

**A) IDENTIFICATION**

Nomination : Town of Sucre  
Location : Department of Chuquisaca  
State party : Bolivia  
Date : 6 April 1990

**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 deferred examination of this nomination in its June 1991 meeting in order to clarify the adequacy of legal measures for the management and protection of the site, and to clarify the extent to which a buffer zone surrounding the center could be extended.

Pertinent information has been received from the Bolivian authorities in letters of September 11, 1991, November 8, 1991 and November 26, 1991.

These letters and their annexes specify the following:

- the hills of Sica-Sica and Churuquilla which surround the town have been the subject of a preservation order since July 8, 1988. No construction or modification to landscape of any kind is permitted under this regulation; indeed an active reforestation programme is underway.
- documentation providing an overview of legal and management measures for the site and their historical development.

ICOMOS is satisfied with the adequacy of the measures described in the information provided.

#### **D) BACKGROUND**

Although Bolivia takes its name from Simon Bolivar, the country's first capital was renamed for the liberator's right-hand man, Antonio José de Sucre, who became the young republic's first president. The city founded by the Spanish in 1538 had previously been called La Plata. The site was inhabited by the Charcas Indians, who called their city Chuquisaca.

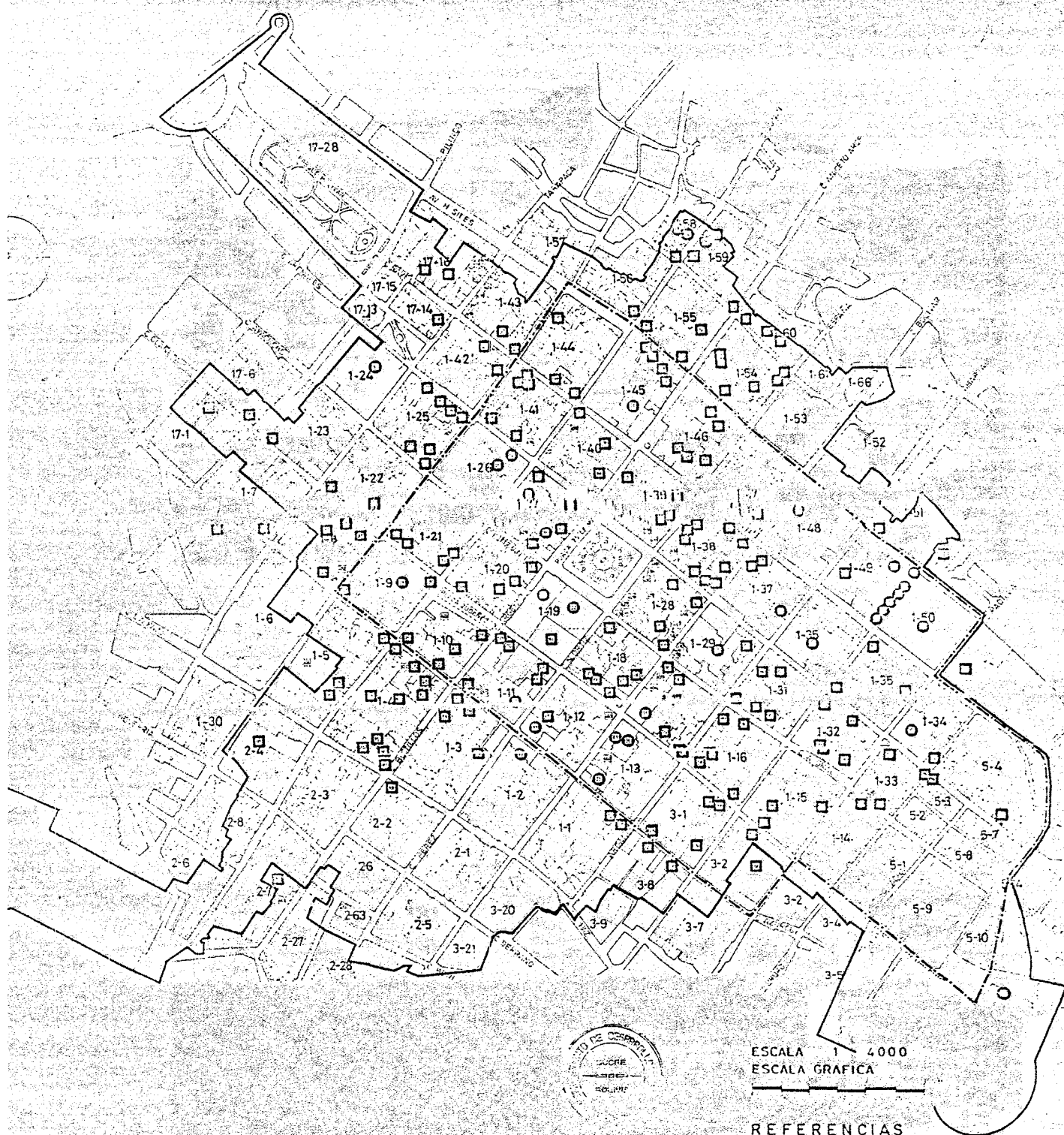
The Spanish city was designed on a simple urban plan, with the checkerboard-patterned streets found in all the cities founded by the Spanish in the regions of America in the sixteenth century. The mineral wealth of the nearby city of Potosi also influenced the economic development of La Plata, which was also a major cultural center: Universidad de San Francisco Javier (1624) and the Real Academia Carolina (law school), and the San Isabel de Hungria Seminario (1595). The city was also the seat of Charcas Audiencia (forerunner of the present Supreme Court). It has enjoyed special status since 1899 and is now Bolivia's constitutional capital, that is, the seat of the Supreme Court.

The buildings in the city's historic center are characteristic of eighteenth century local architecture and they are similar to those built during the same period in Potosi. More recent buildings (late eighteenth, early nineteenth century) still have patios, but they are adapted to a neoclassic styling brought from metropolitan Spain.

On the other hand, many religious buildings bear testimony to the period that marked the beginning of the Spanish city, including the churches built by settlers date back to the sixteenth century: San Lazaro (1544), San Francisco (1581), San Dominico (late sixteenth century), etc.

- **Criterion IV.** The rich heritage of the historic center of the Spanish city of Sucre (La Plata) is an excellent, intact and well-preserved illustration of the architectural blending achieved in Latin America through the assimilation of local traditions and styles imported from Europe.

ICOMOS, November1991



Sucre : plan du centre historique /  
map of the historic centre

#### REFERENCIAS

- MONUMENTOS NACIONALES DECLARADOS
- EDIFICIOS CON RECOMENDACIONES PARA SU RESTAURACION  
EN EL DECRETO SUPLENTO Nº 9365 D.G.R. Nº 432 27/11/73
- EDIFICIOS INCORPORADOS A LA ENCUESTA DE PATRIMONIO DE CEN  
LIMITE DE LA ZONA DECLARADA CIUDAD HISTORICA EN EL DECRETO SUPLENTO Nº 9365 D.G.R. Nº 432 27/11/73
- PERIMETRO DE PATRIMONIO PROPUUESTO POR LA LEY DE LA  
C.E.A. Y EL M.U.V. 1973

CEM  
MEN

ESTUDIO URBANO  
EXPEDIENTE  
PATRIMONIO HISTORICO CULTURAL  
MONUMENTOS NACIONALES

13 MAR. 1990