WORLD HERITAGE LIST

N° 559

A) IDENTIFICATION

Nomination : The Royal Estate of Drottningholm

<u>Location</u>: Province of Stockholm

State party : Sweden

<u>Date</u> : 25 October 1989

B) ICOMOS RECOMMENDATION

That this cultural property be included on the World Heritage List on the basis of Criterion IV.

C) ICOMOS OBSERVATIONS

The World Heritage Bureau in June 1991 recommended inscription of the entire Royal Estate of Drottningholm, provided the Swedish authorities could confirm that the proposal for inscription included the entire royal domain, not just the palace. Confirmation was received in a letter dated October 8, 1991. Accordingly, ICOMOS is pleased to confirm its support for the nomination.

D) BACKGROUND

The royal domain of Drottningholm is located on Queen's Island in Lake Malar, outside Stockholm. The island's name acknowledges the closely interwoven history of the castle with the different queens of Sweden. The first royal residence was built there towards the end of the 16th century for Queen Catherine Jagellon. A century later, Queen Hedvig-Eleonora bought the lands and had a new castle built by Nicodemus Tessin the Elder. After his death, his son carried on the work, but the building remained unfinished for nearly a hundred years. The next owner was a future queen, the crown princess Lovisa-Ulrika (wife of Adolph-Frederick 1751- 1771). She ordered Carl Harleman to continue the work in the style of Louis XV and, along with the private apartments, to add a library and a portrait gallery. Gustav III (1771-1792) inherited the castle from his mother, but the terrible monarch was obliged to sell it to the

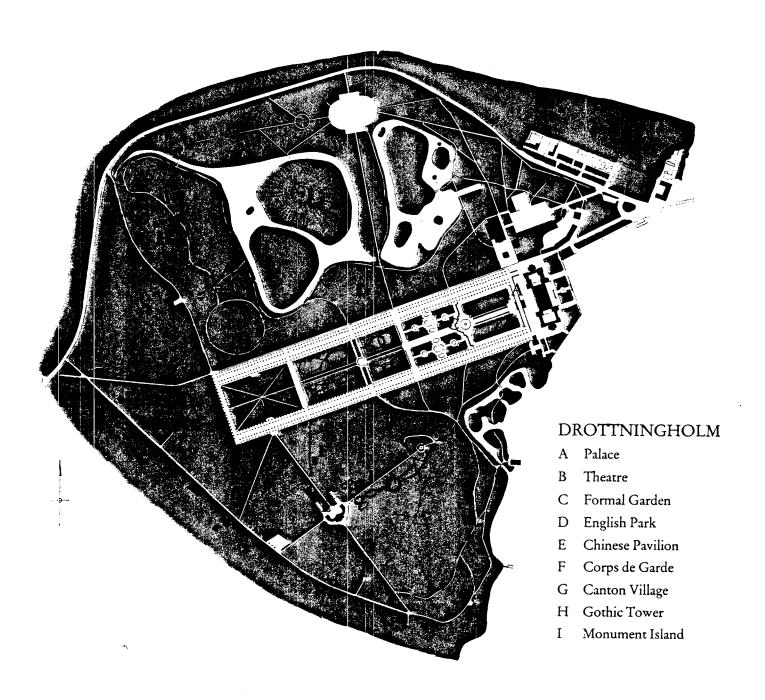
state with all the furnishings and collections of Lovisa-Ulrika. In the 20th century the castle, once again a residence for the royal family, was restored and a large part of the furnishings and decorations of the 18th century were returned.

The same queen Lovisa-Ulrika had Frederik Adelcrantz build a theatre (1766) on the castle grounds. In the early 20th century it was restored to its original appearance and refurbished with the original fittings, even the stage sets. It is a unique exemple of an European theatre of the 18th century having conserved its original state.

As a birthday gift, the mother of Gustav III was once given a Chinese pavilion, in keeping with the "chinoiseries" in vogue at the time. The pavilion is considered one of the most important among examples of this type of structure conserved in Europe.

- Criterion IV. The ensemble of Drottningholm - castle, theatre, Chinese pavilion and gardens - is the best example of a royal residence built in the 18th century in Sweden and is representative of all European architecture of that period, heir to the influences exerted by the Chateau of Versailles on the construction of royal residences in western, central and northern Europe.

ICOMOS, November 1991



Drottningholm : plan du palais et des jardins / plan of the palace and the gardens