



SCHWERIN
RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE

A WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION

The SCHWERIN RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE in the north-west of the state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (Germany) reveals itself as an exceptionally well-preserved and multifaceted Residence Ensemble in terms of both its buildings and functions.

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 architectural 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.

Niklot ▷

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 the dynasty founder Niklot († 1160), located below the main dome of the Palace, further highlights this demonstration of dynastic continuity. Today Schwerin Palace is home to the State Parliament of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania as well as a museum showcasing the historic rooms.

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



CRITERIA

Criterion (iii)

... to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared.

With its exceptionally cohesive state of preservation, the SCHWERIN RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE is a testament to monarchical tradition and symbolism that illustrates continuous development from the early 18th century, through main building activities in the 19th century until the end of the monarchy in 1918. The Mecklenburg-Schwerin dynasty derived its claim to rule from the medieval Slavic Obotrite princes and throughout history maintained its local seat of power. The Residence Ensemble was intended to represent the power of the monarchy, to justify it theologically, but also to contain and maintain its functions. Numerous components provide impressive references to the dynastic history of the House of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. This claim to legitimacy and cultural continuity can be experienced in varied examples of architectural and symbolic references to regional history. Significant features such as the Throne Apartment and countless heraldic symbols refer to the dynasty, as do the 19th

century Neo-Renaissance references to the local Johann-Albrecht-Style and examples of symbolic representation such as the monumental Niklot statue. Until the end of monarchical rule in 1918, the dynasty remained the centre of power in a society that became increasingly diverse, especially during the 19th century. As a result, the Residence Ensemble preserves an architectural image of a society caught between tradition and progress.

*Schwerin Palace on
its island location >*

*Museum at the Old Garden
square housing the Grand
Ducal collection >*





Criterion (iv)

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

The SCHWERIN RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE is exceptional in its quality of preservation and in the cohesiveness of its multifaceted and interconnected architectural components. It is a prime example of a 19th century European Royal Residence with planned development continuing into the early 20th century. It illustrates an intricate group of buildings that express and function as monarchical symbolism, religious legitimation, state administration, service infrastructure and military power. Schwerin Palace itself is an outstanding highlight of European historicist Residence Palace architecture in the 19th century. The Palace and especially those buildings surrounding the Old Garden square are orchestrated within the topography of Lake Schwerin. The Ensemble illustrates continuous stylistic development from the 18th century to early modernism. By adopting the respective current trends, but also by reverting to older regional forms, the monarchy sought to present itself as both tradition

conscious and open to innovation. The interaction of functional, ceremonial and symbolic use characterises this architectural ensemble as an outstanding example of a Residence Ensemble of the 18th and 19th centuries, which is both sophisticated in terms of its architecture, design, and function, but also exceptionally comprehensive in terms of its range, cohesiveness and preservation.

*< Schwerin Palace in
the Schwerin lake landscape*

*< View of the Old Garden
square with Museum and
Theatre*

WELL-PRESERVED RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE
AS TESTIMONY OF THE MONARCHY

The Residence Ensemble extends from the Palace to over thirty buildings in the Old Town of Schwerin





FEATURES AND HERALDRY AS EVIDENCE OF THE MONARCHY

Gallery of Ancestors as part of the Throne Appartement shows the monarchy's expression of its dynastic claim to power

RECOURSE TO HISTORICAL
STYLISTIC FORMS AND SYMBOLS
AS LEGITIMATION OF POWER

Palace facade in the regional Neo-Renaissance variation called Johann-Albrecht-Style





EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-PRESERVED
RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE IN TERMS
OF QUANTITY AND QUALITY

OUTSTANDING HISTORICIST
RESIDENCE PALACE BUILDING

Throne Room as part of the entirely preserved Throne Appartement



VALUES



STAGING OF PALACE AND RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE IN THE LANDSCAPE

The buildings and gardens of the Ensemble share a unique relation to the natural lake landscape

CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT
OF THE RESIDENCE ENSEMBLE
UP TO EARLY MODERNITY

Entrance hall of the State Archive - youngest addition to the Residence Ensemble





- 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



RESIDENCE PALACE AND
MANOR HOUSES

ENSEMBLE



Schwerin Palace on its island location with Castle Garden and Orangerie



Theatre building with its water towers at Old Garden Square

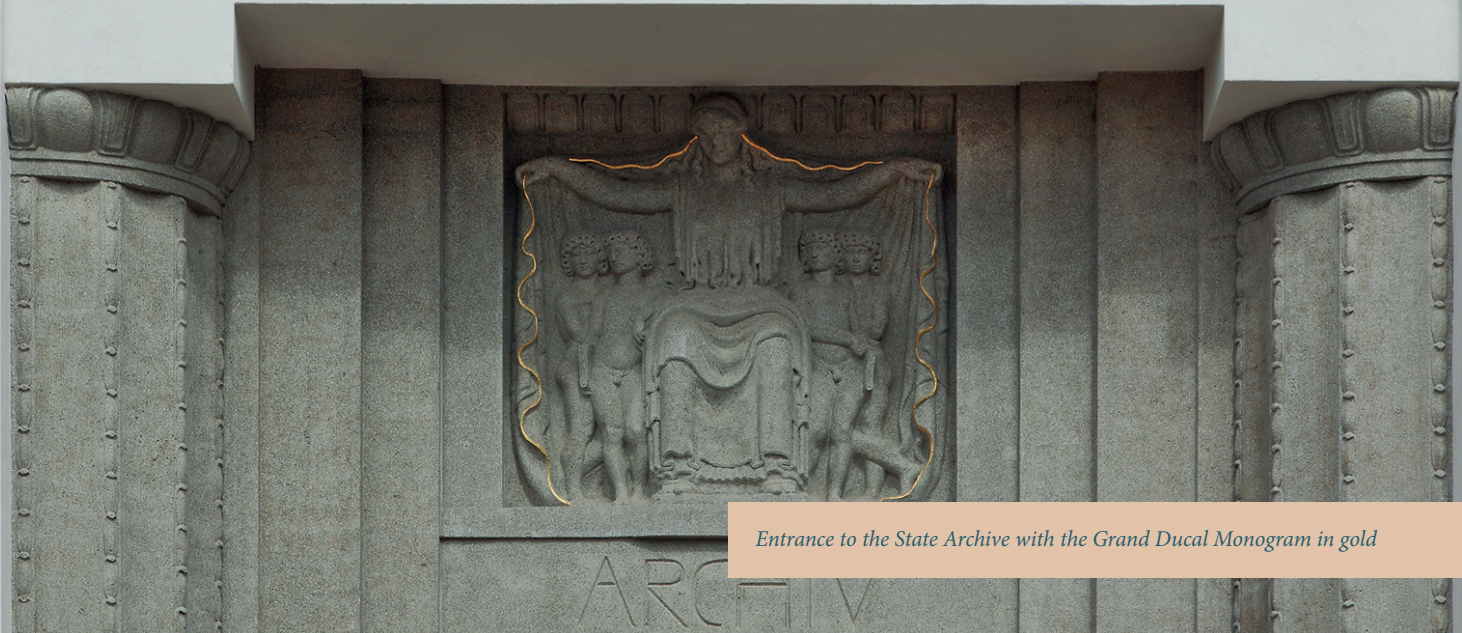
ENSEMBLE

CULTURAL AND
SACRED BUILDINGS

The background is a light blue color with several large, dark blue, organic shapes that resemble stylized leaves or flowing ribbons. These shapes are positioned around the central text, creating a sense of movement and depth. The shapes are smooth and curved, with some overlapping each other.

ADMINISTRATION

ENSEMBLE



Entrance to the State Archive with the Grand Ducal Monogram in gold



Representative housing across the Palace, designed by the Grand Duke's architects

INFRASTRUCTURE AND
PUBLIC SERVANTS' RESIDENCES

The background is a solid light blue color. Overlaid on this are several large, dark blue, abstract shapes that resemble stylized leaves or flowing ribbons. These shapes are positioned around the edges and corners of the frame, creating a sense of movement and depth. The word "MILITARY" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, serif font.

MILITARY

ENSEMBLE



Armoury with a mirroring effect on the Pfaffenteich water basin

IMPRINT

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»The buildings and gardens of the ensemble share a unique relation to the natural lake landscape«

by Mathias Derhake

»Entrance to the State Archive with the Grand Ducal Monogram in gold«, »Armoury with a mirroring effect on the Pfaffenteich water basin«

by Tilo Schöfbeck

Layout: Iris Groneick



*Nave of the church
in the Palace >*





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