

ICOMOS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

WORLD HERITAGE LIST

N° 377

A) IDENTIFICATION

Nomination: Hattusha (Boğazkoy)

Location: Corum Province

State Party: Turkey

Date: December 27, 1985

B) ICOMOS RECOMMENDATION

That the proposed cultural property be included on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria I, II, III and IV.

C) JUSTIFICATION

The ruins of ancient Hattusha are framed by the grandiose backdrop of the high Anatolian plains 200 kilometers to the east of Ankara. To the north of Ibikcam Forest the ruins stretch from Yerkapi in the south as far north as Yazilikaya and from the modern village of Boğazkale (Boğazkoy) in the west as far east as Kayali Bogaz. This unforgettable archaeological site perpetuates the memory of one of the great capitals of antiquity, i.e. that of the Hittite empire which held sway during the 2nd millenium B.C.

The site was partially occupied at the end of the 3rd millenium by a pre-Hittite population which, as was also the case in other regions, permitted Assyrian traders to settle there. From a number of epigraphic documents we learn that the city was then called Hattus (Hattush) and that it was destroyed ca. 1720 by Anitta, a Hittite sovereign. A thick layer of ashes and burned vestige found by archaeologists testify to the violence of the fire.

Approximately one century later the site was modified by one of Anitta's successors, Labarna, who on this occasion took the name of Hattushili (meaning he who comes from Hattush). Hattushili I was the true founder of the Hittite empire and of the city's prosperity. From that time on, except for a short period during the reign of Mouwatalli (1305-1282) when the palace and gods were transferred to Dattassa, Hattusha remained the capital of the Hittite empire until its collapse ca. 1200. The expansionist policy of this empire asserted itself very early on with the taking of Babylon, ca. 1594.

The vicissitudes of a complex history rich in events did not

spare Hattusha. The city was taken by the Azzi invaders ca. 1400 and was to a substantial degree reconstructed thereafter. But unlike many other archaeological sites where there remain only monumental vestiges of a privileged era, the built up and rupestral ensembles of Hattusha illustrate remarkable historical continuity from the 18th to the 12th century.

The site, which was discovered in 1834, was not comprehensively excavated until 1906, which was the memorable date of the discovery of a copy of a peace treaty between Hattushili III and the Pharaoh Ramses II, which made possible the identification of Hattusha. Since then, joint efforts on the part of German and Turkish archaeologists have enabled us to make decisive progress in our knowledge of the Hittite capital. The exploration of Hattusha should serve as a model of long-term archaeological research planning and has given rise to a host of publications and to a specialized periodical issue of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut.

At its largest, the city spread over a sloping, uneven plateau, covering 2.1 km from north to south and 1.3 km from east to west. In the 13th century, the city was surrounded by a system of double walls forming a perimeter of roughly 8 kms. It was protected at the east end by the Kayali Bogaz outpost, 1.5 km from the Royal Gate. To the north, beyond the walls, were located a necropolis cut into the rock at Osmankayasi and the great rupestral sanctuary of Yazilikaya, whose walls decorated with bas-reliefs are the undisputed masterpiece of Hittite art.

Inside the walls whose most impressive remains lie to the south and the east and comprise primitive Hittite fortifications, with underground passageways, the city is built on two levels. To the northwest, not far from the present-day village of Boğazkale, which occupies part of the site, is the lower town. The most remarkable monument is the great temple, dedicated to the god of storms and to the goddess of the sun, Arinna, and surrounded by an array of buildings including stores (identified by the enormous storage jars preserved in situ), workshops, dwellings, a school for scribes, etc. Thousands of cuneiform tablets were found in this area. Slightly to the north of the temple is the Assyrian settlement's kârum with its houses built around a central courtyard. Part of it dates back to the pre-Hittite period. To the south is located the upper city, a complex layout and built upon a series of promontories. The most important element is the royal residence of Büyükkale, a veritable palace-citadel perched upon the main peak. This was already the seat of power during the pre-Hittite era and although the remarkable fortifications which surround the brick walls date back mainly to the 13th century, some parts of them are older, for instance from Phrygian times (7th and 6th centuries B.C.).

On other fortified peaks (Sarikale, Yenicekale) the

fortifications provide a more representative idea of the Hittite military architecture at its zenith. It is also in the southern area between the Lions' Gate to the west and the Royal Gate to the east (the only well preserved vestiges of the five original monumental entrances) that the best preserved stretches of the double wall are to be found. This wall protected Hattusha, its residential quarters, its palaces and temples (four temples were excavated in the southern zone where, in Nisantepe, between Büyükkale and the Royal Gate, the stone inscription of Souppiloulouma II, the last Hittite monarch, can be seen).

In recommending the inclusion of Hattusha on the World Heritage List, ICOMOS stresses first of all the fact that this unique archaeological site, whose importance is universally recognized, will help to strengthen the credibility and representativeness of the list of the cultural properties of mankind.

Although the choice of inclusion criteria do not, in this particular case, constitute an exceedingly arbitrary exercise, ICOMOS considers that criteria I, II, III and IV can be put forward jointly, at the same time presenting each separate argument:

Criterion I. The city's fortifications, along with the Lions' Gate and the Royal Gate and the Yazilikaya rupestal ensemble together with its sculptured friezes, represent unique artistic achievements as monuments.

Criterion II. Hattusha exerted dominating influence upon the civilisations of the 2nd and even the 1st millennium B.C. in Anatolia and northern Syria.

Criterion III. The palaces, temples, trading quarters and necropolis of this political and religious metropolis provide a comprehensive picture of a capital and bear a unique testimony to the disappeared Hittite civilisation.

Criterion IV. Several types of buildings or architectural ensembles are perfectly preserved in Hattusha: the royal residence, the temples and the fortifications.

With respect to the management of the site ICOMOS is very happy to note that the intentions of the Turkish government and the archaeological team are in harmony. It is desirable that the creation of a National Park, planned since 1971, become a reality so as to provide for improved protection of the soil, which is being used for agricultural and grazing purposes and which is threatened by large scale deforestation. Given the universal importance of the Hattusha site, it can also be hoped that the problem arising from the presence of the village of Boğazkale in the archaeological zone will also be addressed and ultimately resolved over the medium or long term.

BOĞAZKALE

GIRIŞ KONTROL
ENTRANCE STATION

KAMP YER!
CAMPGROUND

YAZILIKAYA

NEW ALIGNMENT WILL FOLLOW
THROUGH ARCHEOLOGICAL
INVESTIGATION OF DISTURBED AREA

TEK YÖNLÜ İLMİK YOL
ONE WAY LOOP ROAD

BÜYÜK KALE
- GRAND CASTLE

ASLANLI KAPI
LION GATE

HATTUSAS

KRAL KAPISI
KING'S GATE

PARK GİRİŞİ SEYİR NOKTASI
PARK ENTRANCE OVERLOOK

İ Ş A R E T L E R

✓ KARAKTERLER

YERİ DEĞİŞTİRİLECEK HAVA ELEKTRİK HATTI

ANCIENT RUM

AERIAL ELECTRIC LINE TO BE RELOCATED

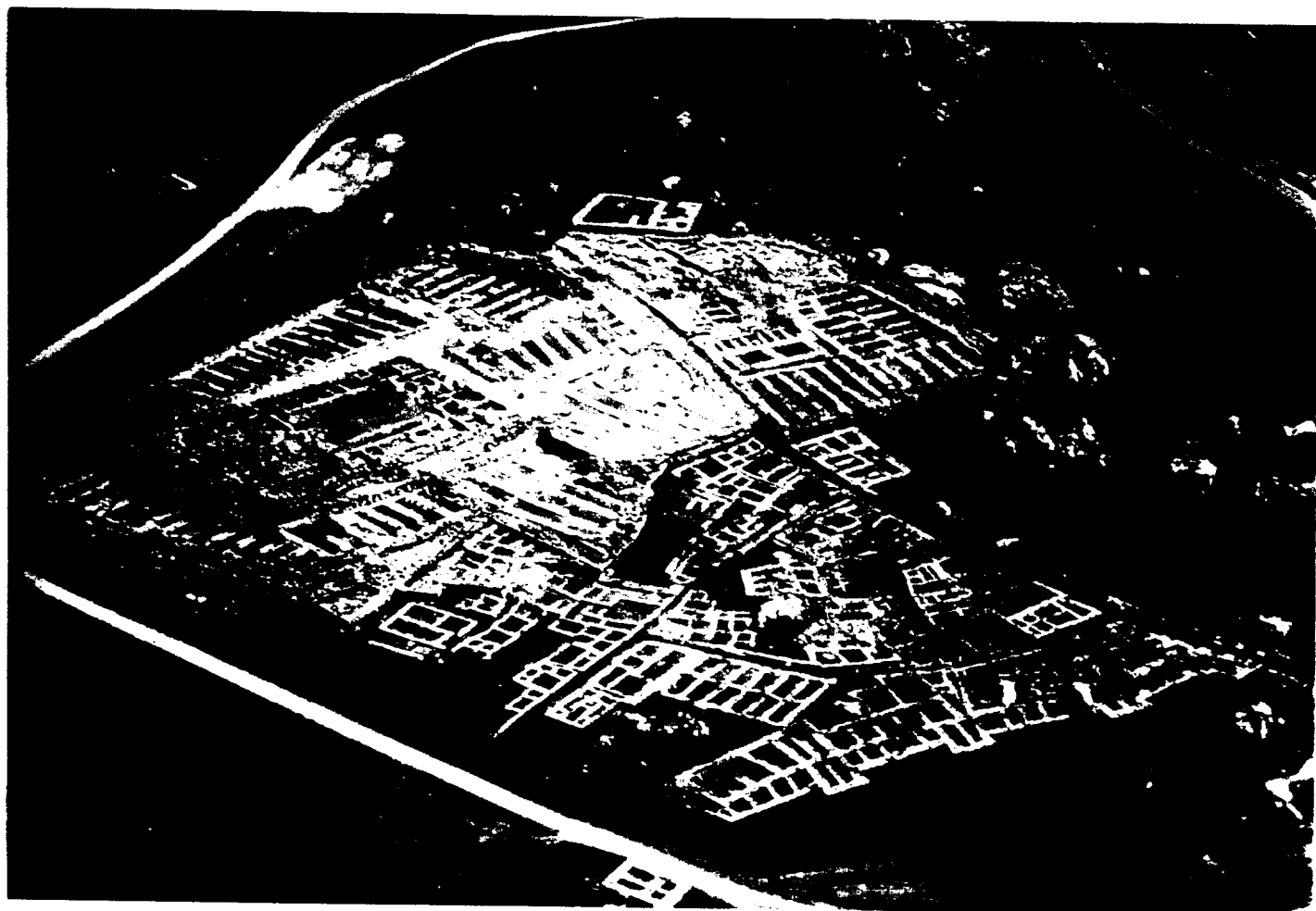
GENEL İNKİŞAF
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

- OLCER I AM THAT I Soon
280 0

MUNHANİ ACIKLIĞI METRE

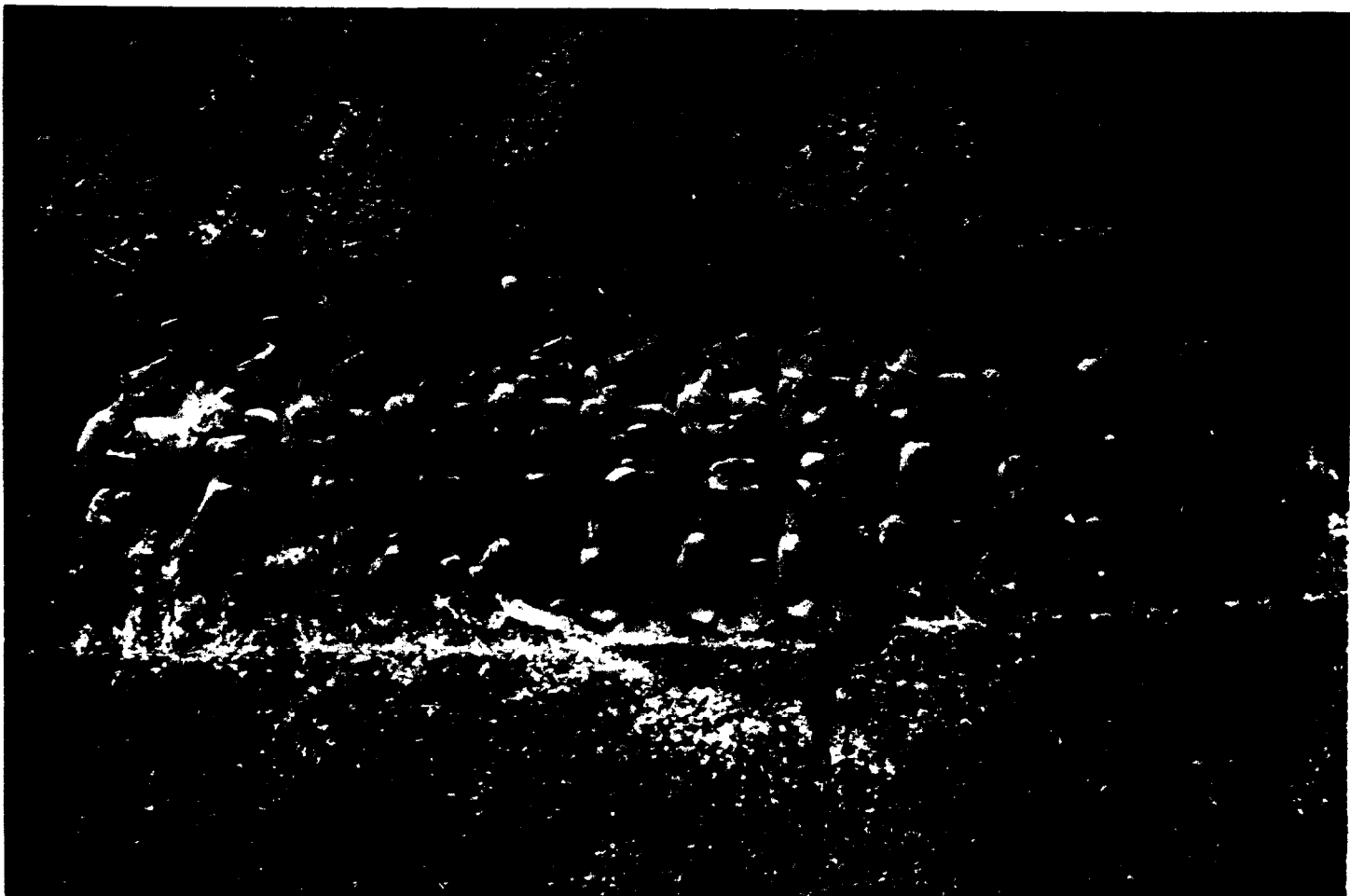
PARTIAL
BOG - 7
AGUSTOS - 1972



HATTOUSA : vue aérienne du Grand Temple



HATTOUSA : la porte des lions.



YAZILIKAYA : procession des douze dieux.