Paris, 7 June 1978

Mr. Firouz Bagherzadeh
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.

Canada
- l'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Park (4)

Ecuador
- City of Quito (2)

Ethiopia
- Rock Hewn Churches of Lalibela (18)
  Fasil Ghebbi, Gondar 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 documentation:

Federal Germany
- Aachen Cathedral (3)

Senegal
- Island of Goreé (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 Connolly
Secretary General
### Identification

**Bien proposé:** Mines de sel de Wieliczka-Bochnia  
**Lieu:** Cracovie - Palatinat municipal  
**État partie:** République Populaire de Pologne  
**Date:** 2 Mai 1978

### Recommandation de l'ICOMOS

Que le bien culturel proposé soit inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial.

### JUSTIFICATION

Le gisement de sel gemme de Wieliczka-Bochnia est connu depuis fort longtemps. Le saumage des sources salées se pratiquait dès l'époque préhistorique. L'exploitation souterraine a commencé au XIIIe siècle et la mine, jamais fermée, s'est agrandie au cours du temps de façon spectaculaire. Elle s'étend sur 5 km d'ouest en est et sur 1 km du nord au sud, atteignant une profondeur maximum de 327 m. Les galeries se développent sur 9 niveaux, les niveaux inférieurs étant les plus récents, soit sur une longueur totale de près de 300 km où se succèdent les puits, les couloirs, les labyrinthes, les excavations de toutes sortes, des salles et même des chapelles creusées dans le sel, avec leurs autels, leurs chaires, leurs statues. Un lac souterrain complète cet ensemble curieux, ouvert au tourisme depuis le XVIe siècle.  
L'ICOMOS recommande l'inscription des mines de sel de Wieliczka-Bochnia sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial au titre du

### Recommandation de l'ICOMOS

Que le bien culturel proposé soit inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial.

### JUSTIFICATION

The rock salt deposits of Wieliczka-Bochnia have been worked over a long period of time. The production of salt from salted springs has been practiced since prehistoric times. Subterranean exploitation at Wieliczka-Bochnia began in the 13th century and the mine, which has never been closed, expanded over the years in a spectacular manner. It extends 5 km to the east and west and 1 km to the north and south, reaching a maximum depth of 327 meters. Galleries have been opened up on nine levels, the lower levels being the most recent. The total length of the galleries in which are found wells, corridors, labyrinths, excavations of all sorts, rooms and even chapels cut out of the salt, with their altars, their pulpits, and their statues, is nearly 300 km. The subterranean lake, opened to tourists since the 15th century, completes this curious complex.  
ICOMOS recommends the inscription of the
critère IV.

IV) les salines de Cracovie offrent l'exemple d'un grand établissement industriel, très bien organisé administrativement et techniquement et qui a perduré, en s'adaptant, depuis le Moyen Âge. L'évolution des procédés de l'extraction minière au cours des siècles s'y trouve parfaitement illustrée dans toutes ses étapes, du fait de la consolidation et de la préservation des anciennes galeries avec leurs installations particulières. Une collection complète d'outils est présentée à l'intérieur de la mine, qui constitue de la sorte un témoin matériel précieux et très complet dans le domaine de la technologie minière, durant une longue époque de l'histoire de l'Europe.

Salt mines of Wieliczka-Bochnia on the World Heritage List on the basis of criterion IV.

IV) The salt mines of Krakow furnish the example of a large industrial establishment, administratively and technically well organized, the existence of which has been assured by the process of adaptation since the Middle Ages. The evolution of the mining processes throughout the centuries, is perfectly illustrated there, in all their stages, due to the consolidation and conservation of the old galleries with the installations peculiar to each. A complete collection of tools, exhibited inside the mine, constitutes, as such, a valuable and complete material witness to the evolution of mining technology covering a long period of European history.

ICOMOS, Paris.
WORLD HERITAGE LIST (CULTURAL PROPERTY)

UNESCO TECHNICAL REVIEW NOTES

UNESCO REFERENCE NUMBER: CC/CH/01/13/360/32

NAME OF PROPERTY FOR LIST (ALSO CATEGORY OF CULTURAL PROPERTY): Wieliczka Salt Mines (monument)

NOMINATED BY (NAME OF COUNTRY): Poland

DOCUMENTATION:

(A) Maps. Technical Comments: It would be useful if the maps included geographical coordinates (given in the body of the text).

(B) Photographs. Technical Comments: Adequate although it would be useful if orientation for photographs were given.

(C) Bibliography. Technical Comments: It would be useful if bibliography were more detailed.

Justification for inclusion in WHL. Technical Comments:
It would be useful if nominations to the World Heritage List were specific as to criteria justifying inclusion in the World Heritage List (as set forth in the World Heritage Nomination Form).

Other ICONOS Technical Comments (following WHL Nomination numbers):