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**The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions.  
Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian song festival**  
Municipalité de Kocēni

Dikļi, a small village in Latvia, was first mentioned in historical documents in 1436. In the past, this territory was inhabited by the Livonians who chose the mountains Grebu and Bļodas as their settlements. It is well-known in the cultural history of Latvia: the Latvian theatre traditions started there in 1818. In 1864, Juris Neikens, a clergyman and writer, organised the first ever singing festival in the grounds of the vicarage (now *Mount Neikenkalns*), laying the foundation for the beautiful Latvian tradition which is now included in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Dikļi is a place where nature and cultural heritage meet, and one of the few places where all the records of the most important cultural events and facts of Latvian history are kept. The project has promoted the archaeological site and the historical monuments of national importance with regard to their landscape.



The Committee of Ministers acknowledged the great value of the achievement presented for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention 2018-2019, and the importance to make it well-known as a source of inspiration.

In accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.