



Do case-specific measures exist?

What to do for staircases and stained glass?

First documented in 1989 and revised in 1993, an inventory of the staircases of La Chaux-de-Fonds has permitted the ranking of 187 sets of staircases, decorated with paint, stucco, stained glass and ironwork.

An agreement between the Confederation, the canton and the town rules the modalities of subventions for works of restoration on the staircases and stained glass windows listed in the inventories. At present these measures do not affect any other heritage sites of the canton.

When applying the State Council Directive of the 25th May 1994, and, the Heritage of the Commune of La Chaux-de-Fonds Foundation is charged with the local implementation of these measures in collaboration with the Heritage Conservation Section.

What does the protection for cultural property cover in the event of conflict or catastrophe?

Following the damage wreaked on cultural properties during the Second World War, numerous countries signed the Hague Convention on the 14th May 1954 – an accord which consists of preserving the cultural properties in peacetime by preventative measures, and promoting the respect of your own cultural properties and those of other nations in the event of armed conflict.

In 1962 Switzerland signed to this international treaty, and organised its own Federal Protection of Cultural Properties in the event of armed conflict Law on the 6th October 1966.

When applying the ordonnance of the 17th October 1984, the Confederation proposed supporting the establishment of security documentation. Using the Heritage Conservation Section as an intermediary, dossiers need to be submitted to the Federal Office for the Protection of the Population.