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Francesco Bandarin  
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Your Ref

Our Ref

29 June 2010

Dear Francesco

### ICOMOS Review of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value: Saltaire World Heritage Property (1028), United Kingdom

Further to Patricia Alberth's e-mail of 9 June, confirming the revised deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2010, for receipt of the United Kingdom's comments on the ICOMOS reviews of five draft Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, I am pleased to submit the draft statement for Saltaire World Heritage property.

The text proposed by ICOMOS is broadly acceptable. We have, however, made the following changes:

1. para 1 – we have deleted the reference to Saltaire being 'typical of its time' since in our view part of the reason for Saltaire being of international importance is that Titus Salt's investment in this project was exceptional.
2. **Integrity:** we have amended the last sentence to make it clear that development around the property has been there for at least a century and is not a recent phenomenon.
3. **Authenticity:** we have amended the second sentence to make it clear that some significant views do still remain. We have removed the reference to 'rolling dales' because no such feature is visible from the site, views from which are bounded by the sides of the river valley.
4. **Management and protection:** we have updated the references to legislation which referred to Acts no longer in force.
5. **Buffer Zone:** we have removed the reference to the need for adequate delineation of the buffer zone as this is based on a misunderstanding. The need for an improved buffer zone was stated in the evaluation of the nomination in 2001 and a revised

Culture Team

buffer zone was submitted in November 2001. The revision was noted as acceptable in the ICOMOS presentation of the nomination to the World Heritage Committee but the map does not appear to have been included in the electronic records of the World Heritage Centre. A further copy of the map of the agreed buffer zone is attached at **Annex B** to this letter.

We trust that this final Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for Saltaire World Heritage property, attached at **Annex A** to this letter, will now be presented to the World Heritage Committee for approval at its 34<sup>th</sup> session in Brasilia, 25th July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

Yours sincerely



Peter Marsden  
Head of world Heritage

Cc: H.E. Mr Matthew Sudders, UK Permanent Delegation to UNESCO  
UK National Commission for UNESCO  
ICOMOS  
English Heritage

**Saltire World Heritage Property  
Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV)**

Date of inscription: 2001

Criteria: ii, iv.

Date of SOUV: 2009

Saltire is an exceptionally complete and well preserved industrial village of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, located on the river Aire. Its textile mills, public buildings, and workers' housing are built in a harmonious style of high architectural quality and the urban plan survives intact, giving a vivid impression of the philanthropic approach to industrial management..

The industrial village of Saltire is an outstanding example of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century philanthropic paternalism, which had a profound influence on developments in industrial social welfare and urban planning in the United Kingdom and beyond. The architectural and engineering quality of the complete ensemble, comprising the exceptionally large and unified Salt's Mill buildings and the New Mill; the hierarchical employees' housing, the Dining Room, Congregational Church, Almshouses, Hospital, School, Institute, and Roberts Park, make it outstanding by comparison with other complexes of this type. Saltire provided the model for similar developments, both in the United Kingdom and elsewhere including in the USA and at Crespi d'Adda in Italy. The town planning and social welfare ideas manifested in Saltire were influential in the 19<sup>th</sup> century garden city movement in the United Kingdom and ultimately internationally. Saltire testifies to the pride and power of basic industries such as textiles for the economy of Great Britain and the world in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Criteria**

*Criterion (ii):*

*Exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design.*

Saltire is an outstanding and well preserved example of a mid 19th century industrial town, the concept of which was to exert a major influence on the development of the "garden city" movement.

*Criterion (iv):*

*Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technical ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.*

The layout and architecture of Saltire admirably reflect mid 19th century philanthropic paternalism, as well as the important role played by the textile industry in economic and social development.

## **Integrity and Authenticity**

### *Integrity (2009)*

The integrity of Saltaire as a model industrial village is almost total. The boundary of the property coincides with the extent of Titus Salt's original development: the model village and its associated buildings, the majority of the mill complex and the Park. Some buildings (representing only 1% of the original buildings) were demolished in the past but those existing at the time of inscription and the layout of the complex are still intact. Mill machinery was removed after industrial activities ceased in the mid-1980s. There are limited opportunities for new development within the site. Beyond the site's boundaries, development has surrounded the property to the east, south and west for the last century, with the remnant Aire river landscape to the north.

### **Authenticity (2009)**

An intensive programme of sensitive rehabilitation and conservation of the entire complex has meant that its attributes - form and design, materials and substance, and function (in terms of a living community) - continue to thrive and express its Outstanding Universal Value. The original rural river valley setting has gradually disappeared over the last one hundred years but significant views remain. Given that part of Salt's original intention was to locate Saltaire in a healthy environment, the buffer zone is important in this respect.

## **Management and protection (2009)**

The entire property is protected by the UK planning system with World Heritage status being a key material consideration that planning authorities must take into account when considering applications. In addition planning authorities are encouraged to include policies for the protection of World Heritage in their statutory plans and frameworks. The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council's Revised Unitary Development Plan includes specific policies to protect the property and its buffer zone. The whole property is a Conservation Area under the provisions of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Nearly every building and structure within the area is listed under the provisions of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990), and Roberts Park is designated Grade II in the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. All these complementary forms of statutory protection require authorisation by the local planning authority for any form of development. There is an appeal procedure against refusal of consent operating at central government level.

The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council leads the management of the property, which has a detailed management plan currently under review. Since inscription a Designed and Open Spaces Management Plan has been developed. This has informed the restoration of Roberts Park.

There is a need to ensure that development in the buffer zone respects the surviving landscape setting of the property.

**BUFFER ZONE AS SUBMITTED TO WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE NOVEMBER 2001** (property boundary in red, buffer zone boundary in green)

