



Permanent Delegation
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to UNESCO

World Heritage Centre
UNESCO
Mme Marie-Noël Tournoux
7, Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris CEDEX 07

POSTAL ADDRESS

BP 30 221
75364 Paris CEDEX 08
STREET ADDRESS:
9 rue Maspéro
75116 Paris

INTERNET: www.unesco.diplo.de

TEL + 01 55 74 57 00

contact:

Winfried Maier

Tel. direct: 01 55 74 57 33

Pol-10-unes@pari.diplo.de


File n° (please refer in your reply): 611.90 Pr 5.12/17
Paris, 2. Februar 2016

Dear Mrs. Tournoux,

Attached please find the delayed state of conservation report on the Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey as well as a letter of the Ministry of Building, Urban Development and Transportation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

by order


Winfried Maier
(Second Secretary)





Ministerium für Bauen, Wohnen, Stadtentwicklung und Verkehr
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, 40190 Düsseldorf

UNESCO World Heritage Centre
Mde. Marie-Noël Tournoux
7, Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris CEDEX 07
France

27. January 2016

Seite 1 von 1

Aktenzeichen
(bei Antwort bitte angeben)

Jochen Dodt
Telefon 0211 3843 5235
Fax 0211 3843 93 5235
jochen.dodt@mbwsv.nrw.de

**State of conservation report of the Carolingian Westwork and
Civitas Corvey**

Dear Mrs. Tournoux,

Hereby I send you the delayed state of conservation report of the Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey, which I received from the colleagues in Corvey today. I'm sorry for the inconvenience and hope, that the timetable to prepare the examination at the 40th session of the WH Committee is still achievable. Please don't hesitate to contact me, if something is unclear or should be described in more detail.

As far as I know, there will be a Meeting in Paris at the end of February regarding the Frontiers of the Roman Empire, where we get in direct contact.

Kind regards

(sgd.)

Thomas Otten

Dienstgebäude und
Lieferanschrift:
Jürgensplatz 1
40219 Düsseldorf
Telefon 0211 3843-0
Telefax 0211 3843-9110
poststelle@mbwsv.nrw.de
www.mbwsv.nrw.de

Öffentliche Verkehrsmittel:
Straßenbahnlinien 704, 709,
719 bis Haltestelle
Landtag/Kniebrücke

State of conservation Report

Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey (Germany) 38 COM 8B.33

1) Executive Summary

Report on the Implementation of the recommendations by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session.

The World Heritage Committee recommended that the State Party gives consideration to the following:

- a) Approving formally and implementing the management plan and its operational master plan with a budget and an implementation timescale;
The management plan and its operational master plan are part of the nomination dossier, which has been formally approved by signature of the Minister for Culture on behalf of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia as well as the Foreign Secretary on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany. Additional formal approvals or implementation are not required. A provisional budget and a timescale for planned measures of the management plan have been submitted to ICOMOS by letter of February 26th 2014. Several measures in the church and the Westwork have been realised: Conservation of the atrium and wall paintings, climate monitoring, reduction of IR- and UV-light by installation of protective glass. The Federal Republic of Germany has made national funds of 4 million € available to the City of Höxter in December 2014 for substantial conservation measures as well as improvements for visitors at the property. To date these funds have not been forwarded to the owners, so that these measures could not be realised so far. Additional planned measures of the management plan have not been budgeted to date.
- b) Implementing the planned comprehensive conditions assessment and monitoring of the Westwork;
A long term monitoring system of the climate conditions inside the Westwork has been implemented. First intermediate results are available. A restorical report analysis for selected zones of the Carolingian mural paintings has been executed. In 2014 and 2015, a continuous state monitoring for the documentation and implementation of necessary restauration measures was conducted.
- c) Developing an overall risk management plan for the property, including also risk preparedness against floods, explosions and other types of accidents, considering the proximity of the railway;
A fire protection concept is in place for the museum buildings open to the public. Due to the flood emergency plan submitted to the WHC Nov. 5th 2013, the property buildings are not at risk. Risk preparedness measures concerning the railway line are part of the operating license and the safety concept of Deutsche Bahn (German Railways).
- d) Continuing further systematic research and non-destructive archaeological investigation both for conservation and research purposes;
Existing inventories are being updated and completed. Archaeological investigations have been described in detail in the nomination dossier. Any additional archaeological investigation measures have not been taken to date.
- e) Expanding the presentation of the "Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey" in the museum and outside the church with regard to the Carolingian era;
New forms of presentation of the properties Carolingian and medieval history are being considered. A project for a walk in media-enhanced spatial theatre with installations of video projections inside the authentic Carolingian first floor of the Westwork has been launched. The Project is currently under consideration involving mayor expertise, the authority for monument preservation as well as the monitoring group of ICOMOS Germany. Necessary funding has not been provided so far (see above a).
- f) Reinforcing the monitoring system with regard to the identification of indicators related to the objectives identified in the management plan.
A first meeting of the owners with members of the monitoring group of ICOMOS Germany took place in Sept. 2015. Regular further meetings will be arranged.
- g) Finalise the study for protecting the panoramic views from and towards Corvey, approve and enforce related protective measures as soon as possible and before any decision concerning wind farm location is finalised;
Studies are finalised with these results:
 - i) Wind farm repowering project in Bosseborn: cancelled because of expected negative visual affects for the property.
 - ii) Wind farm project in Fürstenau: ongoing negotiations between the city of Höxter and the authority for monument preservation, in order to avoid significant visual effects.
 - iii) Wind Farm Project in Beverungen: has been authorised despite concerns of the authority for monument preservation regarding visual effects.

Potential issues regarding Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines are:

Wind farm project mentioned above g) iii) may affect visual integrity.

2. Report on the implementation of the recommendations by the World Heritage Committee of its decision at its 38th session.

The World Heritage Committee recommended that the State Party gives consideration to the following:

a) Approving formally and implementing the management plan and its operational master plan with a budget and an implementation timescale

The management plan and its operational master plan are part of the nomination dossier, which has been formally approved by signature of the Minister for Culture on behalf of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia as well as the Foreign Secretary on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany. Additional formal approvals or implementation are not required.

A provisional budget and a timescale for planned measures of the management plan have been submitted to ICOMOS by letter of February 26th 2014.

Several measures in the church and the Westwork have been realised:

- Renovation of cover plates of external walls of the atrium, renovation of dry-stone walls
- Monitoring and restauration measures of wall paintings and plasters. The measures taken in 2014 and 2015 will be consistently pursued during the current year. The planned conservation measures are expected to be completed in 2018.
- Implementation of climate monitoring systems
- Reduction of IR- and UV-light by installation of protective glass is scheduled projected for 2016.

The Federal Republic of Germany has made national funds of 4 million € available to the City of Höxter in December 2014 for measures of the management plan of the property:

Substantial conservation measures:

- climate monitoring and climate control inside the Westwork
- monitoring of wall paintings and plasters
- restorations inside the Westwork
- restoration of the organ
- fire protection measures in the church
- restorations of roofs and facades of the baroque monastery buildings
- estate buildings, restoration of sandstone roofs
- castle walls, conservation measures
- Dreizehnlindenhaus, sustainability, roof sealing

Improvements for visitors:

- establishing a visitor reception centre
- establishing a walk in media-enhanced spatial theatre with installations of video projections inside the first floor of the Westwork for visitor information purposes
- improvement of the illumination of the Westwork

A budget and a timescale have been set up for these measures of the masterplan for the period 2015-2018. To date these funds have not been forwarded to the owners, so that these measures could not be realised so far.

Additional planned measures of the management plan have not been budgeted to date.

b) Implementing the planned comprehensive conditions assessment and monitoring of the Westwork

Installation of a UV- and IR – protective glazing

Protective glazing shall be manufactured and installed on the building's exterior (northern and southern) facades. The installation is planned for the year 2016. The installation will be accompanied by periodically taken climate measurements. Climate data have been collected and evaluated since 2013.

The Westwork of Corvey abbey

Documentation and restoration measures

A restorical report analysis for selected zones of the Carolingian mural paintings was executed. The analysis of the contamination by salts and microbial infestation of the murals provides the basis for the preparation of an adequate concept of actions regarding the protection of the Carolingian paintings. The planned conservation measures are expected to be completed in 2018.

During the years 2014 and 2015 a continuous state monitoring and a mapping of the historical plaster by a conservator has been taking place. In this context the historical plaster in some zones of the Westwork and the Johanneschor was restored.

Analysis of air conditions in the Johanneschor

For the Johanneschor reference can be made to a continuous recording of climatic values since 2013.

At the beginning of 2016 experts will meet to inspect the damages on the mural paintings (microbial attack and contamination by salts) and to discuss further actions concerning the stabilization of the indoor climate.

c) Developing an overall risk management plan for the property, including all risk preparedness against floods, explosions and other types of accidents, considering the proximity of the railway

A fire protection concept is in place for the museum buildings open to the public.

Due to the flood emergency plan submitted to the WHC Nov. 5th 2013, the property buildings are not at risk.

Risk preparedness measures concerning the railway line are part of the operating license and the safety concept of Deutsche Bahn (German Railways).

d) Continuing further systematic research and non-destructive archaeological investigation both for conservation and research purposes

Existing inventories are being updated and completed. Archaeological investigations have been described in detail in the nomination dossier. Any additional archaeological investigation measures have not been taken to date.

e) Expanding the presentation of the „Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey“ in the museum and outside the church with regard to the Carolingian area

New forms of presentation of the properties Carolingian and medieval history are being considered outside the church, for the museum and the Vorburg. Necessary funding has not been provided so far.

A project for a walk in media-enhanced spatial theatre with installations of video projections inside the authentic Carolingian first floor of the Westwork has been launched. The Project is currently under consideration involving mayor expertise, the authority for monument preservation as well as the monitoring group of ICOMOS Germany. Necessary national funding has not been provided so far (see above a).

f) Reinforcing the monitoring system with regard to the identification of indicators related to the objectives identified in the management plan

A first meeting of the owners with members of the monitoring group of ICOMOS Germany took place in Sept. 2015. Regular further meetings will be arranged.

g) Finalize the study for protecting the panoramic views from and towards Corvey, approve and enforce related protective measures as soon as possible and before any decision concerning wind farm location is finalized

The Studies have been finalised with these results:

- i) The Wind farm repowering project in Bosseborn has been cancelled because of expected negative visual affects for the property.
- ii) The Wind farm project in Fürstenau is under ongoing negotiations between the city of Höxter and the authority for monument preservation, in order to avoid significant visual effects.
- iii) The Wind Farm Project in Beverungen has been authorised despite concerns of the authority for monument preservation regarding visual effects.

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value


Currently, no other current conservation issues are identified.

4. In conformity with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

Wind farm project mentioned above g) iii) may affect visual integrity.

Corvey, January 25th, 2016


.....
Pastor Dr. Hans-Bernd Krismanek
(Parish of St. Stephanus and Vitus, Corvey)


.....
Viktor Duke of Ratibor, Prince of Corvey

