



1000th Anniversary Celebration of the Abbey

At the celebration of the 1000th anniversary on 20th June 2003, Professor Dr. Wolfgang Böhmer, prime minister of Sachsen-Anhalt, thanked the Foundation for their valuable work in saving Ilsenburg Abbey. He emphasised that, particularly in these times of limited public finances, this kind of commitment was essential. He said that the Foundation, created in 2000 by Maria Princess of Stolberg-Wernigerode, was a model of innovation in that it was the first foundation under private law in Sachsen-Anhalt to have a cultural objective.

Thanks to unrelenting advertising of the “mediaeval gem”, it had been possible to involve private sponsors and the Deutsche Stiftung Denkmalschutz [German Foundation for the Protection of Monuments] in the reconstruction of the abbey. The State contributed financially, mainly through the special “Dach und Fach” [Roof and Framework] programme, which supported important local or regional architectural monuments, primarily in the provinces of the new Federal States.

Father Athanasius, Abbot of Huysburg Benedictine Abbey, talking to the Prior of Bursfelde Monastery, Professor Dr. theol. Joachim Ringleben, during the 1000th anniversary celebration

Maria Princess of Stolberg-Wernigerode, receiving a Tourismusverband Sachsen-Anhalt e.V. [Sachsen-Anhalt Tourist Association] medal, on 26th April in Memleben, in recognition of her work with the Ilsenburg Abbey Foundation