

# **Procedures for boundary clarifications, minor boundary modifications, name changes and criteria changes**

**Meeting of National Focal Points of Nordic, Baltic,  
Western and Mediterranean Europe and German Site  
Managers on the implementation of the Second  
Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise**

Berlin, Germany, 24 -26 September 2012



# 1. Boundary clarifications



# What is the Retrospective Inventory?

- A project launched by the World Heritage Committee in 2004 (Decision **7 EXT.COM 7.1**)
- An in-depth examination of Nominations inscribed on the World Heritage List between 1978 and 1998 to ascertain the boundaries of WH properties at the time of the inscription
- The objective of the Retrospective Inventory is to work in cooperation with States Parties in order to clarify the delimitation of WH properties at the time of the inscription



# A couple of remarks

- The Retrospective Inventory only concerns properties inscribed in the timeframe 1978 – 1998 → because Inventories of the content of Nomination files started in 1999
- The clarification of boundaries, like the submission of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, is a retrospective exercise: its objective is to identify the delimitation or the OUV of a property **at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List**

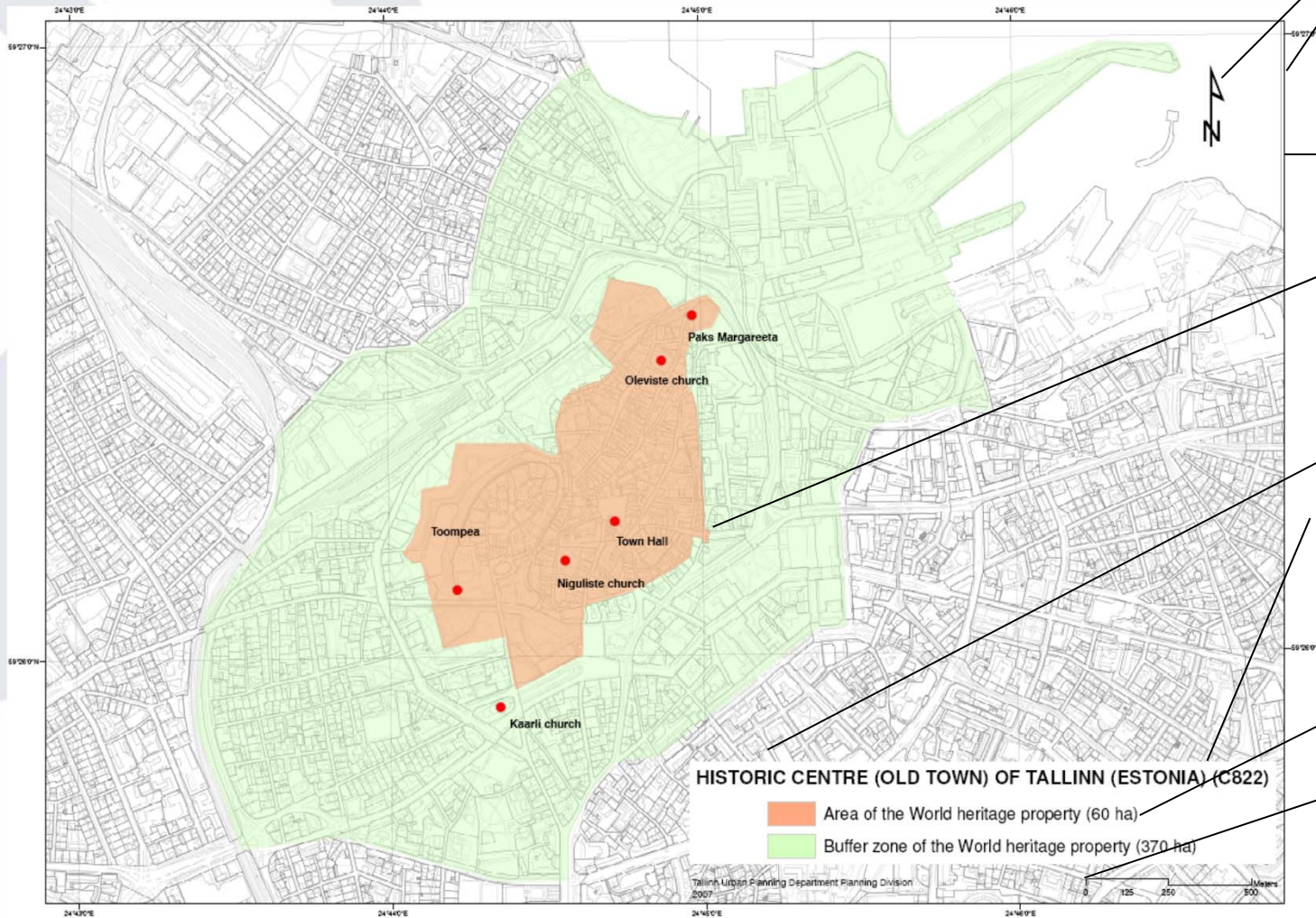


# The Retrospective Inventory Process in Europe

- 1) Elaboration of an Inventory of the content of the Nomination file and identification of the issues concerning the delimitation of World Heritage properties (September 2004 – July 2005)
- 2) Transmission of a letter to the relevant State Party, presenting the problems identified for each property and requesting the information needed to solve them (January 2005 – October 2005)
- 3) Submission of the relevant information by States Parties and review of such information by the World Heritage Centre (June 2005-ongoing)
- 4) Presentation of all satisfactory information to the World Heritage Committee for noting (2006-ongoing)
- 5) 26 boundary clarifications are still expected for properties located in Western, Nordic, Baltic and Mediterranean European Countries and need to be submitted (1st December 2012)



# The requirements for a map



Orientation

Reference to geographical coordinates

Appropriate typology

Clear delimitation of the property as inscribed

Language

Legend referring to the boundary of the World Heritage property

Area in hectares

Bar scale



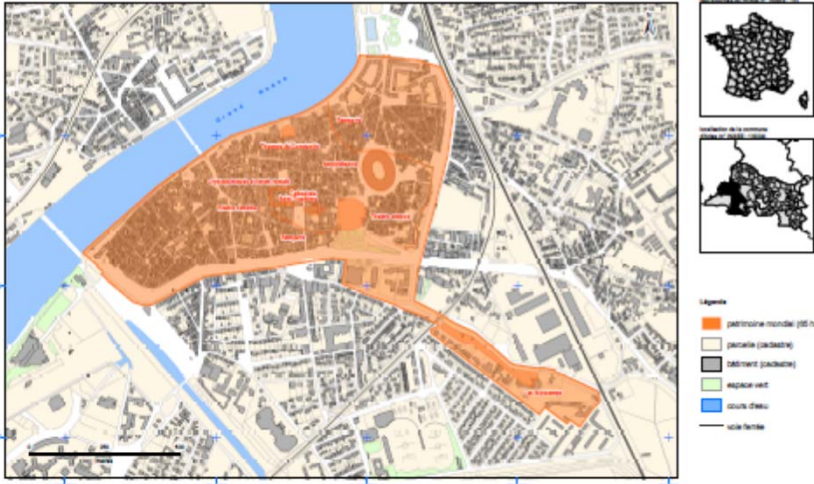
# The concept of « Atlas »



ATLAS DES BIENS FRANÇAIS INSCRITS SUR LA LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL, EN APPLICATION DE LA CONVENTION ADOPTEE PAR L'UNESCO EN 1972

MISE A JOUR DE MARS 2011

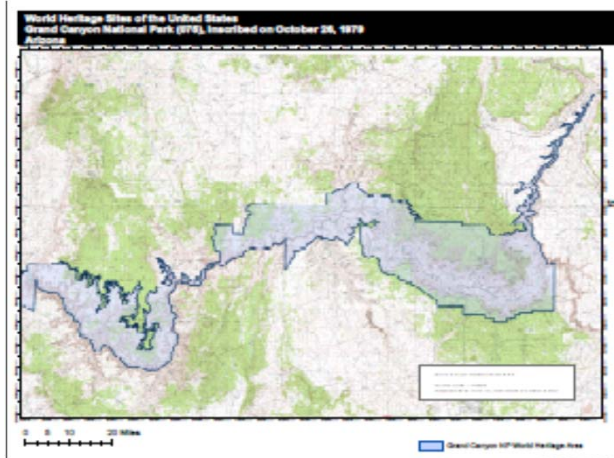
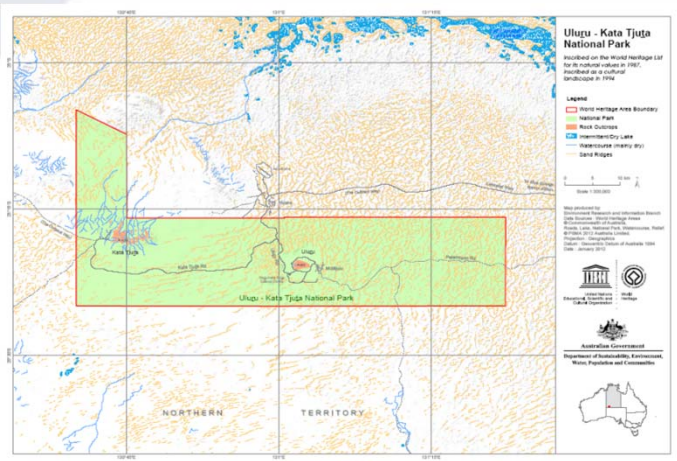
## 164 - Arles, monuments romains et romans : délimitation du bien lors de son inscription sur la Liste en 1981



Ministère de la Culture  
Direction générale de l'Archéologie  
Direction générale du Patrimoine  
UNESCO  
Représentation française

Mission de l'Institut National d'Archéologie  
Missions de l'Institut National d'Archéologie  
Missions de l'Institut National d'Archéologie  
Missions de l'Institut National d'Archéologie

Le bien mondial inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'Unesco est un bien culturel, un bien naturel ou un bien mixte. Il est inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'Unesco en application de la Convention adoptée par l'Unesco en 1972. Le bien inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'Unesco est un bien culturel, un bien naturel ou un bien mixte. Il est inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'Unesco en application de la Convention adoptée par l'Unesco en 1972.



## 2. Minor boundary modifications





# Operational Guidelines

## Minor modifications to the boundaries

**163.** A minor modification is one which has not a significant impact on the extent of the property nor affects its outstanding universal value.

**164.** If a State Party wishes to request a minor modification to the boundaries of a property already on the World Heritage List, it must be received by **1 February** by the Committee through the Secretariat, which will seek the advice of the relevant Advisory Bodies on whether this can be considered a minor modification or not. The Secretariat shall then submit the Advisory Bodies' evaluation to the World Heritage Committee. The Committee may approve such a modification, or it may consider that the modification to the boundary is sufficiently significant as to constitute a significant boundary modification of the property, in which case the procedure for new nominations will apply.

## Significant modifications to the boundaries

**165.** If a State Party wishes to significantly modify the boundary of a property already on the World Heritage List, the State Party shall submit this proposal as if it were a new nomination. This re-nomination shall be presented by **1 February** and will be evaluated in the full year and a half cycle of evaluation according to the procedures and timetable outlined in paragraph 168. This provision applies to extensions, as well as reductions.



Modification of  
the property boundaries

Creation of  
a buffer zone

Modification of  
a buffer zone

**Any change to the original delimitation of the World Heritage property (or of its buffer zone) accomplished at the national level needs to be reviewed by the Advisory Bodies and approved by the World Heritage Committee**

Par. 163 - 165 of the  
*Operational Guidelines*



# The differences between boundary clarifications and minor boundary modifications

- 1) the process;
- 2) the deadline;
- 3) the documentation to be submitted.

# 1) the process;

- **Clarifications:** they are forwarded directly from the World Heritage Centre to the World Heritage Committee;
- **Minor modifications:** they are forwarded by the World Heritage Centre to the relevant Advisory Body, which evaluates them, and are then presented to the World Heritage Committee.



## **2) the deadline;**

- **Clarifications: 1 December;**
- **Minor modifications: 1 February.**

### 3) the documentation to be submitted.

- **Clarifications:** a map;
- **Minor modifications:** a map, description and cause of the modification, indication of how such a change contributes to the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property (see new Annex 11 of the *Operational Guidelines*).



# The format for minor boundary modifications (new Annex 11 of the *Operational Guidelines*)

- Area in hectares (of the property as proposed modified or of the buffer zone)
- Description of the modification
- Justification for the modification
- Contribution to the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value
- Implications for legal protection
- Implications for management arrangements
- Maps
- Additional information



# New provisions on minor boundary modifications

- Reductions can be considered as minor modifications only under exceptional circumstances (Annex 11 of the OG)
- The adoption of a buffer zone after the inscription corresponds to a minor boundary modification (Annex 11 of the OG)
- A proposal for a minor boundary modification can be approved, not approved or referred
- Modifications to boundaries that are related to mining activities should be considered through the procedure for significant modifications of boundaries (Decision **35 COM 8B.46**)





# First Cycle of Periodic Reporting

**Question 3.01: are the boundaries of the site adequate to reflect the site's significance?**

- Yes: 67%
- No: 33%

**Question 3.03: is there a buffer zone for the site?**

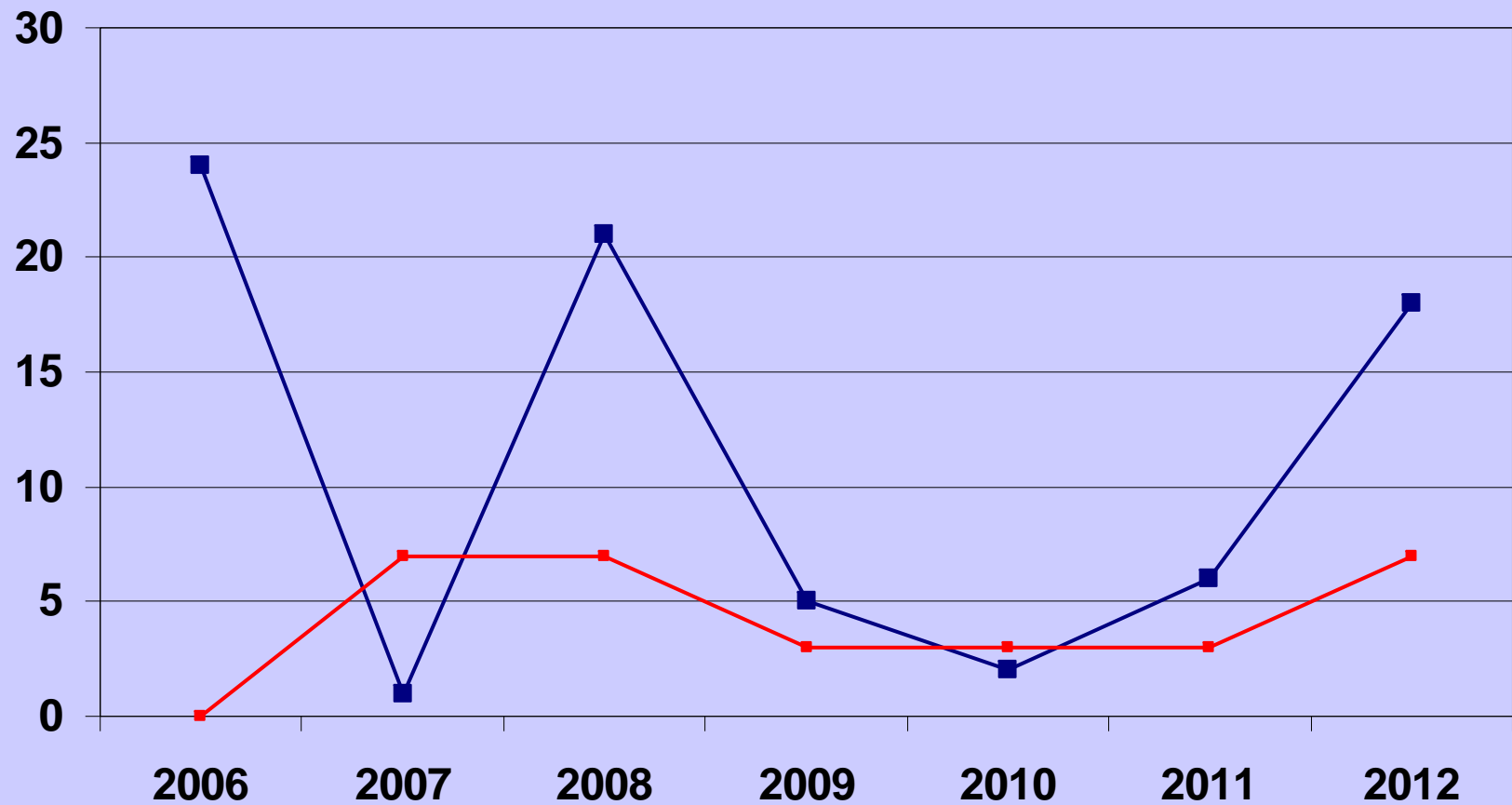
- Yes: 55%

In some of these cases, a buffer zone has been created after the inscription of the property and never formally submitted to the World Heritage Committee for approval

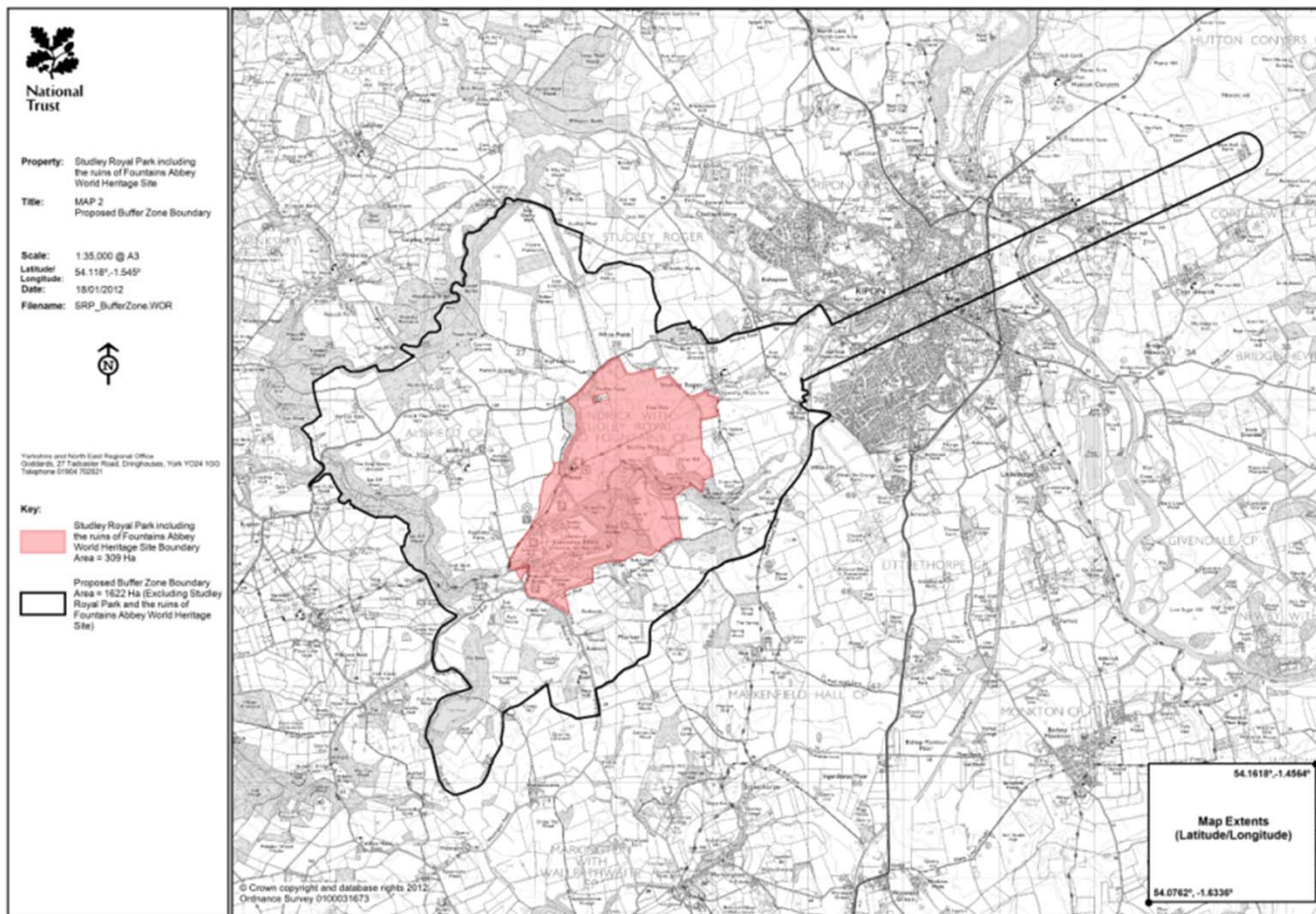
- No: 45%



# The presentation of boundary clarifications and minor boundary modifications to the World Heritage Committee between 2006 and 2012



# 90% of the proposals for minor boundary modifications approved by the World Heritage Committee between 2006 and 2012 corresponds to proposals of buffer zones



# Modifications to boundaries and annual quota of 2 Nominations

- Minor modifications do not affect the quota
- Significant modifications do

**BUT**

Significant modifications, if anticipated in Section II, will exceptionally not affect the quota. This rule only applies to the two 1st February deadlines after the conclusion of the Periodic Reporting Cycle in the Region





# 3. Name changes

# Name changes

- Par. 167 of the *Operational Guidelines*
- By official letter
- Indicating the proposed revised name both in English and French, if possible
- At least three months prior to the meeting of the World Heritage Committee
- Review by ICOMOS/IUCN





# 4. Criteria changes

# Criteria changes

- Par. 166 of the *Operational Guidelines*
- If the wish is to have the property inscribed under additional, fewer or different criteria
- Like a new Nomination
- 1 February
- The site will remain on the List under the original criteria if the procedure is unsuccessful







# Thank you

