



TENTATIVE LIST SUBMISSION FORMAT



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NAME OF PROPERTY: University Town of Tübingen as cultural space

State, Province or Region: Germany, Baden-Württemberg

Latitude and Longitude, or UTM coordinates: 48° 32' 15,9' N, 9° 2' 28,21' E

DESCRIPTION:

The subject of this application is the outstanding cultural space which emerged in Tübingen as a result of the close ties between the city and the university.

In 1477, under the advisement of humanist scholars, Count Eberhard im Bart of Württemberg founded the University of Tübingen, and, within a few years, systematically constructed a university district. This large-scale building campaign on the edge of the old town represented the first spatially and temporally self-contained building program of its kind on the continent, for a European university. The entire campus is still in existence and remains in use by the university.

The inventory of surviving structures includes, among others: The *Stiftskirche* and, in particular, its choir with windows from the university's founding period (located at Münzgasse 32); the *Alte Aula*, the central building of the university, which was the former seat of the academic senate and housed the university library (Münzgasse 30); the lecture and residential buildings (Münzgasse 22-28); the *Fakultätshaus*, containing the oldest German student prison (Münzgasse 20); the Chancery (Münzgasse 11); the *Bursa*, in which students were prepared for advanced studies (Bursagasse 1); and the Augustinian monastery, expanded by the university to include a lecture hall for theologians (today the *Evangelisches Stift* (Klosterberg 2).

Building material was in short supply and thus a large amount of timber was floated in from the Black Forest. With this material over 50 new buildings were erected within just a few years, including many private structures in which professors and students worked and lived, as well as tradespeople associated with the university.

After the Reformation of 1534, the Protestant university developed a radiance which reached far beyond regional borders. The newly founded *Evangelisches Stift* (Klosterberg 2), which educated Protestant clergy and also enabled the most gifted children from the region to study free of charge, played an important role in this development. Graduates of this elite school later made their way to many Protestant countries far beyond Germany. Among these disciples were some of the brightest minds in the land, including the astronomer Johannes Kepler (1589-1594), the French statesman Karl Friedrich Reinhard (1778-1783), the philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (1788-1793), and

the writers Friedrich Hölderlin (1788-1793), Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph Schelling (1790-1795), Eduard Mörike (1822-26) and David Friedrich Strauß (1825-1835).

In 1594 the *Collegium illustre* was established, complementing the *Evangelisches Stift*. It was the first college for nobility in Germany and was, in the years that followed, attended by Protestant nobility from across Europe. The new college taught – in contrast to the university – modern foreign languages and geography.

The university was made up of more than just the professors and students. Many of the city residents were also involved in the work of the university, namely the book printers, book binders, book sellers, publishers, pharmacists, painters and mechanics. These “relatives of the university” created a commercial and cultural environment which was unique in character and unique for its density and interconnectedness. This special environment can be perceived in the cityscape to this day; remaining structures include: the Gmelin Family pharmacy on the market square (Am Markt 13); the *Schramm'sche* printing office located at Kronenstraße 8 – at which the first editions of many German classics were printed (for example, Schiller's „Wallenstein“ and „Wilhelm Tell“); the residence and office of the publisher Johann Friedrich Cotta by the *Stiftskirche* – where Goethe, among others, once stayed (Münzgasse 15); the press of Thomas Anshelm located at Neckarhalde 13, where, in 1511, Reuchlin's famous *Augenspiegel* was published – a courageous demonstration against the destruction of Hebraic –Jewish documents. In 1514 Anshelm published the so-called Tübingen Agreement (*Tübinger Vertrag*), and Johannes Stöffler's astronomic tables, which precisely calculated the (Gregorian) calendar.

Scores of books which have changed the world had their, often modest, beginnings in the university town of Tübingen. These books were conceived of, researched, written, published and printed in Tübingen before making their way into the world. Many buildings in Tübingen can still to this day be connected to a writer, thinker, or scholar. An academic work named over 50 just such “writer's homes“. Not all of the residents were part of the university, yet they sought its vicinity, required its infrastructure, or at least the understanding offered by its surroundings. Belonging to these cultural surroundings are: the *Hölderlinturm* (the Hölderlin Tower) on the Neckar in which Friedrich Hölderlin lived for over three decades (Bursagasse 6); the *Heckenhauer'sche* book shop on the *Holzmarkt* at which Hermann Hesse apprenticed as a book seller (Holzmarkt 5); the birth house of the poet and politician Ludwig Uhland, Neckarhalde 24; and the *Nonnenhaus* (a nunnery) on the *Ammerkanal* whose later resident, Leonhard Fuchs, established one of the first botanical gardens in the world (Beim Nonnenhaus 7).

The architecture and stylistic elements of the private buildings, as well as the university buildings, remained Protestant, and thus simple. Although the German Southwest is known for its baroque splendor, in Protestant Tübingen ideological modesty was practiced. Timber frame functional buildings dominated, each sparsely decorated. To this day there is still evidence in the surviving buildings that they were also used for agricultural purposes: attic spaces served as storage areas, ground floors were used as stalls, and cellars served as wine storage.

Only in the 19th century, when the limited area of the medieval city center (400 to 600 meters) no longer allowed for further expansion, was the concept of the university town given a new basis. In 1841 the kingdom of Württemberg permitted its state university to break new ground: the suburb *Wilhelmsvorstadt* was constructed with the *Neue Aula* at its center, a reserved, classical ensemble of institutes and clinics which shapes the cityscape to this day. This early form of „university campus“ remained, alongside Strasbourg, an exception in 19th century Germany. The generous town planning program reserved space for the quickly growing university for decades to come. Over time, residential areas were also constructed in the area. Today the university quarter of the 19th century is just as deeply embedded in the city as the old university district on the Neckar.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value:

(Preliminary identification of the values of the property which merit inscription on the World Heritage List)

The University of Tübingen, founded in 1477, was systematically constructed in just a few years. The large-scale building campaign represented the first spatially and temporally self-contained building program of its kind on the continent, for a European university. The entire campus is still in existence, remains in use by the university, and represents a unique ensemble of architecture and town planning. The university quarter developed systematically in the 19th century upholds this development. As a campus, the *Wilhelmsvorstadt* is just as ingrained in the surrounding city as the medieval university district was.

Over the centuries, a commercially- and culturally-shaped environment emerged in response to the university that is unique in its density and interconnectedness, and which can still be perceived in the cityscape to this day. Here lived the scholars, writers and thinkers, as well as the „relatives of the university”, who were connected to the university through their trades. This cultural space is the result of a unique bond between the university and the surrounding city. This bond remains, to a large extent, to this day and conveys an impressive image of the daily life and operations of a university as it moved from the Middle Ages into the early modern era.

The „intellectual heritage“ that developed here over the last 500 years has been preserved in the local archives and libraries, and documents the scholarly as well as literary production of the previous centuries.

Criteria met:

(Please tick the box corresponding to the proposed criteria and justify the use of each below)

(i) (ii) x (iii) x (iv) x (v) (vi) x (vii) (viii) (ix) (x)

Criterion (II).

The university, conceived as a complete campus, is, in terms of town planning and architecture, an extraordinarily well preserved example of a university constructed towards the end of the Middle Ages.

Criterion (III).

Since its founding, the university has established a unique cultural tradition that remains visible to this day in the preserved buildings. In addition to the instructional and research facilities, these preserved buildings include the living and working quarters of professors, writers, and scholars. Over the course of time they were joined by a commercial and cultural environment made up of university-related trades. This environment is unique in character, density and interconnectedness, and can be perceived in the cityscape to this day.

Criterion (IV).

In Tübingen, for the first time on the continent, a building campaign was carried out in order to systematically construct a European university designed to be a complete campus. The university district, which was constructed in just a few years, is nearly completely preserved and represents a unique ensemble of architecture and town planning.

Criterion (VI).

The „intellectual heritage” of the over 500-year-old university is preserved in the local libraries, archives, and institutes. The university library in particular possesses a significant inventory. In the university archive, documents from university administration can be found, as well as significant scholarly works from professors, among them, for example, the works of Wilhelm Schickard, who invented the world’s first mechanical calculator in the early 17th century. In the university’s institutes, and in the museum in the castle Hohentübingen, there are many collections which are unique across

the globe, including the so-called Vogelherd figures, which were collected by Tübingen archaeologists and are today considered humankind's oldest art objects. The city archive preserves documents related to city history and counts among its collection the *Tübinger Vertrag* from 1514, which was the first codification of human rights on the continent.

Statements of authenticity and/or integrity:

Authenticity:

There is an extraordinary amount of primary sources on the University Town of Tübingen, in the form of written archival materials and plans, which conclusively prove the authenticity of individual elements, with regard to form and design, materials and substance, as well as use and function, and including all later alterations which were undertaken within the framework of the development of this cultural space, and which compose its special character. This pertains to the location and overall context of this cultural space, as well as the articulation and inclusion of the intangible heritage to which it is related and from which it is inseparable. The results of this evaluation were born of the foundational literature on the subject of the University Town of Tübingen and can thus also be considered already evaluated.

Integrity:

At present Tübingen is in comprehensive possession of all fundamental elements which express an extraordinary universal value, with reference to the material existence of buildings, collections and archives, as well as the intellectual heritage of the over 500-year-old university town made manifest thereby. The cultural space of the University Town of Tübingen possesses the typical and thereby optimal size for reflecting the characteristic features and the repeating processes of such a space. In light of the dynamic nature of the cultural space of the "University Town", there have been no negative consequences resulting from the continual changes; on the contrary, the entire surviving inventory has generally been enriched. No negative consequences due to neglect can be determined.

Comparison with other similar properties:

(The comparison should outline similarities with other properties on the World Heritage List or not, and the reasons that make the property stand out)

In contrast to Tübingen, the occidental universities have „nested“ into their surrounding cities. They used previously existing monasteries, civil buildings, or city palaces, which they then sometimes modified into form through additions and renovations. Additionally, in some cities (Bologna, Paris, Oxford) collegiate buildings were erected quite early. These were dedicated to educational and teaching activities, but were erected independently at various times and do not represent a complete university.

When Count Eberhard im Bart founded the University of Tübingen in 1477, the Count and his advisors had these universities in mind. They formed a comprehensive plan based on these universities and, within just a few years – and for the first time in Europe, they constructed an entire university from the ground up. In the surrounding area – tightly interwoven with the rest of the town – numerous additional private buildings were erected in which professors, students and tradespeople lived who were connected to the university through their profession.

Just as in Tübingen, in many other German cities – such as in Heidelberg, Wittenberg, Helmstedt, Erfurt, Ingolstadt, Leipzig or Jena – there are older and newer buildings which testify to the historical significance of these cities as the seats of universities. However, they are not „University Towns“ in as complete and comprehensive a manner as Tübingen because they have developed into, as is the case with a few of the cities mentioned, purely campus-universities – a model which can be considered very nearly the exact opposite of the „University Town“, or the cities possess a considerably greater degree of independence when compared with their universities, or the universities, with a structure similar to Tübingen, no longer exist. Thus in each case there are, to a greater or lesser degree, long stages of the development missing – a development which is present in its entirety in Tübingen. The latter example, with reference to Wittenberg, Helmstedt and Rinteln, for example, further

demonstrates that the „University Town” model can only be preserved under favorable circumstances. Tübingen thus occupies a unique position among these other equally-sized towns with universities, and is comparable only to its sister university town, Marburg, who, with the intention of filing serially, has likewise submitted an application.