story) and its relations to specific sites or elements of the cultural landscape (e.g. Šantrůčková et al., 2020).

Depending on these categories, the catalogues of landscape features have been drawn up individually for each category and type of the historic cultural landscapes. The landscape features have been identified on the basis of the study of archival documents, old maps, vedutas, historical photography, cadastral data or by methods of non-destructive archaeology (Kuna et al., 2004). The basic inventory and description of features of historic cultural landscapes has been elaborated in the methodology for a standardised landscape record for the needs of the management of landscape conservation zones (Kučová et al., 2014). The method of defining the features has subsequently been refined by other methodologies, in particular the Typology of Historical Cultural Landscapes (Ehrlich et al., 2020) and the Identification and Classification of Areas of Landscape Value (Kuča et al., 2022). The methodological approaches were subsequently validated on case areas of different landscape types. The research results were compiled into special analytical maps, which are available for study on the project websites: Protection and Management of Historic Cultural Landscape through Landscape Conservation Areas ([www.kpz-naki.cz](http://www.kpz-naki.cz)), Identification and Presentation Heritage Potential of Historic Cultural Landscapes in the Czech Republic ([www.hikk-naki.cz](http://www.hikk-naki.cz)) or Practical Approaches to Territorial Conservation of Historical Cultural Landscape ([www.krapr-naki.cz](http://www.krapr-naki.cz)).

The mentioned above methodologies were used to define units of historic cultural landscape across the territory of the Czech Republic. The identification of historic cultural landscape units in the South Moravian Region is currently underway in order to assess their potential threat from climate change. The research procedure consists of the three basic steps: 1. step is based on the study of historical maps and other pictorial sources, literature, available database systems and the study of current maps and aerial photographs of the South Moravian Region, areas with potential for determination of the historic cultural landscape units were first identified for each type of historic cultural landscape (according to Ehrlich et al., 2020); 2. step: these territories were subsequently subjected to deeper analysis based on comparison of historical data with the current state of area according to historical maps, orthophotos, supplemented by field and archival research in order to verify the preservation and significance of historical landscape elements and features in the case areas so that they meet the requirements of the methodology of Kuča et al. (2022); 3. step: a shortlist of historic cultural landscapes in the South Moravian Region was completed. At present, the definition of historic cultural landscape units at the scale of 1 : 10000 is being specified.

## Results

The determination of the types of historic cultural landscape in the territory of the South Moravian Region is currently being completed in the form of an interactive map so that it can be accessible in the form of open access to all potential users. The map will be available after its approval by the Ministry of Culture by the end of this year. Individual areas of the historic cultural landscapes are simultaneously being processed in greater spatial detail, in which all key elements of the historic landscape structure can be recorded. An example of the graphical layout of the map is shown in Figure 1. A general overview of the types of historic cultural landscape that have been determined in the territory of the South Moravian Region is given in Table 1.

Tab. 1: The list of historical cultural landscape types and their presence in the territory of the South Moravian Region.

Historic Landscape category	Type No.	Historic landscape type	Identified (X = present)
I. Designed landscapes	1	Geometrically designed landscape	X
	2	Idealised „Natural“ Picturesque landscape	X
	3	Combined (designed) landscape	X
	4	Spa landscape	-
	5	Landscape of Pilgrimage Sites	X
II. Organically evolved landscapes	6	General organically evolved landscape	X
	7	Landscape with a Specific Settlement Structure	X
	8	Landscape of Structurally Distinct Ploughed Field	X
	9	Landscape of Landlords Manorial Farms	X
	10	Landscape of Vineyards	X
	11	Hop Field Landscape	-
	12	Orchard Landscape	X
	13	Fishpond Landscape	X
	14	Pasture and Meadow Landscape	X
	15	Game Preserve and Forest Landscape	X
	16	Landscape of Ancient Fortified Settlements	X
	17	Urban Landscape	X
	18	Landscape of Water Reservoirs	X
	19	Hiking Landscape	-
	20	Landscape of Backcountry Camping Settlement	-
	21	Landscape of Deep Mining	-
	22	Landscape of Opencast Mining	-
	23	Stone Quarry Landscape	X
	24	Industrial Landscape (without direct ties to extraction)	-
	25	Linear Industrial Landscape	X
	26	Landscape of Border Fortifications	X
	27	Landscape of Military District	-
III. Associative landscapes	28	Landscape of Myths and Legends	-
	29	Battlefield Landscape	X
	30	Landscape of Depopulated Territories	-
	31	Landscape of Exterminated Settlements	-
	32	Landscape of Prison Camps of Suffering and Death	X
	33	Landscape of a Significant Historic Events	-
	34	Landscape Related to an Important Personality	X

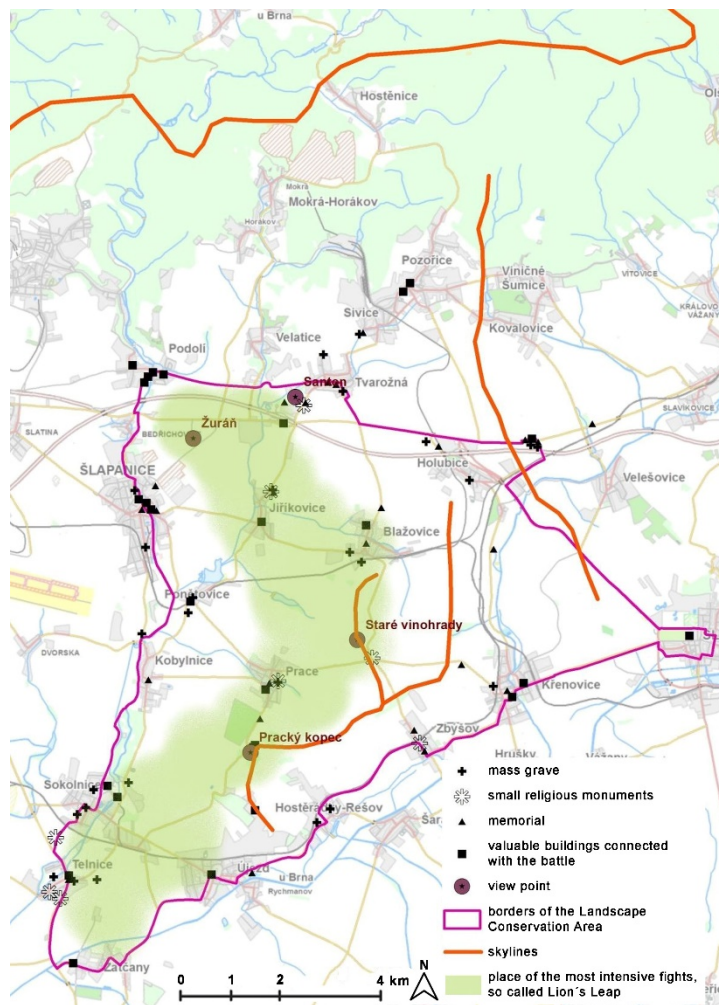


Fig. 1: Example of the determined elements and the border of unit of the historic cultural landscape of the Battlefield Austerlitz (Salašová, Matějková, Sedláček, Šesták, Matějka, Flekalová, 2019)

## Discussion

Map records identifying historic cultural landscape types and their features can be used in several ways. First of all, it is an important basis for the preparation of the register and evidence of heritage conservation object. It can be used as a basis for defining and implementing appropriate conservation management. If the analysis reveals significant overlaps between different types of historic cultural landscape or their large territorial extent, the possibility of declaring such a landscape conservation zone can also be considered. Another possibility of using the results is to incorporate them into the drawing of values within the spatial planning analysis documents. In this way, the recorded phenomena receive a higher level of protection in the context of general landscape conservation (e.g. landscape character protection according to §12 of Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on Nature and Landscape Conservation). At present, mapping of significant units of the historic cultural landscape of the South Moravian Region is underway in order to identify their possible threat from the consequences of climate change. This will form the basis for refining the regional adaptation plans to climate change. Last but not least, maps containing the identification of types of historic cultural landscape and their key historical features are a useful basis for assessing the landscape potential for the development of tourism and recreation (e.g. see Vítovská, 2023).

## Conclusion

The identification of the features and units of historic cultural landscapes is an important part and prerequisite of landscape protection, planning and management in the context of the

Council of Europe Landscape Convention. It is a professionally demanding process requiring a multidisciplinary approach and detailed study of historical maps and archival documents, as well as thoroughgoing field research. The processing of the results of identification and interpretation of the historic cultural landscape in the form of maps will find wide application in the field of monument protection, general landscape protection and landscape character, as well as in recreation and tourism development plans. The article provided information on the methodologies used for identification of historic cultural landscape types and the results of their verification in the form of maps with professional content.

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## Souhrn

Historická kulturní krajina představuje významné přírodní a kulturní dědictví a spoluutváří kulturní identitu obyvatel. Díky své kulturně historické hodnotě a atraktivitě má vysoký potenciál pro rozvoj rekreace a cestovního ruchu. Česká republika je územím s vysokou koncentrací dochovaných fragmentů historické kulturní krajiny. Část z nich ale není dosud dostatečně prozkoumaná a identifikována v důsledku čeho není adekvátně řešena ochrana památkových hodnot a krajinného rázu území, ani využití pro vzdělávání a rekreaci obyvatel. Pro identifikaci a následnou ochranu byly na našem pracovišti ve spolupráci s partnery vyvinuty metodiky na identifikaci, interpretaci, typologii a prezentaci historických kulturních krajín ČR. Ty jsou aktuálně

ověřovány na příkladu území Jihomoravského kraje. Získané výsledky jsou využitelné nejenom pro památkovou péči a zajištění obecné ochrany krajiny v územním plánování, ale i pro identifikaci významných turistických atraktorů území. Jsou základním podkladem pro následnou prezentaci tohoto specifického přírodního a kulturního dědictví širší veřejnosti. V příspěvku jsou představeny výše uvedené metodiky a objasněné možnosti jejich aplikace pro potřeby ochrany krajiny a rozvoje rekreace a cestovního ruchu.

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