
Monte San Giorgio (Italy) No 1090bis

1. BASIC DATA

Official name as proposed by the State Party:

Monte San Giorgio

Location:

Regione Lombardia, Provincia di Varese
Italy

Brief description:

This nomination proposes to inscribe the Italian part of Monte San Giorgio as an extension of Monte San Giorgio, Switzerland, inscribed in 2003 as the best fossil record of marine life from the Mid-Triassic Period (245 - 230 million years ago). Justification of the nomination is presented, like its counterpart, under criterion (viii): to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features. The nomination responds to the World Heritage Committee's 2003 decision which encourages a trans-boundary extension.

Background information:

This is an extension to Monte San Giorgio, Switzerland, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List at the 27th session (Paris, 2003) of the World Heritage Committee on the basis of criterion (viii).

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report: 17 March 2010

2. THE PROPERTY

Cultural associations relate to mining, quarrying and the history of palaeontological activities and their contribution to knowledge and are clearly outlined (pp.22-26). Many of the fossil finds resulted from industrial and commercial exploitation of the area, through mining activity in the bituminous shale from the mid-19th century onwards and in the first half of the 20th century for producing an internationally popular medicament, Ichthyol. Viggíú (in the buffer zone) has a history dating from the Roman era. Architect Martino Longhi the Elder (1534-1591) worked there, notably on the Chiesa di Santo Stefano, and founded a dynasty of architects whose principal work was in Rome. The area was noted for Viggíú stone and the art of stone-cutting. The notable Italian Renaissance estate/garden Villa

Cicogna Mozzoni lies outside the boundary of the buffer zone.

3. ICOMOS CONCLUSIONS

ICOMOS does not consider that the cultural associations justify consideration of cultural criteria.



L'usine de Spinirolo à Meride



Carrière souterraine à Viggù