

ICOMOS

Paris, 7 June 1978

Mr. Firouz Bagerzadeh
 Chairman, World Heritage Committee
 UNESCO
 Place Fontenoy
 75007 Paris

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Having reviewed the nominations of cultural properties, duly submitted by States party to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, for consideration by the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee, meeting in its first session, for the purpose of inclusion in the World Heritage List, the following have been found (in the opinion of ICOMOS) to meet minimum standards of documentation and therefore (in the opinion of ICOMOS) to be eligible for consideration at this time. They are listed in the order given in documents CC-78/CONF.009/3 and CC-78/CONF.009/3 Add.1.

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| Canada | ° | L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Park | (4) |
| Ecuador | ° | City of Quito | (2) |
| Ethiopia | ° | Rock Hewn Churches of Lalibela | (18) |
| | | Fasil Ghebbi, Gandar region | (19) |
| Poland | ° | Historic Urban and Architectural Center of Cracow | (29) |
| | | Historic Center of Warsaw | (30) |
| | ° | Auschwitz, concentration camp | (31) |
| | ° | Wieliczka, salt mine | (33) |
| United States | ° | Mesa Verde | |

Of the nominations listed above, those marked (°) have been found (in the opinion of ICOMOS) to satisfy the criteria for cultural properties. It is believed that the Fasil Ghebbi, Gondar region, Ethiopia, while plainly of national significance, needs further expert opinion regarding its world importance. There is a question as to whether the Historic Center of Warsaw meets the general rule of authenticity, and it is accordingly believed that further expert opinion is required on this nomination.

Additionally, the following two nominations (in the opinion of ICOMOS) have been found to meet the criteria for cultural properties although they lack the required photographic and cartographic documentations:

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| Federal Germany | Aachen Cathedral | (3) |
| Senegal | Island of Gorée | (26) |

It is suggested that the two preceding nominations be provisionally recommended, subject to receipt of adequate additional documentation.

The remaining eight nominations of cultural properties, all from Ethiopia, are deficient in terms of documentation.

A separate report on the technical aspects of nominations is being prepared for your consideration. ICOMOS remains ready to assist the World Heritage Committee in every way possible.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connally
 Ernest Allen Connally
 Secretary General

ICOMOS

LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

WORLD HERITAGE LIST N° 3

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| <p>A) IDENTIFICATION</p> | <p>A) IDENTIFICATION</p> |
| <p><u>Bien proposé</u>: Cathédrale d'Aix-la-Chapelle</p> <p><u>Lieu</u>: Westphalie</p> <p><u>Etat partie</u>: République Fédérale d'Allemagne</p> <p><u>Date</u>: 3 Avril 1978</p> | <p><u>Nomination</u>: the Cathedral of Aix-la-Chapelle</p> <p><u>Location</u>: Westphalia</p> <p><u>State party</u>: The Federal Republic of Germany</p> <p><u>Date</u>: April 3, 1978</p> |
| <p>B) RECOMMANDATION DE L'ICOMOS</p> | <p>B) ICOMOS RECOMMENDATION</p> |
| <p>Que le bien culturel proposé soit inscrit sur la liste du Patrimoine Mondial, au titre des critères I, II, IV et VI.</p> | <p>That the nominated property be included on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria I, II, IV and VI.</p> |
| <p>C) JUSTIFICATION</p> | <p>C) JUSTIFICATION</p> |
| <p>C'est la propre chapelle palatiale de Charlemagne, bâtie vers 790-800 qui constitue le noyau de la cathédrale d'Aix-la-Chapelle et lui confère son intérêt singulier. De plan octogonal, cernée d'un collatéral que surmontent des tribunes et couverte d'une coupole, elle se distingue aisément des adjonctions postérieures (dont un beau choeur gothique) par sa structure caractéristique.</p> <p>L'Icomos recommande l'inscription sur la liste du Patrimoine Mondial au titre des critères I, II, IV et VI.</p> <p>I. Avec ses colonnes de marbre grec et italien, ses portes de bronze et la grande mosaïque, au-</p> | <p>It is Charlemagne's own palatine chapel, constructed about 790-800, which constitutes the nucleus of the cathedral of Aix-la-Chapelle and which attributes to it its singular interest. Based on an octogonal ground plan, which is ringed by an aisle, surmounted by tribunes, and roofed with a dome, the chapel itself is easily distinguished from later additions (of which one is a fine gothic choir) by its distinctive structure.</p> <p>Icomos bases its recommendation for inclusion on the World Heritage List on criteria I, II, IV and VI.</p> <p>I. With its columns of Greek and Italian marble, its bronze doors, the largest mosaic of its dome</p> |

- jourd'hui détruite, de sa coupole, la chapelle palatiale d'Aix a été ressentie, dès l'époque de sa construction, comme une création artistique exceptionnelle. C'était, depuis l'Antiquité, le premier édifice voûté au Nord des Alpes.

II. Fortement marquée à la fois par les traditions classiques et byzantines cette chapelle est restée, pendant l'époque de la "Renaissance carolingienne" et encore dans les débuts du Moyen-Age, l'un des prototypes de l'architecture religieuse, donnant lieu à des copies ou à des imitations (Mettlach, Nimègue, Essen, Ottmarsheim).

III. La chapelle palatiale de Charlemagne est un spécimen excellent et bien caractérisé de la famille des chapelles auliques à plan centré et à tribunes.

VI. La construction de la chapelle de l'empereur à Aix a symbolisé l'unification de l'Occident et son renouveau spirituel et politique sous l'égide de Charlemagne. Celui-ci y fut enseveli en 814 et tout au long du Moyen-Age, Aix-la-Chapelle fut le lieu de couronnement des empereurs germaniques, jusqu'en 1531. Les collections du trésor de la cathédrale d'Aix sont d'un inestimable intérêt archéologique, esthétique et historique.

(now destroyed), the palatine chapel of Aix, from its inception, has been perceived as an exceptional artistic creation. It was the first vaulted structure north of the Alps since Antiquity.

II. Bearing the strong imprint of both classic and byzantine tradition this chapel remained, during the Carolingian renaissance and even at the beginning of the medieval period one of the prototypes of religious architecture which incited copies or imitations (Mettlach, Nijmegen, Essethheim).

IV. The palatine chapel of Charlemagne is an excellent and distinctive example of the family of aulian chapels based on a central plan with tribunes.

VI. The construction of the chapel of the emperor at Aix symbolised the unification of the West and its spiritual and political revival under the aegis of Charlemagne.

In 814, Charlemagne was buried here, and throughout the Middle Age until 1531, the Germanic emperors continued to be crowned at Aix. The collection of the treasury of the cathedral is of inestimable archeological, aesthetic and historic interest.