

TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION:

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£9 or \$12

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Ditto + postal card of the castle and

About visit for two

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About Vandamme »

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100 € Ditto + invitation for two to all events

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About concert gala

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The Cercle Impérial de Flandre (Flemish Imperial Society), founded on July 8 2016, is an association created under the law of July 1 1901.

Its aims are:

- studying and spreading knowledge of the life and works of General Dominique Vandamme, as well as the period from the French Revolution to the Second Empire.
- Encouraging, coordinating, and furthering all efforts in this direction
- gathering a documentary and museum collection
- working towards the protection and restoration of artefacts, furniture, buildings and monuments belonging to the period concerned
- acquiring and/or renting buildings and furniture related to the aims of the association, or contributing to their success.

Honorary committee

Jean Tulard, professeur at the Sorbonne, member of the Institute

Michel Leschave, Mayor of Cassel

Claude Goasguen, historian, député and former minister

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Let's save the **Vandamme** castle!





3. rue Notre-Dame F-59670 Cassel

Why save the Vandamme castle?



General Vandamme (1770-1830) was among the most illustrious generals of the French Revolution and of the Empire. His bravery on the battlefield was instrumental to many victories.

Dominique Vandamme had the domain of Pierre Alexandre de Magnac, in Cassel, completely transformed by Lille architect Benjamin Dewarlez. He wanted a castle in the shape of a boat, as suggested by the roundness of its sides and its windows in the shape of portholes, unique in Europe. He named it himself: « La Frégate » (the frigate).

The castle holds other remarkable elements, such as its cement coating made to look like stone, an innovation at the time, and especially



its inside decors (stucco, pannelling,...). These attributes enabled the castle to be listed among the Historical Monuments, on November 6 1980.

The park, laid out on orders from the general, was admired by all and attracted many visitors.



An endangered heritage

In the first instant, it is mandatory to secure this heritage site from real estate, by acquiring it and carrying out the most urgent works.

Contributing to the rebirth of the « Flemish Versailles »

The Cercle Impérial de Flandre intends to renovate the park and open it to the public, bringing the castle back to its original splendour, both in terms of the architecture and furniture, as well as programming cultural events.

The goals are historical, cultural and touristic. Cassel would thus be able to join the European Federation of Napoleonic Cities.

Your donation will be used to finance the purchase of the castle, put up for sale at 242.000€ (about £214,000 or \$282,000).

More information and pictures available on our website:

www.c-i-f.fr

« I love a view like this, for it seems as if you were looking over all the wide, wide world and were ruling it. Throughout all our after journey I have seen nothing more beautiful or more wonderful of its kind than the view from the little, humble, neglected village of Cassel. »

John Ruskin, Poems (1891)

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