
Naumburg Cathedral (Germany) No 1470rev

Official name as proposed by the State Party

Naumburg Cathedral

Location

State of Saxony-Anhalt
Germany

Brief description

Naumburg is located in the eastern part of the Thuringian Basin, near the confluence of the Saale and Unstrut Rivers. Naumburg Cathedral dates primarily to the 13th century and is nominated as a testimony to medieval art and architecture. Its notable architectural and artistic features include its two Gothic choirs in the east and the west, and the west choir features twelve unique life-size sculptures of the cathedral's founder. These sculptures and the west rood screen are the masterpieces of the workshop named 'the Naumburg Master'. In addition to the Cathedral, the property includes associated medieval buildings, including the enclosure, gatehouse, collegiate church of St Mary, gardens and conserved fortifications south-west of the cloister.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a *site*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

20 September 1999

International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

23 January 2014
22 January 2016
31 January 2018

Background

A nomination titled Naumburg Cathedral and related sites in the Cultural Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut was considered by the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee (2017, Krakow):

Decision: 41 COM 8B.29

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Documents WHC-17/41.COM/8B and WHC-17/41.COM/INF.8B1,*
2. *Refers the nomination of Naumburg Cathedral and related sites in the Cultural Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut, Germany, back to the State Party in order to allow it, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, if requested to:*
 - a. *Re-scope the nomination by focusing on the given Outstanding Universal Value of Naumburg Cathedral;*
 - b. *Adjust the boundaries of the nominated property and the management plan;*
 - c. *Review the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of Naumburg Cathedral for final adoption by the Committee within three years.*

Prior to this decision, an earlier version of this nomination titled 'Naumburg Cathedral and the Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut – Territories of Power in the High Middle Ages' was considered by the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee (2015, Bonn):

Decision: 39 COM 8B.26

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Documents WHC-15/39.COM/8B and WHC-15/39.COM/INF.8B1,*
2. *Defers the examination of the nomination of The Naumburg Cathedral and the Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut – Territories of Power in the High Middle Ages, Germany, to the World Heritage List in order to allow the State Party to:*
 - a) *further explore the relationship between the Naumburg Cathedral and the surrounding landscape;*
 - b) *strengthen the representativeness of the territorial and urban organization for the period of the High Middle Ages and the significance of the related monuments;*
 - c) *redefine the boundaries of the site taking into account the concerns put forward by ICOMOS so as to ensure adequate protection;*
 - d) *submit – on the basis of the above-mentioned recommendations – a significantly revised nomination, which will require an expert mission to the site;*
3. *Suggests that the State Party consider inviting ICOMOS to offer advice and guidance.*

Consultations

ICOMOS consulted several independent experts.

Technical Evaluation Mission

An ICOMOS Technical Evaluation Mission visited the property from 18 to 21 September 2014. In the context of submission of the revised nomination in 2016, an ICOMOS Technical Evaluation Mission again visited the property from 13 to 16 August 2016.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

14 March 2018

2 The property

Description

Naumburg Cathedral – or the Cathedral of St Peter and Paul in Naumburg (Saale) is the former cathedral of the Diocese of Naumburg, which was dissolved in 1564 as a result of the reformation. Since that time, it retained its status as the church of the Cathedral Chapter and became a parish church.

The Cathedral was constructed from 1028 onwards. It is located south of the Saale River and its confluence with the Unstrut River. The cathedral district reached its maximum development in the 13th and 14th centuries, which is still legible today within the city of Naumburg. It consists of the cathedral, monastery complex at the southern end, chapter house in the south and west wings, cathedral garden, Chapel of St Mary and Chapel of the Three Kings. These are briefly described in the nomination dossier.

The nomination provides a detailed description of exterior and interior elements of the cathedral, its floor plan, and artistic works (sculptures, carvings, paintings). It has a Romanesque structure flanked by two Gothic choirs, demonstrating a transitional style between Late Romanesque and Early Gothic. It is known for its architectural quality and works of art; particularly the two well-preserved choir screen structures from the first half of the 13th century. In the west choir, pillars supporting the vault merge with twelve life-sized sculptures of the founders (aristocratic men and women of the Thuringian-Saxon nobility), considered to be unique within European medieval sculpture. The workshop organisation of sculptors and stone masons from the 13th century is known as the 'Naumburg Master', and the west choir is characterised by the integration of the sculpture, architecture and glass painting.

History and development

An extensive historical description is provided by the State Party in the nomination dossier.

A combination of characteristics of the natural environment and climate during the High Middle Ages made the area of the confluence of the Saale and Unstrut Rivers suitable for farming and wine growing, facilitating the processes of settlement of this borderland region. The rivers provided trade routes, frontiers and water resources. Located at a contact point between German and Slav cultures, the area was connected to other European regions by two major historical routes linking western and eastern Europe.

The town of Naumburg became a bishop's seat in 1028. It was moved from Zeitz to Naumburg due to the efforts of the pope and the Ekkehardines. Naumburg already had the status of *civitas* at that time and was granted free trade privileges which encouraged settlement from nearby towns. The family ties of the bishops with the kings and emperors from the Salian and Hohenstaufen dynasties

contributed to the enhancement of Naumburg as a centre of commerce and imperial outpost of Christian civilisation.

The plan of the Cathedral Chapter to begin work on a new cathedral dates from 1213, and the new building was consecrated in 1242.

The 'Naumburg Master' refers to an unnamed sculptor and his workshop, responsible for the construction of the west choir of Naumburg Cathedral, including the sculptures of the twelve founder figures and the west rood screen. The State Party suggests that there is evidence from recent research that the Naumburg Master also influenced the scheme of stained glass windows in the west choir.

The work of the Naumburg Master is notable for its ability to combine sculpture with architectural elements, and because of the realistic expressions of the sculptures. The State Party therefore considers that the Naumburg Master is one of the most important artists of the Middle Ages. Sculptures by the Naumburg Master are also found in other places, such as the Cathedral at Reims in France, and Mainz in Germany.

The advent of the Reformation brought major changes. The Catholic convents and monasteries were suppressed and their possessions passed into the hands of private tenants. However, the Naumburg Cathedral chapter saw its property rights substantially untouched. The city of Naumburg grew in importance until the 17th century, when the thirty-year war devastated the region. In the 18th century Naumburg and its region experienced economic revitalisation, due to vine-growing and salt extraction. From the early 19th century until 1945, the area became part of Prussia. The opening of the railways Frankfurt-Dresden and Munich-Berlin confirmed the area as a continuing cross-roads location, and Naumburg became an administrative centre of regional importance.

3 Justification for inscription, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

According to the State Party, the comparative analysis has been framed within the context of 'religious Christian sites of the High and Late Middle Ages in western and northern Europe'.

The State Party has identified 210 properties in Europe from the 13th-14th centuries with monuments of religious architecture and finds that 22 religious/sacred buildings are inscribed in the World Heritage List as single monuments, 12 are inscribed as components of larger properties, and 5 are included in Tentative Lists. Relevant comparators from the World Heritage List include: Bamberg Cathedral as a part of the Town of Bamberg (Germany, 1993 (ii) (iv)); Regensburg Cathedral as part of the Old Town of Regensburg and Stadthof (Germany, 2006 (ii) (iii) (iv)); Reims Cathedral, as part of the World Heritage site of the

Cathedral of Notre-Dame, Former Abbey of Saint-Rémi and Palace of Tau, Reims (France, 1991 (i) (ii) (vi)); Sainte Chapelle as part of the World Heritage site of Paris, Banks of the Seine (France, 1991 (i) (ii) (iv)); and Burgos Cathedral (Spain, 1984 (ii) (iv) (vi)).

All the identified sites are assessed in terms of whether they possess the following six characteristics of the Naumburg Cathedral: double choir structure (6); rood screen dating to before 1300 (10); portrayal of founder figures (5); overall iconographic concept before 1300 (1); workshop or work of a master (24); and, the work of the Naumburg Master (7). The State Party concludes that there are no other cathedrals with the specific architectural and artistic features of Naumburg Cathedral, and that the importance of the 'Naumburg Master' justifies its consideration for inscription in the World Heritage List.

While only Naumburg Cathedral meets all six selection criteria proposed by the State Party, ICOMOS questions the relevance of the selection framework established by the State Party in terms of its relationship to the criteria for inclusion in the World Heritage List; and considers that the reliance on the attributes of the work of the Naumburg Master is a narrow basis for justifying the Outstanding Universal Value. In addition, European cathedrals of this period are well-represented in the World Heritage List, including a number in Germany. In applying the World Heritage Committee's Global Strategy, the comparative basis on which the proposed Outstanding Universal Value rests deserves close examination.

In conclusion, ICOMOS questions the relevance of the selection framework established by the State Party in terms of its relationship to the criteria for inclusion in the World Heritage List; and considers that the reliance on the attributes of the work of the Naumburg Master is a relatively narrow basis for justifying the Outstanding Universal Value of Naumburg Cathedral.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis does not justify consideration of this property for the World Heritage List.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

The nominated property is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- Naumburg Cathedral is a unique testimony to medieval art and architecture, based on the Romanesque nave and two Gothic choirs;
- The famous sculptures of the founders of the cathedral in the west choir, and the west rood screen are the masterpieces of the pan-European workshop known as the 'Naumburg Master' and are among the most significant sculptures of the Middle Ages;

- The overall iconographic concept, combining architecture, sculpture and glass paintings reflect changes in religious practice and visual arts of the 13th century.

ICOMOS considers that the justification proposed by the State Party is potentially relevant, but that a stronger comparative analysis is critical to the ability to demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value for this property.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

The State Party considers that the integrity of the nominated property is based on the unchanged layout and architectural elements of the mid-13th century cathedral, and the lack of any adverse effects or pressures.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property is of adequate size and contains all the attributes related to its historical and artistic significance.

Authenticity

The State Party considers that the authenticity of the nominated property is demonstrated by the intact materials and form of the cathedral, which date to the High Middle Ages. All repairs have used stone from the original quarries used to build the cathedral. The building retains its original functions and regular services are performed. The location and setting of the cathedral within Naumburg is also part of the site's authenticity, as is the ability of the cathedral's silhouette to be seen within the surrounding landscape.

ICOMOS has no concerns about the authenticity of Naumburg Cathedral, which exhibits a high degree of authenticity to the Middle Ages.

ICOMOS has not identified any issues in relation to the conditions of integrity and authenticity, but considers that the Outstanding Universal Value is dependent on a more focused comparative analysis and the assessment of the criteria under which inscription is proposed.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (i), (ii) and (iv).

Criterion (i): represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the basis of the artistic qualities of Naumburg Cathedral, particularly its double choir structure, west rood screen, and life-sized founder sculptures. The choir screens from the first half of the 13th century reflect changes in religious practice, and the inclusion of science and nature in the figurative arts. The workshop organisation of sculptors and stone masons referred to as the 'Naumburg Master', and the artistic significance of the

quality of the works at Naumburg Cathedral are considered by the State Party to demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value in relation to criterion (i) due to their ability to offer insight into the arts, architecture, and technology of their specific era.

ICOMOS has previously stated that it does not consider that the artistic significance of the Cathedral is sufficient to justify criterion (i). ICOMOS does not consider that any additional evidence has been provided that would change its previous assessment; and does not consider that the nominated property can be considered as a masterpiece of human creative genius based solely on several of the artistic elements within the Cathedral. In relation to the cathedral itself, ICOMOS considers that it does not demonstrate exceptional qualities compared with other World Heritage listed European cathedrals of this period.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been demonstrated.

Criterion (ii): exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the basis of the 13th century organisation of the workshop known as the 'Naumburg Master', known for its innovations in architecture and sculpture. The movement of this workshop from northeastern France to the eastern boundaries of the Holy Roman Empire and beyond, demonstrates European cultural exchange during the High Middle Ages.

ICOMOS notes the historical context of the Cathedral, but questions the ability of the Cathedral to demonstrate the qualities of interchange required by this criterion. ICOMOS acknowledges that the Naumburg Cathedral contains the most important work of the Naumburg Master. However, it is also noted that the influences and attributions of the Naumburg Master are not fully resolved amongst art history scholars. ICOMOS therefore concludes that these elements are not a sufficient basis for the demonstration of criterion (ii).

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been demonstrated.

Criterion (iv): be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the basis that its large double choir structure was built in the transitional style between Late Romanesque and Early Gothic. The two well-preserved choir screen structures from the 13th century are unique, and are considered by the State Party to be ground-breaking.

As noted above, ICOMOS considers that the setting out of the typology and selection parameters by the State Party are highly specific to this property. ICOMOS does not consider that the comparative analysis establishes that Naumburg Cathedral demonstrates a significant stage in human history in an outstanding way.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been demonstrated.

ICOMOS considers that none of the cultural criteria have been demonstrated.

4 Factors affecting the property

The information submitted for this referred back property discusses a range of factors, including traffic management, climate change, air pollution, and natural disasters. None are considered to be threats to the Naumburg Cathedral, and the nomination dossier briefly outlines the risk preparedness in place for fire and lightning. The Cathedral is located on a high point within the city, and has never been affected by flooding of the nearby rivers.

The average number of visitors for year is approximately 130,000, although this was exceeded in 2011 (246,000 visitors) due to the international exhibition on the 'Naumburg Master'. A permanent exhibition was opened in the western wing of the cloister in 2006; and the Cathedral garden was opened to the public in 2011 to accompany the exhibition. The State Party advises that visitor numbers to the cathedral are well-managed, and estimates that a carrying capacity of 600,000 is feasible. Carrying capacity is reviewed every five years, and measures to change visitor access arrangements will be implemented if the annual visitation exceeds 450,000.

ICOMOS considers that there are few threats to Naumburg Cathedral.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The nominated property has an area of 1.82 ha, with a buffer zone of 56.98 ha. The boundaries are well-delineated. No specific rationale for the delineation of the buffer zone is provided in the material submitted by the State Party; however, ICOMOS notes that the extent of the buffer zone reflects the urban morphology in the old town of Naumburg. Based on the desktop level of analysis possible for referred-back nominations, ICOMOS has not identified any concerns with the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone.

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries and buffer zone of the property are appropriate.

Ownership

The cathedral and adjacent buildings are owned by a public foundation, the Combined Chapters of the Cathedrals of Merseburg and Naumburg and the Collegiate Church of Zeitz (referred to as 'the Combined Chapters'). This organisation has a long history, and has existed in this legal form since 1930 when the Catholic and Protestant chapters merged. There are no inhabitants in the nominated property, and 3142 people live within the buffer zone.

Protection

The State Party has explained the system of protection in detail in the nomination documents. Naumburg Cathedral is protected by the Act for the Protection of Historic Monuments and Buildings of the State of Saxony-Anhalt. This is the highest level of protection available in Germany. The Federal Building Code, and Regional Planning Act are also important as they regulate new development. All cultural monuments and sites in the buffer zone are listed in the monuments register by the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt. Building activities in the buffer zone are subject to land development plans, building development plan and municipal statutes.

ICOMOS considers that the legal protection in place is effective.

Conservation

The State Party briefly explains that Naumburg Cathedral exhibits a good state of conservation. The fabric of the cathedral and other buildings are well cared for, and there are no adverse effects of development or neglect. Original materials for needed repairs have been used for centuries, obtained from local quarries. Restoration work has occurred from the early 19th century.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property is well-documented and demonstrates a good state of conservation. There are good plans and photographic documentation to support the monitoring processes for Naumburg Cathedral.

ICOMOS considers that the cathedral and associated elements demonstrate a good state of conservation.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

The Combined Chapters of the Cathedrals of Merseburg and Naumburg and the Collegiate Church of Zeitz is the owner of the nominated property, and is responsible for the implementation of the management system, and for conservation and maintenance works. The Combined Cathedral Chapters is made up of a Board of Trustees, and the Director is responsible for various departments,

including one for preservation management and restoration. A specialist architect is employed in the capacity of 'cathedral master builder' (*Dombaumeisterin*) including the planning of conservation measures. The Combined Cathedral Chapters works in close cooperation with the State Ministry of Culture of Saxony-Anhalt, and the City of Naumburg (Saale).

Revenue is raised from rents, leases, entrance fees and public subsidies. The nomination dossier provides a detailed list of sources of additional funds available for the care and use of the cathedral.

The State Office for Monument Conservation and Archaeology of Saxony-Anhalt provides services such as scientific research, inventories of cultural monuments, and provision of specialist expertise. The City of Naumburg is responsible for administering the Monument Protection Act, administration of grants and permits, and providing advice to owners.

The Saale-Unstrut World Heritage Association was founded in 2008 to guide the processes of the previous two (larger) World Heritage nominations. Private and public stakeholders participate in the association. ICOMOS is not certain about how this Association is involved in the management system now that the nomination has focused on the Cathedral alone, but considers that the broad participation is a positive element.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

No management plan was submitted with the information received for this referred-back nomination. ICOMOS notes that a Management Plan dated 2014 was previously submitted for the nomination of a large cultural landscape, but is uncertain about its status given the narrower focus of this referred-back nomination. The previous Management Plan is not mentioned in the section on Management in the materials submitted in January 2018.

In its previous evaluations, ICOMOS commented that the Management Plan was mostly descriptive, with only general guidelines provided. ICOMOS assumes that there could be a detailed management plan or conservation plan for the cathedral, but it has not had the opportunity to review it.

The State Party has provided information about the Rehabilitation Charter and Preservation Charter in place for the 'old town' area (Building Code mechanisms established by the City of Naumburg). The Cathedral and its buffer zone are located within Rehabilitation Charter areas, and the buffer zone is included in the Preservation Charter area. A legally binding development plan and a Design Charter on the preservation of the old city and streetscape are also in place for the buffer zone, along with a range of other local planning regulations. If no

Management Plan for the Cathedral exists, ICOMOS recommends that one should be prepared, irrespective of the outcome of the World Heritage nomination process.

The State of Saxony-Anhalt is responsible for regional tourism planning. As noted above, the State Party reports that visitor numbers generally range between 130,000-150,000 per year. The Combined Cathedral Chapters have plans in place for improved interpretation and education arrangements, including a new international visitor centre. Should the Naumburg Cathedral be included in the World Heritage List, this proposal should be forwarded to the World Heritage Centre for review in accordance with par. 172 of the Operational Guidelines.

The cultural monuments surrounding the nominated property are operated by the Saale-Unstrut Tourism Association (Verband Saale-Unstrut-Tourismus e.V). The cathedral has a visitor centre, and there is a tourist information centre in the Naumburg city centre. The Combined Cathedral Chapters also has staff for visitor service and tourism functions and operate shops and guided tours at the cathedral.

Involvement of the local communities

Although only briefly discussed in the materials provided by the State Party, it appears that the local community has been involved and engaged in the nomination; and that many local organisations, business, owners and other citizens have supported the nomination process throughout each of its stages.

Although no Management Plan was submitted for this referred back nomination, ICOMOS considers that the management system appears to be appropriate for the conservation of the Naumburg Cathedral.

6 Monitoring

The Combined Cathedral Chapters are responsible for implementing the monitoring system, in cooperation with the Saale-Unstrut World Heritage Association. Indicators for monitoring have been established for the cathedral and associated elements. Monitoring includes the conditions of facades, weather resistance and structural safety; condition of stonework, visual inspections of painting and sculptures by professional restorers. Periodic reviews of the condition of materials is done every 5 years (and every 10 years for the buffer zone, based on the cultural landscape cadaster). From 2018, sensors will be installed in the cathedral to monitor humidity and airflow, starting at the west choir.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed monitoring system is appropriate for the Naumburg Cathedral.

7 Conclusions

This proposal arises from the World Heritage Committee's 2017 decision to refer back the previous nomination of the 'Naumburg Cathedral and the Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut – Territories of Power in the High Middle Ages' (Germany). Decision 41 COM 8B.29 proposes to the State Party to re-submit this nomination by focusing on the cathedral alone (rather than the cultural landscape which was the orientation of the previous nomination). The State Party has complied with this decision, and the submitted information comprises a new nomination dossier.

In its two earlier evaluations of the cultural landscape of the area where the Saale and Unstrut Rivers converge, ICOMOS noted the significance of Naumburg Cathedral and its immediate setting, due in particular to its double-choir structure and other features, which are considered highly significant by art historians. In the evaluation presented to the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee (2017, Krakow), ICOMOS stated that it did not consider that the significance of the Cathedral alone was sufficient to justify any of the cultural criteria, in part because this site type is already relatively well represented by other, more outstanding examples in the World Heritage List. While the work of the Naumburg Master is valorised in art history, ICOMOS has not found any substantial new evidence in the material submitted for this referred-back nomination that supports the Outstanding Universal Value of the Naumburg Cathedral.

ICOMOS considers that the comparisons with other European cathedrals of this period makes the Outstanding Universal Value of this cathedral difficult to specify. The justification of Outstanding Universal Value proposed by the State Party rests heavily on the sculptures and west choir screen that are the work of the Naumburg Master. Reference to specific artworks in this way poses difficulties for the application of criterion (i) according to its present form and wording, as briefly explained below.

The text for criterion (i) has changed over time. The words 'unique artistic achievement' were present within the text in versions of the Operational Guidelines until 1995 when, in the context of the adoption of the Global Strategy, these words were removed and the shorter text in place today was adopted ('to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius'). The records of the World Heritage Committee explain this change: "*Europe, Christianity, "monumental" architecture and historic periods are very much over-represented, to the notable disadvantage of archaeological and technological heritage, of non-European cultures and, in a more general manner, of all living creatures, especially those of "traditional" societies.*" (WHC-95/CONF.203/08)

ICOMOS has reviewed the use of criterion (i) in relation to elements of specific outstanding artworks that are associated with religious buildings and ensembles in Europe. The case of the 'Church and Dominican Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie with "The Last Supper" by

Leonardo da Vinci' (Italy, 1980, (i), (ii)) is notable (initially nominated as 'The Last Supper' by Leonardo da Vinci'). Even at this early stage of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, the World Heritage Committee was concerned about setting a precedent for consideration of the importance and inclusion of artistic works, and questioned how many might be reasonably included in the World Heritage List.

These early discussions, the caution exercised by the World Heritage Committee over time, and the changes to criterion (i) in the specific context of the adoption of the Global Strategy suggest to ICOMOS some important delimitations of the purposes of the World Heritage List. These points have informed the evaluation by ICOMOS which has concluded that criterion (i) is not demonstrated for Naumburg Cathedral.

Likewise, ICOMOS considers that the work of the Naumburg Master, and the role of the cathedral in the history of Christianity in this part of Europe do not demonstrate cultural interchange in an exceptional way, as required for criterion (ii). Finally, as a component of a typology, Naumburg Cathedral does not meet criterion (iv), because more outstanding examples are already inscribed in the World Heritage List.

While the legal protection, state of conservation and management of the nominated property are considered to be adequate, the nominated property is unable to meet any of the cultural criteria, and the Outstanding Universal Value is not demonstrated.

The State Party has now nominated Naumburg Cathedral and its landscape of the confluence of the Saale and Unstrut Rivers in three different formulations. ICOMOS acknowledges the sustained work undertaken by the local communities and by the State of Saxony-Anhalt and regrets that it is unable to recommend the inscription of the Naumburg Cathedral.

ICOMOS acknowledges that this outcome, which reflects the professional judgement of ICOMOS in its role as an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee, creates an uncomfortable lack of alignment with the World Heritage Committee's decision 41 COM 8B.29. ICOMOS does not consider that the Outstanding Universal Value of Naumburg Cathedral has been established because the only basis on which exceptionality can be found is related to several specific artworks within the cathedral. Given the guidance provided by the World Heritage Committee in the past, and the changes made in the context of the adoption of the Global Strategy, ICOMOS does not consider that this is an appropriate use of criterion (i), or any of the other criteria.

ICOMOS considers that this referred back nomination demonstrates the need to revisit and update the directions established by the Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List (adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994).

8 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

For the reasons summarised in this report, ICOMOS is unable to provide a recommendation with respect to inscription for this referred back nomination.

The evaluation of this referred back nomination has taken into account Decision 41 COM 8B.29, which indicated three bases for the previous nomination to be referred back to the State Party.

The first asked the State Party to *Re-scope the nomination by focusing on the given Outstanding Universal Value of Naumburg Cathedral*. ICOMOS notes that, according to the Operational Guidelines, Outstanding Universal Value is not formally recognised when nominations are the subject of refer-back decisions by the World Heritage Committee (since this recognition occurs at the time of inscription). The World Heritage Committee did not expand on its intentions concerning the 'given Outstanding Universal Value', nor were any criteria specified. Although the Outstanding Universal Value of this revised proposal seems to have been pre-determined by the World Heritage Committee, prior to its submission, ICOMOS has evaluated the material submitted by the State Party according to its usual working methods. The professional judgement of ICOMOS is that the Naumburg Cathedral does not meet any of the cultural criteria, creating an uncomfortable lack of alignment with the World Heritage Committee's decision.

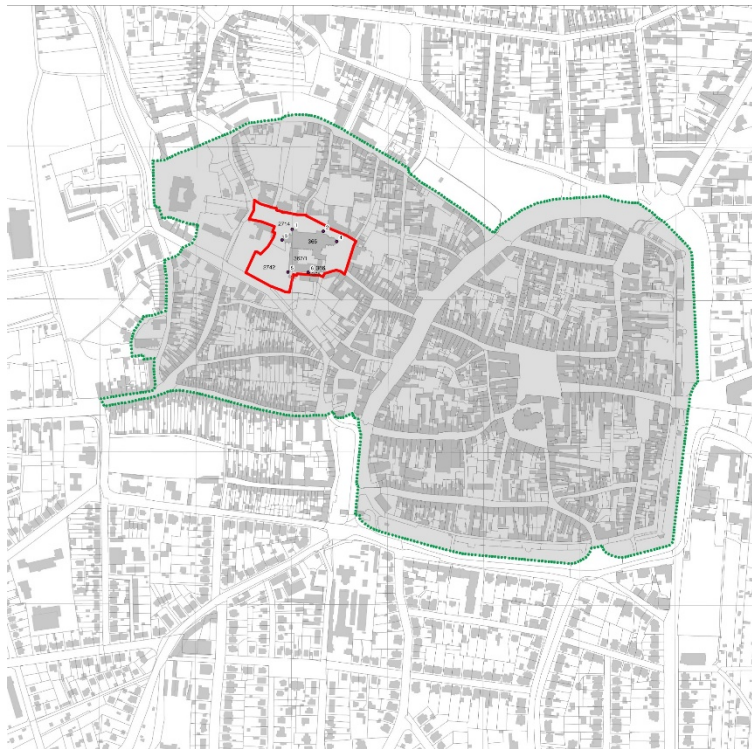
The second asked the State Party to *Adjust the boundaries of the nominated property and the management plan*. The State Party has adjusted the boundaries, but no revised management plan has been submitted. However, ICOMOS does not have concerns about the adequacy of the management or state of conservation of this property; and suggests that this does not constitute a critical point for this decision because ICOMOS does not find that Outstanding Universal Value is demonstrated.

The third and final point asked the State Party to *Review the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of Naumburg Cathedral for final adoption by the Committee within three years*. The meaning of this point is not clear to ICOMOS, but has been understood to mean that the State Party should submit its revised information and scope of this nomination within 3 years, in keeping with the provisions for all referred back nominations outlined in the Operational Guidelines (par. 159).

ICOMOS notes that moveable heritage (including artworks) is outside the scope of the World Heritage Convention. However, the line between moveable and immovable is not always distinct, and the artworks of the Naumburg Master are integral components of the Naumburg Cathedral. A key question arising from this referred back nomination proposal is whether the Outstanding Universal Value of the cathedral can rest on

these artworks alone, given that the cathedral is assessed as otherwise lacking in exceptional or outstanding architectural, historical or aesthetic characteristics. ICOMOS has found no examples where a similar case was inscribed since the current wording of criterion (i) was adopted in 1995, when the words 'unique artistic achievement' were removed from this criterion in order to comply with the directions of the Global Strategy.

Decision 41 COM 8B.29 (Krakow, 2017) has pre-empted the ability for ICOMOS to fully evaluate the merit of this referred-back nomination according to the manner prescribed in the Operational Guidelines and its working methods. Hence, ICOMOS is unable to make a recommendation concerning inscription for the property. The outcome of the evaluation undertaken by ICOMOS would suggest a recommendation that Naumburg Cathedral (Germany) should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List. However, should the World Heritage Committee decide to confirm that Outstanding Universal Value has already been established, the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee could choose to inscribe Naumburg Cathedral (Germany) on the World Heritage List, and provide specific guidance on the content of the statement of Outstanding Universal Value. If this latter option is decided, ICOMOS suggests that a policy concerning the inscription of properties on the basis of artworks be clarified by the World Heritage Committee as a matter of urgency.



Map of the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone
The Naumburg Cathedral and its Buffer Zone

- World Heritage Property
- - - - - Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property

World Heritage Property: 1.82 ha
 Buffer Zone: 56.98 ha

11°48'18.4888" E , 51°9'21.001" N

Domplatz 16, Naumburg (Saale),
 Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt, Germany

SH	X	Y
1	11° 48' 17.960" E	51° 9' 22.140" N
2	11° 48' 19.000" E	51° 9' 22.200" N
3	11° 48' 17.950" E	51° 9' 21.614" N
4	11° 48' 18.100" E	51° 9' 21.600" N
5	11° 48' 17.960" E	51° 9' 19.620" N
6	11° 48' 19.400" E	51° 9' 19.600" N

Scale: 1:5000
 Base map: Cadastre map (© LVermGeo LSA 2010, 010210)
 Spatial reference: DHDN / Gauss-Krüger Zone 4 (EPSG 31488)
 Geographical grid coordinates in WGS 1984 (EPSG 4326)
 Map design: Manuel Gerhardt
 Date: 11.01.2019

Map showing the revised boundaries of the nominated property



Naumburg Cathedral



West rood screen