

Orientering om verdensarvutvidelsen

Hei alle sammen.

Dette er en kort gjennomgang av verdensarven i Rørosregionen. Det følger informasjon om den gamle verdensarven, og naturligvis om utvidelsesforslaget som ligger inne hos FN-organet UNESCO. Utvidelsesforslaget vil mest sannsynlig bli behandlet på fredag eller lørdag denne uka (30. eller 31. juli), men med forbehold om muligheten for noen dagers utsettelse i forhold til den stipulerte timeplanen. Ordfører Hans Vintervold og ordfører Ivar Volden i Holtålen kommune, reiser i dag over til Brasilia for å overvære UNESCOs behandling av utvidelsen.

Noen korte fakta:

- 1. Røros bergstad har stått på verdensarvlista siden 1980, innskrevet som nr 55.*
- 2. Det er bare trehusbebyggelsen som er innskrevet på verdensarvlista*
- 3. Det nye utvidelsesforslaget av verdensarven tar med de viktigste gruve- og jordbruksområdene, samt ei vintertransportrute og ei smelthytte som heter Femundshytta.*
- 4. Utvidelsen omfatter 5 kommuner, Røros, Tolga, Os, Engerdal og Holtålen*
- 5. Det er pr. i dag 890 steder skrevet inn på verdensarvlista*
- 6. Det er FNs organ UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) som koordinerer verdensarvarbeidet internasjonalt.*

Dagens verdensarv

Som kjent ble Røros bergstad skrevet inn på verdensarvlista i 1980. Bakgrunnen for innskrivinga var den unike trehusbebyggelsen på 630 meter over havet. Innskrivingen skjedde etter sterkt engasjement fra Stephan Tschudi-Madsen som var Riksantikvar den gang. Innskrivinga på verdensarvlista har senere blitt kritisert for å bli tredd nedover hodet på rørosingene, uten at det fantes en lokal forståelse og forankring for det å bli verdensarv. Følgende er innskrivingsteksten for dagens verdensarv:

"Røros is a unique mining environment with exclusively wooden architecture. For 333 years the town has combined impulses from Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Trondheim and neighbouring districts. This has resulted in a wood-constructed environment containing much of the finest of Norwegian tradition, which has at the same time become something very special in our land on the industrial, social and cultural planes as well as on the architectural. Røros mining village with its environment is a characteristic example of a significant traditional style of wooden architecture which forms a unique village at the height of 600 m above sea level."

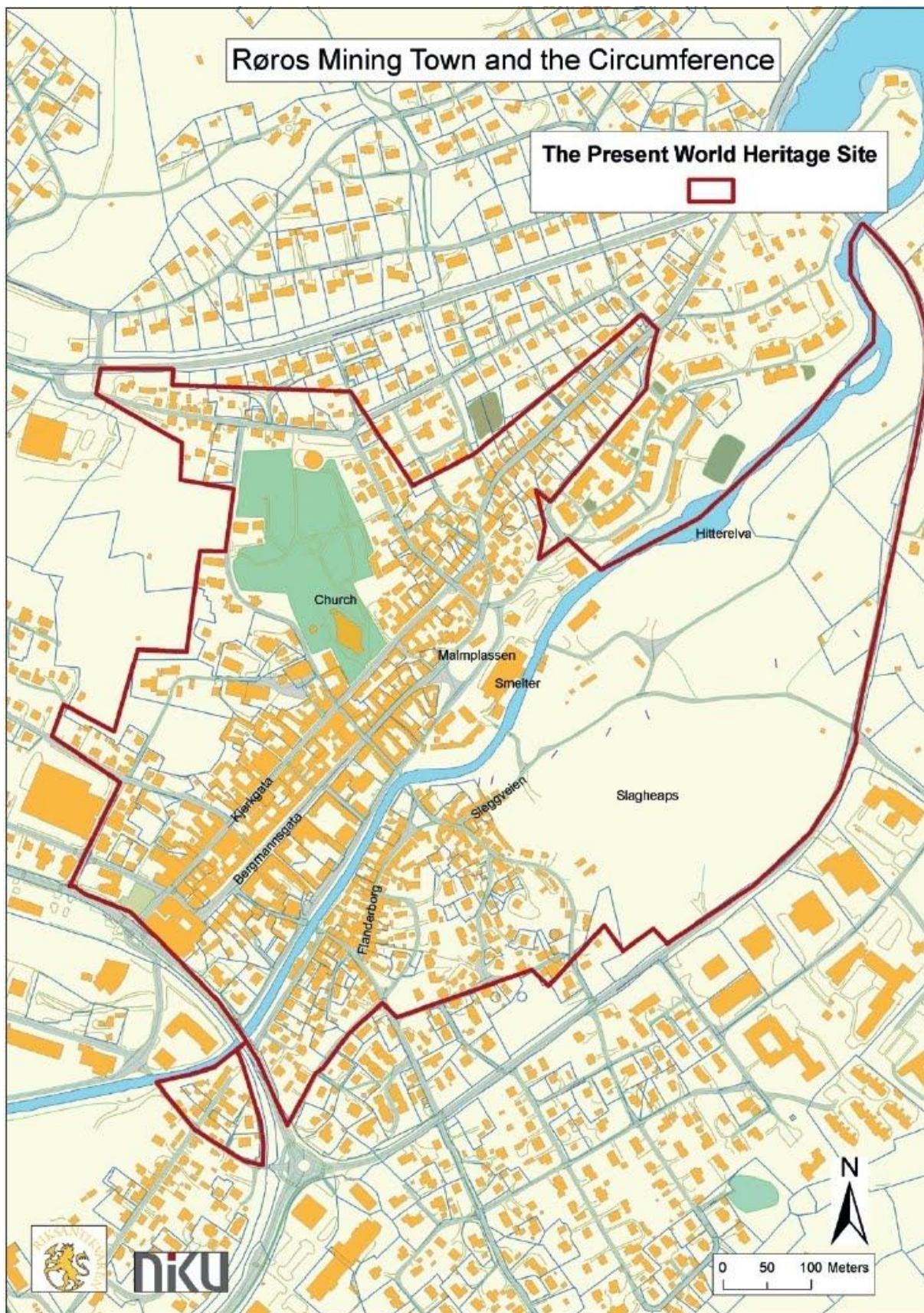
Verdensarven Røros bergstad er dessuten innskrevet med kriteriene iii, iv, v. De lyder følgende:

iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;

iv) to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;

v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;

De samme innskrivingskriteriene er behold i utvidelsesforslaget som er inne til behandling. Det skal presiseres at ordlyden i kriteriene var noe annerledes i 1980 enn det de er i dag.



Utvidelsen

Med utvidelsen skjer det en endring av navnet på verdensarven. Dagens verdensarv heter Røros bergstad/Røros Mining Town, mens det nye navnet blir Røros bergstad og Circumferensen/Røros Mining Town and the Circumference. Den nye verdensarven inkluderer kommunene, Røros, Holtålen, Tolga, Os og Engerdal. Utvidelsen ble anbefalt innskrevet på verdensarvlista av det rådgivende organet ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) tidlig i juni. UNESCOs Verdensarvkomité følger vanligvis anbefalingene fra ICOMOS i slike sammenhenger.

Circumferensen er privilegieområdet som ble gitt til Røros Kobberverk av danskekongen Christian IV i 1646. Området er tegnet opp som en sirkel (derav navnet Circumferens), med en radius på 45,2 km, med utgangspunkt i funngruva på Storwartz. Innenfor denne sirkelen hadde kobberverket retten til naturressursene (malm, skog, vann) og arbeidskraften til de som bodde der. Historisk sett opererte kobberverket langt utenfor Circumferensen, men denne sirkelen har likevel blitt oppført som et avgrensede område for verdensarven.

Det skal imidlertid innvendes at man rent teknisk skiller mellom to statuser; buffersone og verdensarvområde. Circumferensen i sin helhet (se kart lenger ned) utgjør buffersonen som skal beskytte verdensarven. Innenfor Circumferensen finner man de avgrensede og definerte verdensarvområdene. Hvordan det kommer til å fungere i praksis er det vanskelig å si noe om. Selve verdensarvområdet utgjøres av tre deler:

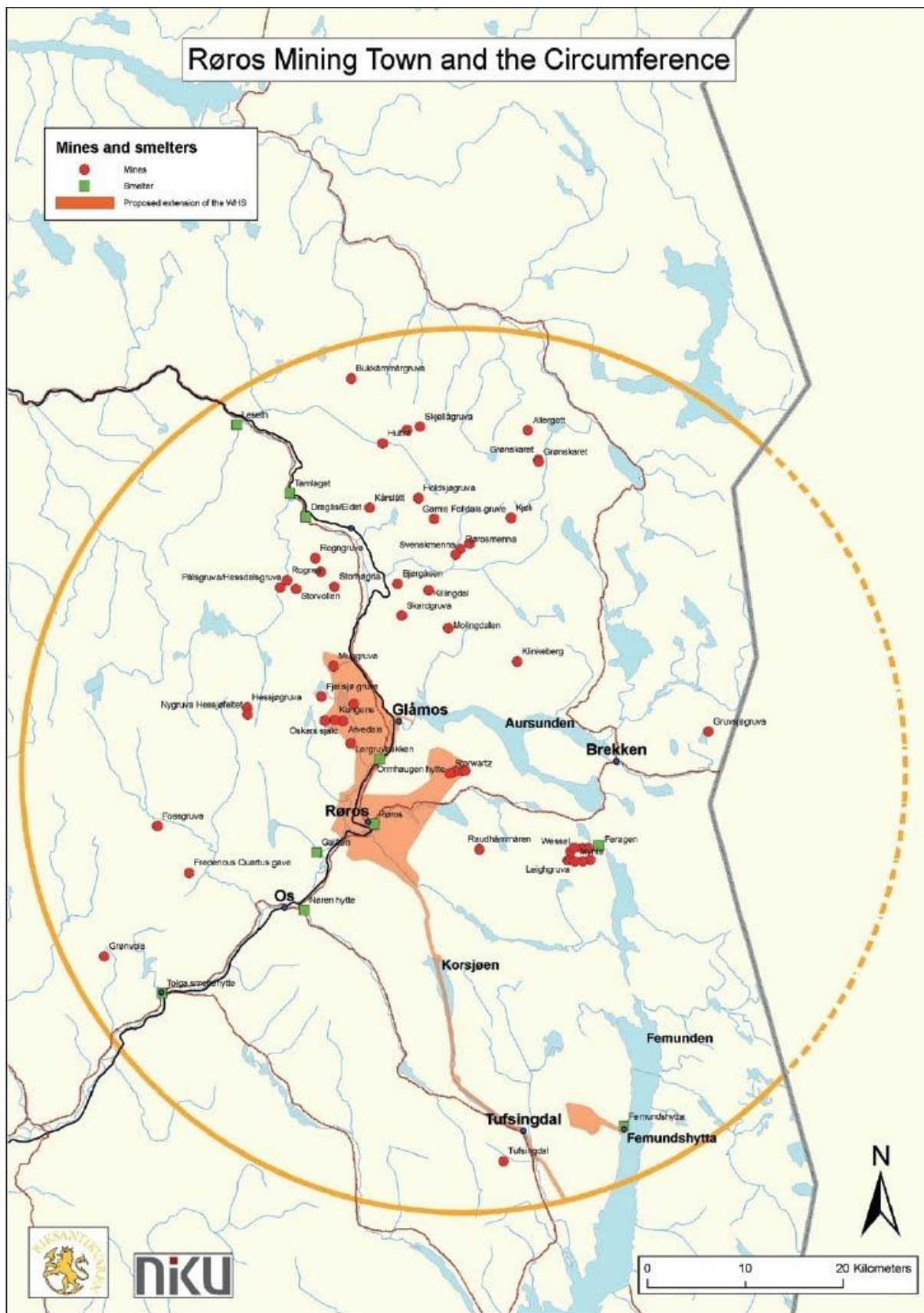
1. *Røros bergstad og det omkringliggende kulturlandskapet* (se kart), hvilket inkludere sentrum, de viktigste gruve- og jordbruksområdene. Denne delen tar også med seg Nordgruvene (Kongens, Arvedal og Sextus), samt Muggruva i Holtålen kommune.
2. *Vintertransportruta* fra Røros til Falun (ned gjennom Tufsingdalen i Os kommune), men bare den delen som er innenfor Circumferensen. Transportruta er valgt som et eksempel på den omfattende transportvirksomheten som foregikk i regionen. Grunnen til at akkurat denne ruta ble valgt er fordi området har vært skjermet for fysiske inngrep. I tillegg har man ferdasgårdene ved Holla og Korssjøen som vitner om transportvirksomheten.
3. *Femundshytta* (Engerdal kommune). Femundshytta er også et utvalgt eksempel som vitner om deler av driftsformen til kobberverket. På grunn av avskogingen så verket seg tjent med å frakte kobbermalmen til avsidesliggende smeltehytter som hadde tilgang på skog, i stedet for en ensidig innfløting av trevirke til Røros. Dette foregikk flere steder i regionen.

Outstanding Universal Value

Et viktig aspekt med den nye verdensarven er den såkalte *Outstanding Universal Value* (forkortet OUV). OUVen selve innskrivingsteksten, og skal på best mulig måte fremme de unike verdiene som rettferdiggjør plasseringen på verdensarvlista. OUVen for utvidelsen legger i langt større grad vekt på den menneskelige dimensjonen ved bergverkssamfunnet, enn det innskrivingsteksten i 1980 gjorde. Dette er dermed en endring fra dagens verdensarv, hvor fokuset ligger på selve trehusbebyggelsen. I tillegg flyttes fokuset over på kobberverkets bedrifter og utgangspunktet for gruveaktiviteten her på fjellet. I den sammenheng blir Røros en konsekvens av bergverksdrifta, på lik linje med vintertransportruta og Femundshytta. Denne fokusendringen kan være med på å legge til rette for en bredere historieforståelse av bergverkssamfunnene som etablerte seg i regionen.

Den nye OUVen har følgende ordlyd (engelsk da det ikke finnes noen offisiell norsk oversettelse ennå):

The World Heritage Site Røros Mining Town and the Circumference comprises a unique mining town, established in 1646, built entirely of wood, and surrounded by a cultural landscape that shows in an outstanding and almost complete manner how the mining operations, transport and way of life had to be adapted to the requirements of the natural environment – the mountain plains, the cold climate, the remote location without roads and with marginal growth conditions for forests and agriculture. On this basis a unique culture developed that has disappeared in part, but outstanding testimony of its existence has been preserved.



De orange/brunskraverte områdene er den foreslåtte verdensarven, mens sirkelen representerer Circumferensen og buffersonen. De røde dottene er gruver, mens de grønne er smeltehytter.

Innskrivingskriteriene

Innskrivingskriteriene er, som tidligere nevnt, de samme som i 1980. Det finnes totalt 10 kriterier og man har vurdert utvidelsen til å oppfylle tre av disse. For hvert kriterium er det gitt en begrunnelse (det ble det ikke gjort i 1980). Begrunnelsen er på engelsk og kan leses nedenfor sammen med kriteriene. Dette er vel for spesielt interesserte, men det trekker fram hva man mener er det unike ved de nye verdensarvområdene:

Criterion (iii)

(iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared.

From the time copper ore was found in the mountains at Røros in 1644 and over the ensuing 333 years until the copper works went bankrupt in 1977 a unique culture developed in the remote and sparsely inhabited area. The uniqueness rests in particular on the testimony preserved that shows how technology and people could adapt to the remoteness of the location and climatic extremes in order to extract the valuable copper.

With German mining technology as a starting point, German, Danish, Swedish and Norwegian immigrants created a mining community under extreme conditions. The community developed in collaboration with the few farmers and the Sámi who already lived and worked in the area. Today there is no mining in the area, but Røros Mining Town and the traces of mining, smelters, transport systems and systems for water management, bear a unique testimony to the adaptation of technology to the requirements of the natural environment and the remoteness of the situation. Testimonies of the dual occupation of the inhabitants, mining and farming, is clearly seen in the preserved structure of the town and in the surrounding cultural landscape. The urban agriculture with its specialized system for use of resources show in an outstanding and coherent manner how people were forced to exploit to the full all available natural resources in order to survive and establish a community in an area that could not provide enough food for its own population. Transport was mainly done on frozen lakes and rivers during the winter. Testimonies of this activity are revealed by the stables and buildings, built on the farms and in the town, for overnight accommodation for those involved in transport.

A distinct and proud culture emerged in this setting. Inside the 'free mining town', the miners owned their own farms and had a relatively high degree of freedom vis-à-vis their employment at the copper works. Towards the end of the 1800s major changes took place in the field of mining and transport. The cultural heritage of this period such as flotation plants, cableways, a power station, railway tracks, etc are also preserved. As the importance of the copper works gradually diminished, the community successfully readjusted to new activities. Therefore when the copper works finally went bankrupt, the consequences for Røros Mining Town were undramatic.

The mining operations and the urban agriculture that involved keeping livestock have ended and the cultural heritage sites where these activities took place have fallen into disuse. Today Røros Mining Town is a living urban community based on industry, trade and tourism. However, the traces of the old mining culture remain in the cultural heritage sites as well as in the German-influenced place names and family names, in the dialect which contains many special words, the Røros pols dance, the Røros breed of cow, and in traditions such as the Røros Fair.

Criterion (iv)

(iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

Nordic towns of wooden construction are a significant expression of building traditions in northern Europe. Røros is an outstanding example of a Nordic town of wooden construction. The original town structure is completely retained with well-preserved buildings bearing the stamp of the 1700s and 1800s. The town plan is an example of how European concepts of town planning were adopted and adjusted to local conditions and building traditions in this remote mountain town.

Røros is also a well-preserved and exceptional example of the town communities that arose in conjunction with the high activity in ore mining in the 1600s to 1700s in Europe and the new world” of South America. On account of the climate and the location, Røros represents the outer limits of what was possible at that time, and this is reflected in the building tradition.

Røros Mining Town is situated on a south-aligned slope surrounded by hills ascending to treeless mountain plains. The town is framed against this spectacular backdrop with the panorama of the mountains on all sides. After 1679 there have been no more fires, which is unusual for a town of wooden construction such as Røros. It is a completely preserved wooden town, and only the church is a masonry building. The original town structure is preserved with the residential houses with their interior courtyards clustered together along the streets. The building tradition is based on traditional wooden architecture with or without exterior panelling, and the form and details are typical of the region. The large number of well-preserved outbuildings with stables and cowsheds are a rarity and constitute a clear reminder of the miner’s dual occupations – mining and farming.

Criterion (v)

(v) be an outstanding example of traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.

Røros Mining Town and the Circumference constitute a totality that is an outstanding example of traditional settlement and land-use. The various activities that have been carried out in the area constitute a cohesive and interdependent unit. These activities have shaped a cultural landscape that provides a unique picture of how the mines and the mining town functioned as a complex and at times vulnerable system that verged on the limits of what was possible in an inhospitable landscape with a harsh climate.

Today these cultural landscapes have been altered to some extent by the closure of mines and by changes to agriculture activities.

The outstanding universal value of Røros Mining Town and the Circumference is closely linked to the natural environment: the mountain plains, the cold climate, the copper ore, a network of lakes and rivers as well as long distances to harbours and large towns. This gave Røros its uniqueness, and formed the background for the development of the cultural landscapes that were linked to Røros Mining Town and the copper works in different ways.

The industrial cultural landscapes are relict landscapes with traces of mining, smelters and other mining operations. They show traces of mining operations on the mountain plains throughout a period of 333 years in an outstanding manner. Since the end of mining operations, there has been no development pressure because the mining areas and the smelter at Femunden are located in mountain areas.

The urban agricultural landscape developed at the same time. The only form of agriculture possible in the cold climate was growing hay as fodder for livestock. The miner’s family lived in town and kept their livestock there. Urban agriculture was composed of an intricate system of small plots on the outskirts of Røros Mining Town where grass was grown. The uncultivated land in the vicinity of the town and one or more summer grazing farms were also part of the resource base. In addition, haymaking and gathering reindeer lichen etc. were part of a totality that shows how the inhabitants used all the resources nature had to offer. Since the men worked at the copper works and were often away from home, the women, and sometimes the children, played an important role in these agricultural activities. At Røros the traces of this complex system are preserved almost in their entirety in the cultural landscape. Together they form a well-functioning system which is an outstanding example of a cultural landscape created by the arduous toil of the mining families.