

THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE APPLICATION

- June 2014: Schwerin Residence Ensemble is added to the German tentative list
- February 2023: Submission of the application to UNESCO
- Summer 2024: Expected decision by UNESCO for the world heritage application Schwerin Residence Ensemble



SCHWERIN RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE

More information about the Schwerin Residence Ensemble and the UNESCO world heritage application are available here:
www.schwerin-for-world-heritage.info

Contact

Landeshauptstadt Schwerin
Staff Unit for the Coordination of the World Heritage Application
Tel.: 0385 – 545 1016
E-Mail: lholung@schwerin.de

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Timm Allrich
Niklot statue: LAKD M-V/LD, A. Bötefür



SCHWERIN RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE

With over thirty preserved buildings the Schwerin Residence Ensemble displays a complex and especially well-conserved Residence infrastructure including buildings for government and administration, culture and education, sacred buildings, military and court suppliers. At the heart of the Residence Ensemble is Schwerin Palace. Altered and extended during the 19th century, it emerged as an outstanding historicist Residence Palace building. Picturesquely staged in the Schwerin lake landscape, the Palace is the centre of the ensemble and shares numerous visual connections with the surrounding landscape and the rest of the Residence Ensemble.

The Schwerin Residence Ensemble exhibits continuous stylistic development from baroque up to modernity. Furthermore, its features, such as monograms, heraldic motifs and dynastic symbols, evidence the monarchy prior to its abolition in 1918. The Throne Apartment, centrepiece of this monarchic symbolism, with Throne Room, Gallery of Ancestors and Palace Gallery is the only one of its kind still in its original condition. It conveys continuity through representations of the dynasty. The monumental equestrian statue of Niklot († 1160), the founder of the dynasty, located below the main dome of the Palace further highlights this demonstration of dynastic continuity.

With its exceptional state of preservation, the Residence Ensemble can still be experienced today and is a candidate for the UNESCO World Heritage list.



- 1 Residence Palace
- 2 Castle Garden & Palace Garden
- 3 Old Manor
- 4 New Town Manor
- 5 Greenhouse
- 6 Cavalier's House
- 7 Court Theatre
- 8 Museum
- 9 Cathedral
- 10 St Nikolai Church
- 11 St Paul's Church
- 12 Ministerial Manor House Münzstrasse
- 13 Ministerial Manor House Puschkinstrasse
- 14 Grand Ducal Administration Building
- 15 Grand Ducal Estate Office
- 16 Governmental Administration Building I
- 17 Governmental Administration Building II
- 18 Fridericianum
- 19 State Archives
- 20 Old Court Gardener's House
- 21 Grand Ducal Hunters' Lodge
- 22 Court Gardener's Establishment
- 23 Marstall (royal stables) and peninsula
- 24 Grand Ducal Veterinary Stables
- 25 Grand Ducal Steam Laundry
- 26 Grand Ducal Linen and Bedding Chamber
- 27 Demmler's residence
- 28 Villas Werderstrasse 125–139
- 29 Villa Werderstrasse 141
- 30 Court supplier Uhle
- 31 Court supplier Wöhler
- 32 Court supplier Krefft
- 33 Railway station and Duke's Salon
- 34 Old Artillery Barracks
- 35 New Artillery Barracks
- 36 Officers' Mess
- 37 Armoury
- 38 Commander's House

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

Nominations for the UNESCO world heritage list must demonstrate an outstanding universal value aligning with at least one criteria established by UNESCO. The Schwerin Residence Ensemble is nominated under criteria (iii) and (iv).

Criterion (iii)

With its exceptionally cohesive state of preservation, the Schwerin Residence Ensemble is a testament to monarchical tradition and symbolism of the Mecklenburg-Schwerin dynasty, which derived its claim to rule from the Slavic Obotrite princes and throughout history maintained its local seat of power. The Residence Ensemble intended to represent the power of the monarchy, to justify it theologically, but also to provide court infrastructure. Numerous buildings provide references to the dynastic history such as, the Neo-Renaissance reference to the local Johann-Albrecht style, the monumental Niklot statue, monograms or ducal burial sites.

Criterion (iv)

The Schwerin Residence Ensemble is a prime example of a 19th century European Royal Residence and illustrates an intricate group of buildings that express and function as monarchical symbolism, religious legitimization, state administration, service infrastructure and military power. Schwerin Palace is a highlight of European historicist Residence Palace architecture. From the Baroque Palace Garden to the historicist Palace and the early modernist State Archives, the Ensemble illustrates continuous stylistic development from the 18th century to the end of the monarchy in 1918. The Schwerin Residence Ensemble is sophisticated in terms of its architecture, design, and function, but also exceptionally comprehensive in its range, cohesiveness and preservation.