

# GERMANY

## Town of Bamberg

### Brief description

From the 10th century onwards, this town became an important link with the Slav peoples, especially those of Poland and Pomerania. During its period of greatest prosperity, from the 12th century onwards, the architecture of Bamberg strongly influenced northern Germany and Hungary. In the late 18th century it was the centre of the Enlightenment in southern Germany, with eminent philosophers and writers such as Hegel and Hoffmann living there.

### 1. Introduction

#### Year of Inscription

1993

#### Agency responsible for site management

- The Mayor of the City of Bamberg,  
(Oberbürgermeister)  
Maximiliansplatz 3  
D - 96047 Bamberg  
website: [www.stadt.bamberg.de](http://www.stadt.bamberg.de)
- Bavarian State Ministry for Science, Research and Art  
(Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Kunst)  
Salvatorstr. 2  
D - 80327 München  
website: [www.stmwfk.bayern.de](http://www.stmwfk.bayern.de)

### 2. Statement of Significance

#### Inscription Criteria

C (ii), (iv)

#### Justification provided by the State Party

Due to its favourable location on the slopes and in the valley, Bamberg is a unique example of a central European town developed on a basic early medieval structure, which also determines Bamberg's character as an "open" town. The foundation by Kaiser Heinrich II - who was later canonized - of the bishopric as a precondition for Bamberg acquiring a town charter at the beginning of the 11th century was motivated by political and religious reasons which concerned the whole of Europe. The town's resulting links with the eastern parts of central Europe, which culminated not least in the activities of Bishop Otto I - also canonized - have remained lively throughout its history. The

further development of this town reflects the political, socio-economic and cultural changes taking place in Central European history up to recent times particularly clearly, not least because the basic historic structures of the buildings have been preserved in their original form to a degree that is unusual for Germany. Its historic layout and buildings clearly illustrate the unique history of this town. From the 11th to the 18th centuries, the construction of the numerous architectural monuments was always embedded in a network of all-European links. For example, the cathedral is on the one hand connected with the construction sheds of Reims and Laon cathedrals, as well as with the building activities of the Cistercians; its influence, on the other hand, extended not only to central Germany (Magdeburg, Naumburg a. d. Saale) but even to Hungary (former monastery church of Ják). The late medieval and, in particular, the baroque architecture of this town is closely tied to that of Bohemia (Parler, Dientzenhofer). The socio-economic characteristics of the town must also be underlined, since they are of decisive importance for the town's historic appearance today: that is, the integration of agricultural areas - the commercial nursery in the valley area, and the agriculture which evolved from wine-growing in the hillside area. As a medium-sized town, Bamberg has been able to cope with its comparatively limited growth without detriment to its basic appearance. The historical awareness of the people of Bamberg ensures their active participation in town preservation, which is regarded as a matter of common concern. This is in line with the state and municipal promotion of town preservation.

#### As provided in ICOMOS evaluation

This nomination was considered by the World Heritage Bureau at its 16th Meeting in Paris in July 1992. It was deferred "to allow the competent German authorities to reconsider the proposed boundary, as well as the buffer zone. The new boundary should not include recent constructions".

In May 1993 a revised nomination was submitted to the World Heritage Centre, proposing a more limited area of the town for inclusion on the World Heritage List.

The revised nomination has been studied by ICOMOS, which is satisfied that the new boundaries conform with its earlier recommendation (a copy of the original ICOMOS evaluation is appended).

**Recommendation**

That this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria ii and iv:

*Criterion ii:* The layout and architecture of medieval and renaissance Bamberg exerted a strong influence on urban form and evolution in the lands of central Europe from the 11th century onwards.

*Criterion iv:* Bamberg is an outstanding and representative example of an early medieval town in central Europe, both in its plan and its many surviving ecclesiastical and secular buildings.

**Committee Decision**

Bureau (1992): the Bureau deferred the examination of the nomination to allow the competent German authorities to reconsider the proposal boundary, as well as the buffer zone. The new boundary should not include recent constructions.

Bureau (December 1993): the Bureau recalled that the nomination of Bamberg was deferred by the Bureau at its sixteenth session in order to permit the competent German authorities to reconsider the boundaries of the site and the buffer zone so as not to include recent constructions in the World Heritage Site.

The German authorities presented additional information on the site as well as new proposals for the buffer zone and site boundaries. ICOMOS stressed that the proposed boundaries are in accordance with the Bureau observations. The Bureau therefore decided to recommend to the Committee to inscribe the site under criteria (ii) and (iv).

Session (1993): the Committee inscribed the site on the World Heritage List under criteria (ii) and (iv).

- Proposal for Statement of Significance has been made by State Party
- Change to UNESCO's official description of the site also proposed by State Party

**Boundaries and Buffer Zone**

- Status of boundaries of the site: adequate
- Buffer zone: adequate
- The buffer zone is protected by the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and also as an ensemble within the meaning of the Bavarian Law on the Protection of Monuments

**Status of Authenticity/Integrity**

- World Heritage site values have been maintained

**3. Protection****Legislative and Administrative Arrangements**

- Preparatory Land-Use Plan, municipal statutes
- The protection arrangements are considered highly effective

**4. Management****Use of site/property**

- Urban centre

**Management/Administrative Body**

- Steering group: set up in January 1996
- Formally constituted
- Overall management system: management by the Local Party combined with traditional protective measures
- Site manager: responsibilities have been added to an existing job
- Levels of public authority who are primarily involved with the management of the site: local
- The current management system is highly effective

**5. Management Plan**

- Management plan is being implemented
- Implementation commenced: December 2003
- Revised: July 2005
- Effective/ insufficiently effective
- Responsibility for over-seeing the implementation of the management plan and monitoring its effectiveness: Town Councillor for Planning and Building Affairs (Baureferat) of the City of Bamberg

**6. Financial Resources****Financial situation**

- Federal State Budget; Free State of Bavaria; Town of Bamberg; Town of Bamberg World Heritage Foundation; private owners; churches; foundations
- Other resources: urban redevelopment subsidies
- Sufficient

**7. Staffing Levels**

- Number of staff not provided

Rate of access to adequate professional staff across the following disciplines:

- Very good: conservation, promotion, interpretation
- Good: management, education, visitor management

### **8. Sources of Expertise and Training in Conservation and Management Techniques**

- Training and study courses in restoration, urban planning, monument conservation, construction research, art history and other specialist disciplines; in Bamberg, training centres are available through the Museum Workshops, the workshops of the archive and libraries, the Cathedral Masons (Dombauhütte) and the Master course in the Conservation of Monuments

### **9. Visitor Management**

- Visitor statistics: 1,800,000 in 2002 (accommodation figures plus projection figures: The number of overnight stays in guest houses and hotels in the town is some 300,000 per year. There are a further 400,000 private guests, 30,000 on river boats and hundreds of thousands of overnight stays near the town. This means some 1.8 million day trippers) - increasing trend
- Visitor facilities: visitor centre, museums, shops, etc.
- Visitor needs: World Heritage visitor centre with a model of the town, central coach park
- Visitor/tourism management plan

### **10. Scientific Studies**

- Studies related to the value of the site, condition surveys, impact of World Heritage designation, archaeological surveys, visitor management, transportation studies
- Studies used for management of site

### **11. Education, Information and Awareness Building**

- No enough signs referring to World Heritage site
- World Heritage Convention Emblem used on some publications

- Adequate awareness of World Heritage among: visitors, local communities, businesses, local authorities
- Numerous special events, heritage days, traditional festivals, exhibition
- Web site available

### **12. Factors affecting the Property (State of Conservation)**

#### **Reactive monitoring reports**

- N/A

#### **Conservation interventions**

- Comprehensive maintenance and conservation works, excavations
- Present state of conservation: good

#### **Threats and Risks to site**

- Specific issues: the question of adequate financial resources could become a key factor in the years to come

### **13. Monitoring**

- No formal monitoring programme

Future indicators to consider:

- continuity of the urban structure
- continuity of the ownership structure
- state of repair of the buildings within the World Heritage site and the buffer zone
- state of repair of roads, bridges, paths and squares within the World Heritage site and the buffer zone
- state of repair of conduits within the World Heritage site and the buffer zone
- number of shops and businesses in the World Heritage site
- state of equipment of the World Heritage site with infrastructure such as kindergartens, schools, doctors, theatres, museums, public service-providers, churches, bus stops, courts, parks
- number of overnight stays in Bamberg per year
- number of inhabitants within the World Heritage site and the buffer zone
- quality of water flowing within the World Heritage site
- quality of ground water in the area of the World Heritage site
- air quality in the area of the World Heritage site
- number of zoological and biological species in the World Heritage site

#### ***14. Conclusions and Recommended Actions***

- Main benefits of WH status: conservation, economic, management
- Strengths of management: The authenticity and integrity of the inscribed World Heritage site have been entirely protected. The general level of conservation has improved and the level of research knowledge has increased. There has been a very intensive public awareness campaign. As a result the implementation of management goals has improved. Business and tourism have benefited from the positive image