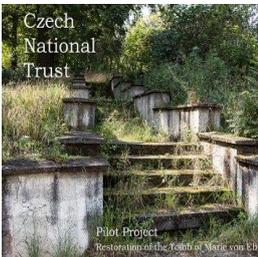


The Creation of a New Trust

Objectives



Dr. Irena Edwards, Chairman of the Board, said at the London launch in 2014 of the Czech National Trust, “Our biggest task is to raise the awareness of people about the cultural and natural heritage of our country – but also about local sites, located near where they live – to help restore people’s pride in

what our ancestors have created and to maintain this valuable heritage for future generations”.

The Czech National Trust is modelled on the principles established by the National Trust in the United Kingdom and its aim is to preserve and restore buildings, gardens and landscapes of

historical importance in the Czech Republic through sponsorship and volunteer work, creating sustainable sources of income from their use and encouraging community involvement.

Special points of interest:

- Attract funding support.
- Influence changes in the laws
- Develop international links to share best practice
- Involvement of the local community

Focus

The main focus of the Trust is

1. Find new sources of funding for restoration of historic buildings and their contents, gardens and parks, cultural and historic landscape, all under a recognized brand.
2. Influence changes in the laws that currently burden owners and administrators of historic buildings with the raising of money for the maintenance of
3. Link the interests of all existing organizations involved in care of historic monuments and in turn support the development of effective volunteer and sponsorship culture.
4. Communicate with international organizations, with the goal of establishing a network of contacts for the exchange of expertise, experience
5. Regain the pride of local communities in the monuments in their municipality, to adopt their historical heritage and through volunteer work help to preserve for future generations.



INTO Involvement

The Czech National Trust was recently created and developed with assistance from INTO to create a non-governmental organization, modelled after the British National Trusts, to assist in the protection of Czech Heritage Sites.

At the outset, INTO was invited by HRH The Prince of Wales to organize and chair a meeting of Czech heritage experts, part of which he himself attended. At this meeting

he suggested the formation of a National Trust

As a first step INTO helped develop a start-up action plan, seeking to ensure all the pieces of the jigsaw were in place, sufficient to get things underway. They assisted with the promotion of the concept in the Czech Republic, advised on the strategy, constitution and business plan, and helped identify the first project to be conserved giving

guidance on how it could then be exploited.

The launch of the Trust, supported by Prince Charles, was held in London and helped the new organization gain momentum and, in the process, contributed to raising funds towards their first project.

INTO's expertise has helped in the creation of a trust model that not only follows international best practice but is individually suited to the country.

Progress

When the Czech National Trust was first being promoted it ran an "Open Gardens" day for visitors to view gardens that are not normally open to the public.

Its first project, identified with the help of INTO, is

the restoration of the tomb and chapel of Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach near Kroměříž in the south-east of the Czech Republic.

The Czech National Trust aims to complete the repair of this exceptional memorial by 2016 to

commemorate the 100th anniversary of death of a remarkable woman – one of the most important writers and thinkers of her generation, a Czech feminist writer who wrote her works in German during the 18th century.

The first project is the renovation of the tomb and chapel of Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach, located near Kroměříž



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