

## PRESS RELEASE

### UK CELEBRATES TWO NEW WORLD HERITAGE INSCRIPTIONS

During the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, held virtually and hosted by the State Party of China, two properties from the UK were inscribed on the World Heritage list.

#### Great Spa Towns of Europe



Spa Colonnade - Mariánské Lázně (Czechia)

The first to be inscribed was the Great Spa Towns of Europe, a trans-boundary serial property of eleven spa towns, Bath in the UK and Baden bei Wien (Austria), Spa (Belgium), Františkovy Lázně (Czechia), Karlovy Vary (Czechia), Mariánské Lázně (Czechia), Vichy (France), Bad Ems (Germany); Baden-Baden (Germany), Bad Kissingen (Germany), and Montecatini Terme (Italy). All of these towns developed around natural mineral water springs. They bear witness to the international European spa culture that developed from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century to the 1930s.

This extensive and complex property has been many years in the making and its inscription confers a second World Heritage inscription on Bath, which was initially inscribed as the City of Bath in 1987. The whole process has fostered new links between the town Mayors and their councils which have enhanced cooperation in the fields of heritage conservation, health tourism and visitor marketing.

Full details can be seen at: <https://www.greatspasofeurope.eu/>

#### The Slate Landscape of North Wales



The second, the Slate Landscape of North Wales, has also had a long development over the past ten years by a partnership of many bodies. It is a serial property of six component parts all in Gwynedd that include quarries and mines, settlements in which quarrymen and their families lived, road and railway systems which connected quarries and mines with the sea and with the national railway network, as well as quays and harbours where slate was transferred to boats and ships. It is

inscribed as a cultural landscape that reflects the way local Welsh communities produced slate that roofed world.

The nomination has fostered enthusiasm for the importance of the historic slate industry in the area amongst communities, schools and young people, engendered pride in the distinct Welsh speaking highly skilled work force, their families and settlements, and strengthened the desire to preserve this distinctiveness amidst the competing interests of a living landscape.

Full details can be seen at: <https://www.llechi.cymru/home>

END

Contact: [admin@icomos-uk.org](mailto:admin@icomos-uk.org)