

Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay (France)

No 165

1. BASIC DATA

State Party: France

Name of property: Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay

Location: Departement of Côte d'Or, Bourgogne
Region

Inscription: 1981

Brief Description:

This stark Burgundian monastery was founded by St Bernard in 1119. With its church, cloister, refectory, sleeping quarters, bakery and ironworks, it is an excellent illustration of the ideal of self-sufficiency as practised by the earliest communities of Cistercian monks.

2. ISSUES RAISED

Background:

As part of the Periodic Reporting process for Europe, the State Party identified the need to put in place appropriate buffer zones for eight inscribed properties, of which this is one.

At the time of inscription there was no buffer zone. The boundaries were tightly drawn around the monastery complex and did not encompass any of its landscape hinterland. ICOMOS recommended that the inscription should cover the surrounding valley of Egrevies.

Modification:

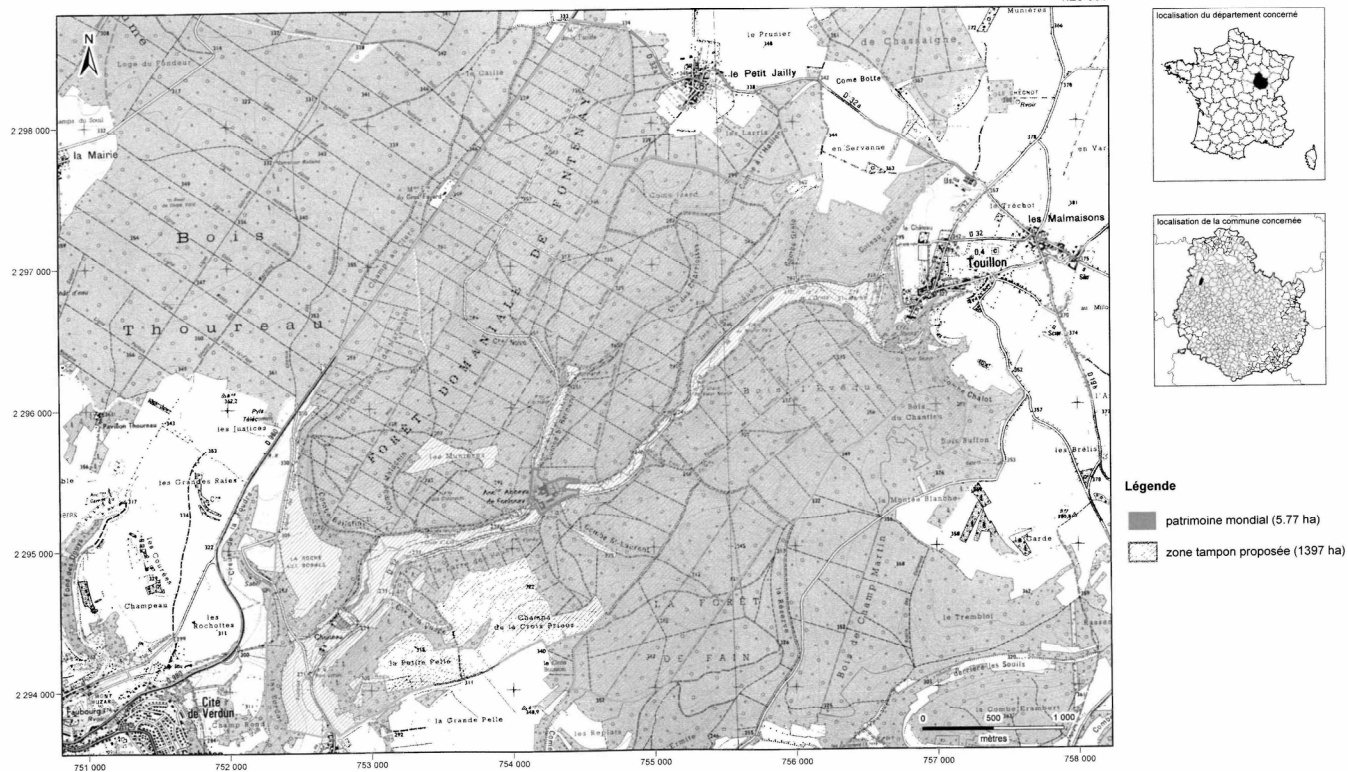
The State Party is proposing a large buffer zone of 1397 ha surrounding the inscribed site on all sides. This extends to the immediate visual hinterland and will protect long views and re-unite the monastery with part of what was its economic base. Approximately 90% of the area is a site *classé* and the remainder a site *inscrit*.

3. ICOMOS RECOMMENDATIONS

ICOMOS recommends that the buffer zone for the Cistercian Abbey of Fontenay (France) be approved.

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1:25 000



Map showing the boundaries of the proposed buffer zone