

Vézelay, Church and Hill (France)

No 84

1. BASIC DATA

State Party: France

Name of property: Vézelay, Church and Hill

Location: Departement of Yonne, Bourgogne Region

Inscription: 1979

Brief Description:

Shortly after its foundation in the 9th century, the Benedictine abbey of Vézelay acquired the relics of St Mary Magdalene and since then it has been an important place of pilgrimage. St Bernard preached the Second Crusade there in 1146 and Richard the Lion-Hearted and Philip II Augustus met there to leave for the Third Crusade in 1190. With its sculpted capitals and portal, the Madeleine of Vézelay – a 12th-century monastic church – is a masterpiece of Burgundian Romanesque art and architecture.

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.

Modification

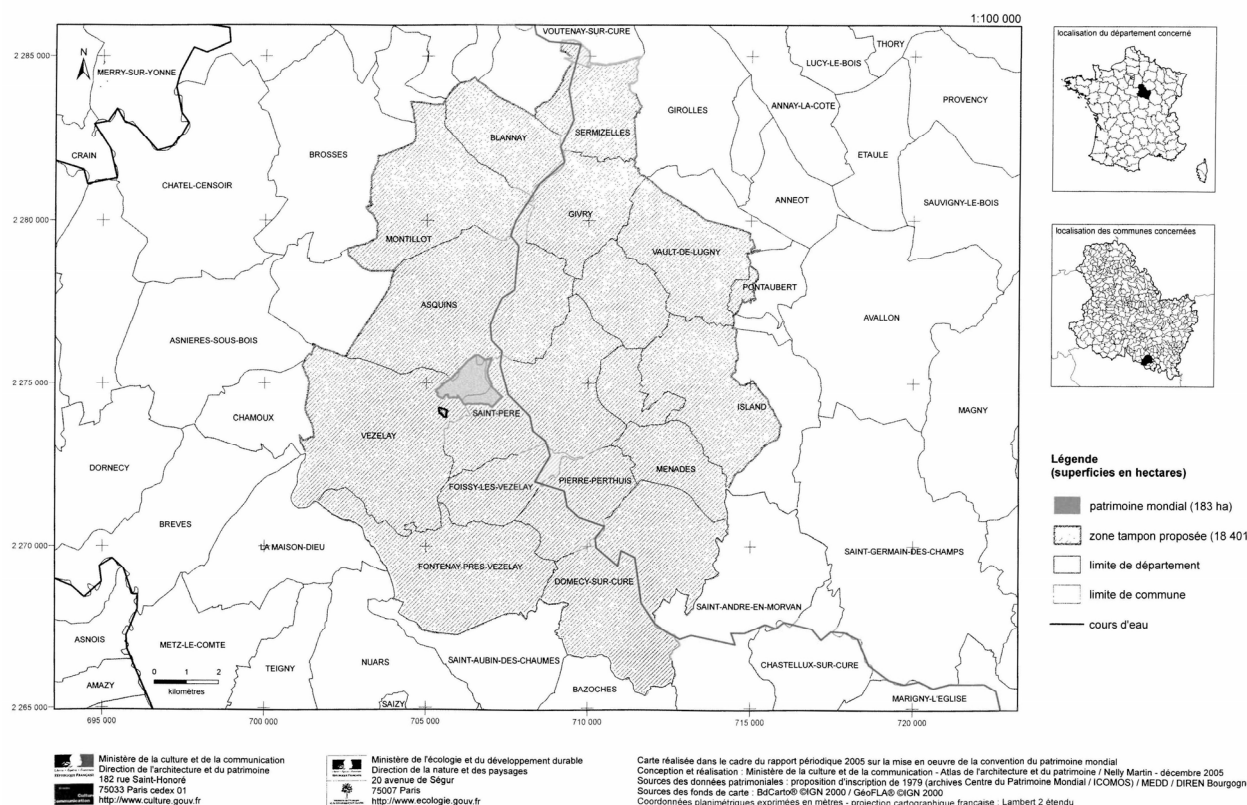
The State Party now proposes a large buffer zone of 18,401 ha, which coincides with an area protected for the majority as a site *classé*, and for the rest as a site *inscrit*.

3. ICOMOS RECOMMENDATIONS

ICOMOS recommends that the buffer zone for Vézelay, Church and Hill (France) be approved.



084 - Basilique et colline de Vézelay : proposition d'une zone tampon



Map showing the boundaries of the proposed buffer zone