

- A) NOMINATED PROPERTY: Natural and culturo-historical region of Kotor.
- B) LOCATION: Socialist Republic of Montenegro, Boka, Kotor, city of Kotor and its estate.
- C) NOMINATED BY: Federative Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia.
- D) DATE RECEIVED BY ICOMOS: September 27, 1979.
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E) ICOMOS RECOMMENDATION:

1- That the Culturo-historical region of Kotor be included to the World Heritage List.

2- That all necessary administrative procedures be undertaken by the responsible authorities for the inclusion of the nominated property to the World Heritage in Danger List.

3- That the Yugoslavian government supply, within a reasonable delay, the additional information requested in Annex I.

F) JUSTIFICATION:

1- According to the general principles of the Convention:

The Culturo-historical region of Kotor is considered to be of outstanding universal value by the quality of its architecture, the successful integration of its cities to the gulf of Kotor and by its unique testimony of the exceptionally important role that it played in the radiance of the mediterranean culture on the Balkan territory; the nomination meets the evaluation criteria i, ii, iii, and iv.

2- According to the criteria for inclusion:

i- Represent a unique artistic or aesthetic achievement, a masterpiece of the creative genius.

If in fact, many of the monuments of the cities of the gulf of Kotor (churches, palaces, military architecture) have a true architectural value, none of them can claim to be of outstanding universal value. It is their gathering on the gulf coast, their harmony with a privileged site, their insertion in a town-planning of great value that contributes to the real outstanding value of the nominated property.

ii- Have exerted considerable influence, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on subsequent developments in architecture, monumental sculpture, garden and landscape design, related arts, or human settlement.

Main bridge-heads of Venice on the South coast of the Adriatic, aristocratic cities of captains and ship-owners, Kotor and its neighbours were the heart of the region's creative movement for many centuries. Its art, goldsmith and architecture schools had a profound and durable influence on the arts of the Adriatic coast.

iii- Be unique, extremely rare, or of great antiquity.

By the successful harmonization of these cities with the Gulf, by the quantity, the quality and the diversity of the monuments and the cultural properties, and especially by the exceptional authenticity of their conservation, the nominated property can effectively be considered as unique.

iv- Be among the most characteristic examples of a type of structure, the type representing an important cultural, social, artistic, scientific, technological or industrial development.

Kotor and Perast are the examples of a most characteristic and authentically preserved small cities town-planning, well adapted to its destination and enhanced by an architecture of great quality.

"Ever since the beginning of the IXth century, we find mature architectural solutions in Kotor and its region, of european importance, that are the expression of a late antique tradition and primitive Byzantine influences, and also of the shapes and ornaments of the occidental cultural sphere. The Romanesque art of the XIIth and XIIIth centuries, of which the most important works are tied to the famous Apulie architecture, is particularely important. Kotor was the principal center through which the Romanesque art solutions were introduced to the Balkans, especially on the Raska territory, where a special construction school, well known to the Byzantine science was created".

G) INTEGRITY, AUTHENTICITY AND STATE OF PRESERVATION:

The limits of the nominated property, judiciously selected, coincide approximately with the crests of the sink-hole. At both ends, the property leans on the national parks of Orten and Lovcen, making it a vast protected natural area. The decision to leave the Gulf of Tivat out of this area (former portion of the mouths of Kotor) is justified by the lesser authenticity of these cities, more disturbed by recent industrialization (shipyards, harbour equipments).

The cultural heritage of the nominated property was heavily damaged by the April 15 and May 24 earthquakes.

Most of Kotor's palaces and houses, and many churches, all Dobrota's palaces, Perast's main buildings have all suffered from the earthquakes, and some have been partly destroyed. The city of Kotor was evacuated by all its inhabitants on April 15, 1979.

Following this disaster, the restoration and consolidation of Kotor's natural and culturo-historical region monuments will have to be included in the general reconstruction of the Montenegro. The Director General of Unesco has launched an appeal to mobilize international solidarity on this point. An action plan to coordinate the international support is under preparation.

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October 1979.

ANNEX I

DETAILS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE YUGOSLAVIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE NOMINATION FILE OF THE NATURAL AND CULTURO-HISTORICAL REGION OF KOTOR.

The file contains the essential informations on the nominated property, and has a good chartographical documentation (a map of Dobrota should be supplied).

Point 1 d) Geographical co-ordinates

They do not seem to be quite wright; they should be reviewed and more clearly defined.

Point 2 Juridical data

It would be necessary to better define the patrimonial and juridical status of the monuments, specifying, for the major monuments (palaces etc) those which are private, communal or national properties.

Point 3 a) Description and inventory

Some important monuments only appear on city plans (Perast) or not at all when there are no plans (Dobrota). For example, the Bujovic (municipal museum), Basic, Balovic, Magarovic, Viskovic palaces in Perast; in Dobrota, an inventory should at least mention the Tripkovic, Dabinovic, Kokota, Milosevic, Kamenarovic, Dabcevic, Ivanovic palaces, with indications as to their juridical status.

Point 3 d) History

The presentation is somewhat confuse: the dates of the main historical periods should at least be presented and "eight political changes from various sides and () five reigns up to the XIXth century" should be explained.

- Kotor's first autonomy under the Byzantine Empire (476 - 1186)
- First Serbian states (1186-1367)
- Struggles against the Ottoman Empire
- Possession of Venice (1420-1797)
- Possession of Austria (1797-1806)
- Russian occupation (1806-1807)
- French occupation (1807-1813)
- Possession of Austria (1813-1918)

Point 3 e) Bibliography

It seems important to add:

Mijovic, P. and Kovacevic, M. "Gradovi i utvrdjenja u Crnoj Gori" (Fortress and fortified cities of the Montenegro), Institute of archeology, Ulcinj Museum, 1975 (text, maps, many plans and photographs, summary in french).

Add, because of its up-to-dateness and international character:

Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow: "Pour la sauvegarde du patrimoine culturel du Montenegro ravagé par un séisme", Appeal from the Director General of Unesco, Paris, May 28, 1979 (published in several languages).

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