
The Longobards in Italy (Italy) No 1318

Official name as proposed by the State Party

The Longobards in Italy. Places of the power (568-774 A.D.)

Location

Cividale del Friuli (Friuli Venezia Giulia, Province of Udine);
Brescia (Lombardy, Province of Brescia);
Castelseprio– Torba (Lombardy, Province of Varese)
Spoleto (Umbria, Province of Perugia);
Campello sul Clitunno (Umbria, Province of Perugia);
Benevento (Campanie, Province of Benevento);
Monte Sant'Angelo (Apulia, Province of Foggia)
Italy

Brief description

The Lombard elite ruled a vast territory on the Italian peninsula from the end of the 6th century to the 8th century. They had prestigious buildings erected to assert their authority and power, both civilian and religious. Influenced by many cultures, starting with the Roman heritage in Italy, they created an original architectural synthesis and style, at the birth of the European medieval world. The seven sites selected form a series including the most significant and best preserved monuments and remains from this period. They are in Cividale del Friuli, Brescia and Castelseprio-Torba in the north of modern Italy, Spoleto and Campello sul Clitunno in the centre, and Benevento and Monte Sant'Angelo in the south.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a serial nomination of seven *groups of buildings*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

1 June 2006

International Assistance from the World Heritage

Fund for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

31 January 2008

18 January 2010

Background

The property was submitted for examination by the 33rd session of the World Heritage Committee (Seville, 2009). ICOMOS had adopted the following recommendation:

ICOMOS recommends that examination of the nomination of *Italia Langobardorum. Places of power and worship (558–774 A.D.)*, Italy, to the World Heritage List be deferred in order to allow the State Party to:

- Review the series justification of the nominated properties, the rationale linking them, and possibly the list of the properties themselves. The composition of the series must be made in the light of European and not just Italian historiography. It must take into account potential disagreements between specialists on dating and artistic influence;
- Present a comparative study in relation to the proposed value in order to define the serial property and take into account international archaeological and historiography documentation;
- If, following the above two points, the property is to be retained in its current configuration, the proposed title is not suitable and it should be revised;
- Review the boundaries of the following properties:

- Brescia, where the zone nominated for inscription should be extended westwards to include the archaeological park near the Roman Capitol and theatre;

- Benevento, where the modern building to the north-east of Santa Sofia should be excluded from the zone nominated for inscription.

- Extend the buffer zones at Campello sul Clitunno and Spoleto;
- Provide additional documentation regarding economic and urban development and its control in the nominated properties and in the buffer zones;
- Confirm the human and material resources of the Management Council overarching structure.

The State Party had withdrawn the nomination prior to its examination by the 33rd session of the World Heritage Committee.

Consultations

ICOMOS consulted numerous independent experts.

Literature consulted (selection)

Diacono, P., *Storia dei Longobardi*, Capo, L. (ed.), Vicenza, 1992.

Effros, B., *Merovingian Mortuary Archaeology and making the Early Middle Age*, Berkeley, 2003.

Gasparri S. (ed.) *Il regno dei Longobardi in Italia. Archeologia, società, istituzioni*, Spoleto, 2004.

Gasparri, S. (ed.) *L'archeologia dei Longobardi in Italia...*, Spoleto, 2004.

Menis, G.C., Rizzi, A. (dir.), *Friaul lebt. 2000 Jahre Kultur im Herzen Europa*, Vienne / Fribourg / Kassel, Herder, 1978, p. 53-58.

Technical Evaluation Mission

An ICOMOS technical evaluation mission visited the property from 13 to 18 September 2010.

Additional information requested and received from the State Party

A letter was sent to the State Party on 30 September 2010 requesting it provide a single document summarising the management measures taken for the entire property and the schedule for the implementation of the management plans.

The State Party supplied additional documentation on 8 November 2010, the analysis of which is included in the present evaluation.

ICOMOS sent a second letter on 13 December 2010 regarding specific questions concerning the boundaries, parking areas and fire protection system for Spoleto.

The State Party supplied additional documentation on 8 November 2010, and again on 23 February 2011, the analysis of which is included in this evaluation.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

10 March 2011

2 The property

Description

Originating from the Germanic-Barbarian world, the Lombards developed a specific culture when they settled permanently in Italy at the end of the Roman Empire. Their civilisation particularly expressed itself in a synthesis of many architectural and decorative influences, contributing to the creation of a new era: the European Middle Ages.

Given the diversity of these influences and the many innovations of the Lombard world, the selection of the nominated sites is not a stylistically or structurally homogeneous series. The sites selected are the most significant and most accomplished artistically, and the best preserved from the period of the Lombards. Each has its own morphology and specific functions, demonstrating a relatively broad cultural variety, but able to provide a good expression of artistic and architectural creativity in the early Middle Ages on the Italian peninsula. The seven sites selected present varied testimonies: urban, religious, defensive, etc. They correspond to the reign and affirmation of power by the Lombard kings and princes.

Cividale del Friuli testifies to an urban culture specific to the Lombards.

The city walls correspond to the extent of the medieval town. The Oratory of Santa Maria in Valle, the so-called Tempio Longobardo, is a square building with a single

nave, covered by a cross-vault. It is extended by a barrel-vaulted choir from which it is separated by an architrave supported by two columns. The ensemble is richly decorated with stucco reliefs, frescoes, and mosaics. Its construction is attributed to the royal couple Aistulf (749-56) and Giseltrude.

The Episcopal complex includes the San Giovanni Baptistery (structures discovered in an archaeological excavation), the Church of Santa Maria, and the Palace. The Tegurio, a small octagonal aedicule that surrounded the finely sculpted baptismal font, the only Lombard sculptures based on religious themes, is now in the Duomo Museum. The remains of the Episcopal palace were built over in the 16th century by Andrea Palladio's Palazzo dei Provveditori Veneti (the current National Museum of Archaeology).

Brescia testifies to a Lombard monastic complex.

The Convent of San Salvatore–Santa Giulia is an architectural palimpsest that includes the women's convent built by Duke Desiderius and his wife, Ansa, in 753. The Church of San Salvatore has three naves and a transept with three apses. The naves are separated by arcades supported by columns, some of which were salvaged from Byzantine monuments. Stucco reliefs and paintings covered the ensemble and the crypt, some elements of which remain. Marble tiling covers several tombs of the elite, including that of Ansa. Three additional cloisters were erected in the 15th and 16th centuries, in addition to the Romanesque church of Santa Maria in Solario, the 15th century choir, and the Church of Santa Giulia in the 16th century. The convent will eventually house the town's museum.

Castelseprio – Torba testifies to a Lombard military settlement.

The fortified height dating from the end of the Roman Empire, built to protect against the Germanic invaders, was reused by the Lombards. Totally destroyed in 1287 by the Visconti, the *castrum* has not been occupied since. The Torba Tower, located on the summit of the site, is used as a women's convent. On its first and second levels, it has mural paintings that evoke the iconographic themes of the stuccowork in the Cividale Tempio.

The Church of Santa Maria is a private aristocratic building decorated with paintings representing Christ's childhood. Other symbolic elements are painted in a style inherited from Hellenistic art. The choir's triple apse is paved with marble.

The Wideramn epitaph is the best example of the written funerary culture of the Lombards.

Spoleto testifies to an urban basilica for the Lombard elite. The Basilica of San Salvatore was no doubt originally a funerary church; it has a triple-nave basilical floor plan with a tripartite presbytery. The semi-circular central apse is separated from the nave by a chancel and flanked by two apses with cross-vaults. The central bay preceding the choir is covered with an octagonal vault. Doric columns in

the nave and Corinthian in the presbytery support a richly decorated entablature. The painted and stucco decoration has been lost. The facade, punctuated by pillars and divided into two registers by a cornice, still retains three portals decorated with classical motifs.

Campello sul Clitunno testifies to a temple of classical inspiration within the culture of the Lombard elite.

The Temple of Campello sul Clitunno is of Classical Roman type and has sculpted ornamentation copied from ancient buildings in a synthesis such as that reprised by Palladio. It is a small *sacellum* in the form of a tetrastyle Corinthian temple with two porticos *in antis*. It is one of the rare examples of an epigraphic monument of the early Middle Ages. The inscription in Roman capitals is a dedication to God. The interior painted decoration is remarkable and can be compared to the frescoes of Santa Maria Antiqua in Rome

Benevento has a popular sanctuary of the Lombards and a monastic ensemble.

The Church of Santa Sofia was erected by the *dux* Arechi II of Benevento around 760 as a personal chapel and national sanctuary. The building refers explicitly to the Cathedral of Santa Sophia in Constantinople. With a complex central plan, it combines a central hexagon surrounded by a colonnade, the elements of which are recycled from ancient monuments, and a concentric decagon ending in a presbytery with three apses. The two smaller apses partially retain paintings representing the life of Christ.

Annexed to the church is a women's convent in Roman style that reuses numerous elements from the original Lombard cloister. Today it houses the Museo del Sannio.

Monte Sant'Angelo is a Lombard national sanctuary and the origin of a pilgrimage dedicated to Saint Michael.

A national sanctuary of the Lombards as early as the 7th century, it is still the most important site of the cult of the Archangel Michael in the West. It lies on the route to the Holy Land, which coincided with the *Via Traiana* in southern Italy that later acquired the name of *Via Sacra Langobardorum*. The Lombards rebuilt and enlarged the sanctuary above the sacred grotto. After the Lombard dynasty, the Normans, Swabians, and the House of Anjou adopted the worship of Saint Michael and transformed the upper parts of the original sanctuary buildings with new decoration, whilst retaining the Lombard lower levels.

It should be added that in the buffer zones of Cividale del Friuli, Brescia, and Benevento there are several *in situ* archaeological remains of buildings dating from the Lombard period, a detailed description of which is contained in the nomination dossier, and that objects from the same period are displayed in the local museums

History and development

Of Germanic origin, the Lombards migrated from northern Europe to the Danube region of central Europe from the end of the 5th century onwards. Coming into contact with

other peoples from the Steppes (Avars and Huns), in 568 they undertook to conquer northern Italy where they settled, then spread to the centre and south of Italy, in the last third of the 6th century. By that time, they were in control of some thirty duchies and principalities under the supervision of a king. They settled at the very end of the 6th century in Monza and Milan, and then in Pavia in the 7th century. They came up against the presence of the Byzantine Empire, which retained control over part of central and Adriatic Italy under the regional supervision of Ravenna, which kept the Lombard presence split into two zones of influence, one in the north and one in the south of the peninsula.

In the 7th century the Lombard presence in Italy stabilised. Nonetheless, the society remained for a long time divided between the indigenous population of Latin culture and an exclusively Lombard political and military aristocracy. Thanks in particular to the Lombards' adoption of Christianity, the society began to unify, despite the issue of Arianism delaying and limiting the integration process for some time.

According to the rare written documents, it would seem that the Lombard elite in Italy had prestigious buildings erected upon their arrival: palaces, residences, churches, and basilicas. Following in the footsteps of their Roman predecessors, they asserted their position and their authority. Having adopted Christianity in the 7th and 8th centuries, they concentrated more especially on the establishment of churches and monasteries. These last are the archetypal foundations of the Lombard period. They served to guarantee the power of the Lombards, and also as a refuge for noble families. This was the peak of Lombard culture in Italy.

After 650, the Lombards of Benevento incorporated into their territory the Duchy of Gargano, where the worship of the Archangel Michael had taken hold in the 4th century in memory of the close relations between the Greco-Byzantine world and Apulia. Having converted to Christianity, the Lombards placed particular importance on the worship of this saint in whom they found certain characteristic attributes of the pagan god Wotan, considered by the Germanic peoples as their supreme god; the god of war, psychopomp, and protector of heroes and warriors.

The Lombards took Ravenna in the 8th century and dominated almost the entire peninsula, excluding the Papal States and Naples. The social life of the duchies was at that time dominated by a Lombard aristocracy that had become Latinised and Christianised. This existed side by side with an indigenous civilian and religious society that cooperated with the established order. Some authors refer to a Romano-Lombard society.

Even so, the Lombards, masters of most of the peninsula, remained in conflict with the Papal power. Rome was under almost permanent siege and threat. Summoned by the Pope, the Carolingians took control of the northern territories of Italy in 774 and 776, but the Lombard duchies

of Benevento and Salerno in the south remained independent until the Norman Conquest in the 11th century.

Sources testify to the construction of great architectural ensembles, with the workers being organised into powerful specialised corporations. Without any specific artistic tradition of their own, the Lombards used the skills of local craftsmen, which explains the composite nature of their artistic style across the peninsula. In Lombardy the Merovingian influence is noticeable, while Byzantine and Syriac influences dominate in Friuli. However, despite these differences, the common origin of the Lombard princes and elite facilitated inter-regional exchanges and the expression of shared cultural traits.

The iron crown of Lombardy was worn by the Emperors until Charles V, and thereafter by Napoleon I, as it symbolises sovereignty over Italy.

The State Party also provides detailed history, in particular of the architecture and art, of the seven nominated sites placing it within the contexts before and after the specific Lombard period.

3 Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

The State Party provides, in the revised dossier, a comparative analysis based on the criteria requested, then continues with a detailed justification of the choice of the seven chosen sites compared with other sites from the Lombard period in Italy.

Firstly, this involved taking into account recent historical and archaeological reassessments of the High Middle Ages, in Europe and more particularly in Italy at the time of the Lombards. This was a period of interpenetration of various civilisations resulting in transition and profound transformations that were at the very heart of the beginnings and development of European societies. The Lombards played an essential role, along with the Visigoths and the Franks.

The analysis of this process is split into three successive phases: 1) migrations in Europe, 2) acculturation, assimilation and integration phenomena, and 3) elements following cultural diffusion and influence.

In terms of migration, the situation of the Lombards is different to that of the Franks, the Goths and the Burgundians, because they settled in the heart of the former Roman Empire, the living seat of Christianity and in direct opposition to the Byzantine world. This is a unique historic and geographic situation.

Next, the phase of acculturation, integration and assimilation produced a particularly creative period for the Lombards, starting from the middle of the 7th century through to its apogee in the middle of the 8th century.

Finally, in religious terms, the Lombards were the first to develop pilgrimages with the worship of Saint Michael. A series of places of worship are examined in Italy and in Europe.

The process of acculturation and integration was complete in the case of the Lombards. It may be compared to other great phases of transition marking the end of Antiquity and the flowering of the medieval world: in Europe the Franks who sparked off the Carolingian Empire, in Asia the Mongols and the Chinese Empire, in the Middle East the development of Islam and the Umayyad Empire.

The series has been chosen on the basis of strict criteria so that each site selected testifies to a typology of Lombard monument and/or art with the best possible level of meaning, integrity and authenticity. All the representative elements of the culture, religion and social system are present in the series in order to show the bases of the power established by the Lombards and all its diverse forms of expression. A description of these qualities for each of the sites is then provided, followed by a comparison with 23 other Lombard monuments and sites excluded from the series, in Pordenone, Verona, Modena, Brescia, Pavia, Isernia, Milan, Monza, Piacenza, Spoleto, and Reiti. In many cases, these monuments have been either destroyed, reconstructed or modified. Knowledge of many of these structures exists essentially only in archival form, hence their exclusion from the nominated series. This is particularly the case with the ancient capitals of Monza, Milan and Pavia.

In its international comparisons, the State Party evokes the similarities with Norman architecture in Great Britain and Sicily. Because of its typological variety, the nominated serial property is not really similar to properties or series already inscribed on the World Heritage List. The State Party examines, in particular, the Monuments of Oviedo and the Kingdom of Asturias (Spain, 1985, criteria (i), (ii) and (iv)), the Collegiate Church, Castle and Old Town of Quedlinburg (Germany, 1994, criteria (iv)), the Monastic Island of Reichenau (Germany, 2000, criteria (iii), (iv) and (vi)), the Abbey and Altenmünster of Lorsch (Germany, 1991, criteria (iii) and (iv)), the Benedictine Convent of St John at Münstair (Switzerland, 1983, criteria (iii)), Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay (France, 1979, criteria (i), (iii) and (vi)). But there is no similar process of cultural assimilation as important in terms of its architectural and artistic synthesis as that developed by the Lombards. They were the direct inheritors of the Roman world, borrowing its themes within a society based on profoundly remodelled civil and religious values. They were directly imbued with other cultural influences from the Mediterranean world.

ICOMOS considers that the State Party has reworked and expanded the comparative analysis for the property compared with the nomination dossier examined in 2009, taking into consideration the recommendations made by ICOMOS. This refers in particular to placing the property's architectural, artistic and cultural history into the broad perspective of the European and Mediterranean contexts

of the time. Furthermore, a detailed and reasoned justification for the establishment of the series has been given through a systematic study of the Lombard vestiges in Italy. Nevertheless, it is possible to explain and compare more thoroughly the architectural typologies, such as the church with a single nave and three apses, and its exchanges with the Carolingian version of this type, notably in Switzerland. More broadly, the artistic relations with the Carolingians are an important factor in the establishment of the culture of the European High Middle Ages. In Italy itself, a comparison could be made with the former church of St. Maria delle Pertiche in Pavia. Furthermore, nuances need to be added: the *castrum* of Castelseprio predates the Lombards who reused and restored it. Torba Tower was, for example, converted into a monastery.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of this serial property for the World Heritage List.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

The nominated property is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- The serial property provides a unique and exceptional testimony to the civilisation of the Lombards (6th to 8th centuries) which was at the very origin of the Kingdom of Italy.
- An immigrant people of Germanic origin, the Lombards settled in Italy and adopted Christianity. In the presence of an imposing Roman heritage and in contact with Byzantine and Middle Eastern influences, they developed their own unique cultural, architectural and artistic synthesis.
- Through its urban culture, religious and military monuments and decorative arts, the civilisation of the Lombards forms a decisive transition between antiquity and the birth of the European Middle Ages.
- The Lombards played a central role in developing and propagating a set of cultural and spiritual values for a nascent European world. They paved the way for and heralded the *renovatio* of the Carolingians. They spread the practice of pilgrimage and the worship of St Michael in the West.

The nominated series is a selection of the most representative, the most significant and best preserved sites reflecting the various facets of the monumental and artistic culture of the Lombards in Italy.

ICOMOS considers that this revised justification is appropriate. A people of Germanic origin who settled and adopted Christianity, the Lombards assimilated the material and cultural values left to them by a fading Roman world. Also in contact with Byzantine, Hellenistic and Middle Eastern influences, they achieved a unique cultural, architectural and artistic synthesis of which the series bears testimony through its diversity of monuments and styles and its various civil and religious

uses. This is indeed one of the major roots of the European medieval world.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

The Tempietto Longobardo, the monastery of San Giovanni, the cathedral, and the old patriarchal palace in Cividale del Friuli are testimonies to the foundations of the Lombard period, built on Late Roman ruins. The Tempietto is the best preserved 8th century building. The neighbouring buildings show various modern alterations, but the Lombard structures are easily identifiable from an architectural and functional point of view.

The Monastery of San Salvatore–Santa Giulia in Brescia has Lombard foundations on Roman remains. The church, which is very well preserved, probably dates from the 8th century; the crypt is from a later period. The Baroque additions were removed in the 1950s to reveal the medieval structures.

In Castelseprio the Church of Santa Maria, parts of the ruined Church of San Giovanni, and paintings in the Torba Tower have been preserved in excellent condition.

The 7th century structures of the Tempietto del Clitunno are well preserved.

The Church of San Salvatore in Spoleto dates from the 7th century.

In Benevento, the Church of Santa Sofia dates from the 8th century. It was enlarged in the 12th century, and again after an earthquake in 1668. In 1951–57 the modern elements were demolished and the 8th century structures reconstructed on the bases of elements discovered in an archaeological excavation. The 1950s additions are clearly visible. A glass and steel structure was added in the 1990s to the 12th century cloister to house the museum.

Only the entrance to the underground sanctuary of Monte Sant'Angelo has been preserved from the Lombard period, as the church was rebuilt in the 13th century.

Funerary furniture is an important aspect of Lombard culture of the 6th and 7th centuries. It has been preserved and is displayed in museums at the properties (Cividale del Friuli, Brescia, and Benevento), or located in the immediate vicinity (Spoleto).

The seven sites forming the series have been selected on the basis of two complementary requirements. The first is to represent in a significant way one or more of the dimensions specific to the architectural and artistic culture of the Lombards: urbanism, military installations, monasteries, religious architecture for the elite, and popular places of worship and pilgrimage. The second requirement derives from a thorough and critical

comparative analysis with the other places which bear cultural testimony to the Lombards in Italy.

ICOMOS considers that the property meets the conditions of integrity, in particular for the series justification. The application of rigorous selection criteria has led the State Party not to include the oldest Lombard royal capitals. The series does, however, include the elements needed to express its values in a satisfactory state of conservation and integrity.

Nonetheless, ICOMOS considers that the series could be extended to include Pavia, which would significantly contribute to the value of the series, in particular to justify fully the expression “places of the power” in the title and for full demonstration of criterion (vi). This possible extension aside, ICOMOS considers that the series is complete.

As ICOMOS recommended in 2009, the title of the nominated property has been changed.

Authenticity

The Lombard elements conserved or revealed archaeologically and presented as such are authentic. However, most of the monuments forming the series have been in use over the ensuing centuries, such as the Tempietto Longobardo and the episcopal ensemble in Cividale del Friuli, the monastic ensemble in Brescia, the Basilica in Spoleto, the Temple of Campello sul Clitunno, Benevento Church and the sanctuary in Monte Sant'Angelo. These monuments have often undergone internal transformations, restoration work and urban changes at various periods. Nonetheless, in the nominated series, the authentic Lombard elements have been preserved. They are visible and correctly-identified elements. Other places have been preserved by a long period of abandonment, such as the Torba fortifications in Castelseprio, or by their location away from medieval and modern urban growth, such as the Basilica in Spoleto and the Temple of Campello sul Clitunno.

An important aspect of authenticity is provided by the historical topography: in Cividale del Friuli, Brescia and Benevento, the Lombard elements form the core of the towns and they are clearly visible in the urban layout.

The choice of the Lombard elements forming the series was preceded by an in-depth study of the sites, conservation and restoration operations based on strict scientific and professional criteria, and lastly by as precise as possible a definition of the boundaries of the sites as a function of their contribution to the value of the series.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of authenticity of the monumental, decorative and epigraphic elements presented are satisfactory. Each is accompanied by detailed architectural, artistic and historic documentation that has led the State Party to a voluntarily restrictive definition of the boundaries of each of the sites, in order to take account of the changes in their environment. Finally,

the authenticity is guaranteed by a very good conservation policy.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity have been met.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (ii), (iii) and (vi). Criterion (iv), proposed in the nomination dossier examined in 2009, has been withdrawn.

Criterion (ii): exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the serial nomination is a crucial example for understanding the cultural and artistic exchanges central to the formation of the European medieval world. It bears testimony to the assimilation and synthesis made by the Lombards between the Roman heritage, Christian spirituality, Byzantine influence and their own values from the Germanic world. They paved the way for and heralded the flowering of Carolingian culture and art; they spread the worship of St Michael in the West and they contributed to the birth of pilgrimage in Europe, an essential factor of exchange.

ICOMOS considers that the Lombard monuments are an exemplary testimony to the cultural synthesis that occurred in the 6th to the 8th centuries between the ancient world and the Christian world. They influenced Carolingian and medieval architecture.

ICOMOS considers that the expansion made by the new comparative analysis appropriately explains and justifies the values associated with this criterion.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified.

Criterion (iii): bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the architectural complexes nominated for inscription represent a unique testimony to the extinct civilisation of the Lombards. They express new forms of monumental architecture by integrating the local tradition and developing an original synthesis that gave rise to a specific culture of the High Middle Ages. This resulted in numerous projects within a diverse set of duchies. The result, fully represented by the serial property, forms a clearly identified cultural ensemble but with multiple languages and objectives through which the Lombard elite asserted their power.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated sites represent the quintessence of what remains of the built heritage of

Lombard Italy. They form a diversified series providing exceptional testimony to the Lombard's urban culture, military architecture, and their religious culture, through the monasteries, temples for the elite and popular places of worship and pilgrimage.

ICOMOS considers that the justification for the series enables the application of this criterion.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified.

Criterion (vi): be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance;

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the Lombards made a major contribution to European culture through the foundation of large monasteries and the reconstruction of extant monasteries, such as Bobbio, Montecassino, and Farfa. They also encouraged the transcription and thereby the survival of ancient literary, artistic, and scientific texts. Lombard culture survives today in the toponymy, language, and the on-going importance of their churches, as testified by the pilgrimage to the grotto of St Michael. This led to the birth of the *Via Sacra Langobardorum*. Belief in the Archangel Michael was transformed and reinforced by the Lombards resulting in the construction of numerous churches dedicated to him across Europe. The history of the Lombards also generated many major literary works including the *Historia Langobardorum* by Paul the Deacon in the 8th century, *Adelchi* by Alessandro Manzoni and even an opera by Handel.

ICOMOS considers that the place of the Lombards in the spiritual and cultural development of medieval European Christianity is very important. They considerably bolstered the monastic movement and contributed to the creation of the precursor of the great pilgrimages, at Monte Sant'Angelo, and spread the worship of St Michael. They also played an important role in the transmission of literary, architectural, scientific, historical and legal works from Antiquity to the nascent European world. The Lombard myths and traditions in Italy, the language and artistic and literary sources testify to this day to the force of their cultural heritage in Italy and Europe.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified.

ICOMOS considers that the serial approach is justified and ICOMOS considers that the selection of sites is appropriate.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property meets criteria (ii), (iii) and (vi) and conditions of authenticity and integrity and that Outstanding Universal Value has been demonstrated.

Description of the attributes

- The Lombards' urban culture is represented by the ensemble of Cividale del Friuli, especially its Episcopal Palace; this is also equally well-presented in Brescia.
- The Lombards' military set-up is illustrated by the remains of the Castelseprio-Torba fortified site.
- The convent ensembles in Brescia, Benevento and Castelseprio are testimony to early and extensive monastic development.
- Religious architecture for the elite is omnipresent in Lombard culture; it is illustrated by the Tempietto Longobardo in Cividale del Friuli, the Santa Maria Church in Castelseprio, the Spoleto Basilica, and the Temple in Campello sul Clitunno. It borrows and adapts Greco-Latin concepts.
- The Lombards' decorative art is illustrated by mural painting, statuary and refined stucco work. Present at most of the sites, it is testimony to considerable wealth and the original and unique integration of numerous influences, notably Roman, Hellenistic and Byzantine.
- The religious culture is represented by the San Giovanni Baptistery in Cividale del Friuli and the funerary epitaphs in Castelseprio.
- The popular places of worship and pilgrimage are illustrated by the Benevento sanctuaries, the architecture of which refers-back explicitly to Constantinople, and Monte Sant'Angelo, dedicated to the worship of St Michael.

4 Factors affecting the property

Development pressures

In accordance with the ICOMOS recommendation in 2009, a detailed and justified response has been made to the issue of pressure from urban growth. All the sites are located within protected urban centres. The risk of alteration to the sites and their buffer zones by inappropriate construction would seem minimal.

Tourism pressures

The number of visitors is high in some cases, for example, at Brescia and pilgrims to Monte Sant'Angelo, whereas many of the elements contributing to the property's value are fragile and may be vulnerable to excessive human presence. If the property is inscribed on the World Heritage List, the number of visitors may increase significantly. In various places, notably in Cividale del Friuli, Castelseprio, Campello sul Clitunno and Monte Sant'Angelo, the conservation of mural paintings, and certain decorative or epigraphic elements could be threatened by excessive or poorly controlled tourism. The risk of vandalism is minor.

Further to the request sent by ICOMOS for information about the parking areas in Spoleto, the State Party sent detailed documentation concerning reorganisation and current projects. The former parking area in Salmi Square,

adjacent to the Basilica, must be removed to allow room for a pedestrian area. Two other areas have been identified for vehicles, one with limited access, in the olive grove below the cemetery surrounding the western flank of the Basilica, the other, lower down, below the hillside road. There are also plans to build a pedestrian access path through the olive grove and the cemetery. These projects would have no direct visual impact on the site.

Environmental pressures

As industrial sites are sufficiently distant from the properties, this risk is insignificant. Motor traffic passes well away from the monuments. There are no identified threats to the components of the property.

Natural disasters

The risk of earthquakes is very high (level 1) in Spoleto, Campello sul Clitunno, and Benevento, and high (level 2) in Cividale del Friuli and Monte Sant'Angelo. Past seismic events have not caused total destruction.

There is a hydrogeological risk in Cividale del Friuli against which measures have been taken to reduce the danger of erosion near the Natisone River.

Impact of climate change

There is at the present moment no identified risk for the components of the property.

ICOMOS considers that the main threats to the property are seismic risks, erosion by the Natisone River in Cividale del Friuli, and pressure from the growth of tourism affecting the components of the property that are most susceptible to human presence.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The surface areas and number of inhabitants of the property components and their associated buffer zones are as follows:

Site:	Site surface areas (ha)	Buffer zone surface area (ha)	Site number of inhabitants	Buffer zone number of inhabitants
Cividale del Friuli	1.09	20.83	0	1,067
Brescia	3.75	84.13	5	6,250
Castelseprio – Torba	8.50	38.75	2	0
Spoleto	0.08	66.85	0	3,163
Campello sul	0.01	51.28	0	98

Clitunno				
Bénévent	0.34	27.56	1	1,711
Monte Sant'Angelo	0.31	16.82	13	1,596
Totals	14.08	306.22	21	14,321

The nominated sites are limited to the Lombard buildings and associated museums. The public areas in front of the conserved buildings are excluded from the nominated zone (Cathedral Square in Cividale del Friuli and Santa Sofia in Benevento).

As recommended by ICOMOS in 2009:

- In Brescia, the nominated site has been extended westwards to include the archaeological park;
- In Benevento, the modern building northeast of Santa Sofia has been withdrawn from the property;
- In Spoleto, the buffer zone has been extended well beyond the river to the old town, to the south and southwest. Further to the request made by ICOMOS, the southeast section has been kept within the boundaries of the original 2008-2009 proposal;
- In Campello sul Clitunno, the buffer zone has been extended along the river.

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries of the nominated properties and of their buffer zones are adequate.

Ownership

The various properties almost all come under public law, belonging either to the municipalities or the regions. There are several exceptions:

- In Cividale del Friuli, the parish of Santa Maria Assunta owns the Cathedral and its associated buildings;
- In Castelseprio – Torba, the monastery is owned by the Italian Environment Fund, a not-for-profit foundation incorporated under private law; several parcels of forest along the site boundary belong to private owners;
- The Monte Sant'Angelo Sanctuary belongs to the religious Order of St Michael.

Most of the buffer zones are privately owned.

Protection

Legal protection

At the State level, the legal protection is determined by the Legislative Decree No 42 of 22 January 2004 (*Codice dei beni culturali e del paesaggio*). All the nominated properties benefit from this highest level of legal protection.

If inscription on the World heritage List is accepted, the monuments will be protected by a law ratified on 20 February 2006 (Convention 77, "Special protective and

promotion measures for sites of cultural, landscape and environmental interest, including World Heritage").

At the provincial and regional levels, additional regulations are in place regarding landscape and natural protection (especially for Cividale del Friuli, Castelseprio, Campello sul Clitunno, Spolète and Monte Sant'Angelo).

At the local level, the properties are protected by general development plans. Only restoration and conservation measures are permitted. This protection also includes the buffer zones, except in Spoleto. Furthermore, there are special regulation plans for the development of the private parts of the property sites: in Cividale del Friuli (1998 and 2007 regulation plans), Brescia (2004), Castelseprio (2003, amended in 2010), Spoleto (2007), Campello sul Clitunno (2007), Benevento (1985), and Monte Sant'Angelo (1986).

Effectiveness of protection measures

ICOMOS considers that the protection measures are sufficient and they appear to be effective.

ICOMOS considers that the legal protection in place is adequate.

Conservation

Inventories, recording, research

The revised nomination dossier presents detailed scientific documentation for each site in the series, detailing its history, inventory and state of conservation. Archives, scientific publications and research and conservation reports have been compiled by numerous scientific institutions, universities and administrative bodies of the State Party, at national, regional and local levels. The archaeology and history of the High Middle Ages are particularly well developed in Italy, notably in connection with several of the property's sites and the *Italia Langobardorum* network that promotes trans-regional research.

Research at the sites and the inventories are led either by the State through the *Soprintendenza* or by universities. Archaeological investigations are in progress in Brescia and Cividale del Friuli. In early 2009, 25 scientific programmes were in progress or pending.

Advanced documentation and management tools are in use, such as the Map of risks for Italy's cultural heritage and the SICaR database at national level for restoration work, and the SIRBeC database for Lombardy. The Ministry of Culture and the *Italia Langobardorum* websites publish the research and restoration results for the property sites.

Present state of conservation

The State Party considers that the state of conservation of the nominated properties is good. There is no situation of

concern requiring particular attention or emergency measures.

In Cividale del Friuli, the most recent restoration campaign for the buildings took place after the 1976 earthquake. Work was carried out on the wooden stalls in 1998–99. Since the 1920s efflorescence caused by humidity had been attacking the east and north walls; remedial action was taken in 2001. The church and monastery of San Giovanni are in good condition and after restoration became part of the museum. The sculpted decoration in the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta will be restored in the near future. The Palazzo dei Provveditori (National Archaeological Museum) was restored from 1970 to the 1990s.

In Brescia, a gradual restoration campaign was implemented from 1979 to 2005. The restoration of the south facade of the museum is now in progress, the facades of the Roman Capitol and frescoes in the neighbouring Sanctuary are scheduled for 2012.

À Castelseprio – Torba, the church of Santa Maria *foris portas* underwent restoration at the end of the 1990s. The ruins of the churches of San Paolo and San Giovanni, the chapter houses, the bridge, and the baptistery have been restored. The protective roof over the baptistery was replaced in 2009. A programme to consolidate the castle buttresses is now under way. A global, multi-year project has just begun in the Torba zone.

The church in Spoleto was restored in the 1980-90s. The convent facade and buildings are currently the subject of a programme.

In Campello sul Clitunno the Tempietto underwent restoration in the 1980-90s.

In Benevento careful restoration of the interior of the church of Santa Sofia was completed in 2008. The monastery was the subject of a works campaign in 1999.

In Monte Sant'Angelo, a series of conservation programmes took place in the 1980-90s. The bronze door is currently undergoing work.

Active Conservation measures

The monuments and archaeological elements of the sites are under the protection of the National Decree of 2004, which implies permanent conservation management by highly qualified staff. Consequently, maintenance work is regularly undertaken under the control of the regional offices of the Ministry for Culture (*Soprintendenza*). This approach ensures uniform methods are used and the maintaining of a satisfactory general state of conservation for all the components that make up the serial property. Individual maintenance and restoration programmes are coordinated and financially consolidated as a function of this overall view of the property, forming the "Preservation and Conservation Plan" of the current Management Plan.

Maintenance

Everyday maintenance is provided by the technical staff of the management department of each site. Specialised maintenance of the heritage components, when required, is included in the conservation plan as a specific operation under the control of the relevant professionals.

Effectiveness of conservation measures

ICOMOS considers that this is a complex property with many major components being intrinsically fragile and delicate, such as the archaeological remains, paintings and stucco. Nonetheless, the conservation measures implemented have been fully explained by the State Party; they are scientifically justified and their implementation is effective. In Early 2009, 40 conservation programmes were in progress or pending for the sites that make up the property.

ICOMOS considers that conservation is at a good level for all the sites that make up the series. The fragility of the painted elements and stucco does, however, require a greater level of vigilance.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

The management process relies on several types of stakeholders, with complementary involvement and responsibilities that can vary from one site to another: the local entities responsible for the management of each of the sites (see below); the Ministry of Culture and representatives of the region (*Soprintendenza*); the municipalities (8) and regional (5) or provincial (6) entities. Depending on the programmes in progress or pending for each of the properties, other partners may be called in: external specialists and experts, universities, foundations, etc.

In *Cividale del Friuli*, the responsible authorities are the municipality, the parish of Santa Maria Assunta, and the National Museum of Archaeology.

In *Brescia*, the municipality manages the property and the Brescia Musei foundation administers it. The Province of Brescia and the CAB Foundation support the museum.

In *Castelseprio*, the property is managed by the State *Soprintendenza*, the province of Varese, and the FAI foundation.

In *Spoleto*, the Municipality manages the church with the assistance of the *Soprintendenza*.

In *Campello sul Clitunno*, the *Soprintendenza* is in charge of management.

In *Benevento*, the Province and the curia of Benevento share the management, with the Municipality's participation.

In *Monte Sant'Angelo*, the Order of St Michael manages the property. The Municipality coordinates measures with the *Soprintendenza* and support from Bari University.

All the management partners are now grouped together in an associative network called *Italia Langobardorum*, with the direct support of the Ministry of Culture. Its main missions are to coordinate and regularly update the Management Plan, oversee all conservation, scientific coordination, control of common financial resources, enhancement and promotion of the property as a series, and international relations. The network above all operated as a working group, at the time of the first dossier (2007-2008), then as a fully-fledged coordination and management institution of the serial property (2009). Today, it has a presidency, scientific committee and executive management committee; it also takes care of technical-scientific coordination for conservation and socio-economic development, along with four working groups. Its decisions are submitted to the general assembly of members and its proposals for the Management Plan must be ratified by the member public institutions (Ministry, regions and municipalities).

ICOMOS considers that the institutionalisation and implementation of the *Italia Langobardorum* associative structure provides an overall authority in charge of the coordination and management of the serial property. The present situation meets the recommendations of the 2009 evaluation.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

The Management Plan for the serial property was written in 2007. It entered into effect on 1 January 2008. It is based on two reference documents. The first is a general framework and a set of directives for the management methods, for the scientific objectives and guidelines for the conservation projects, monitoring and data management (vol. 1). The second lists the 190 objectives specific to each of the sites and the 463 projects planned to achieve them in the areas of knowledge, protection and conservation, enhancement, education, promotion and economic and social development (vol. 2).

Even if several general measures for protection, conservation or risk management have been planned from its inception through to 2015, the Management Plan is designed to be a dynamic and cumulative tool that is regularly extended and updated. The Management Plan applies to the sites and their buffer zones, along with a broader notion of territory focused on the sites. Each of the sites has its own implementation schedule and updates are planned. The first took place at the end of two years (December 2009, vol. 3), notably to take into account the ICOMOS recommendations.

After a little less than three years (September 2010), the estimated progress made with the 2007 Management Plan is around 34% of the projects completed and 36% in

progress; the others are to happen within various timeframes.

The 2009 update of the Management Plan (vol. 3) added 60 additional projects; it established 7 sector plan schedules and a planning schedule per site for a six-year period (2010-2015).

The sites are regularly open to the public and generally have appropriate signage. Several of the sites have exhibition spaces and information-interpretation centres. In several cases, museums are included in or near to the sites (Cividale del Friuli, Brescia and Benevento); their themes directly reflect the values expressed by the property. Annual visitor numbers range from several thousand (Spoleto and Campello sul Clitunno) to several tens of thousands (Castelseprio-Torba, Benevento, Mont'Angelo and Cividale del Friuli). Around 300,000 people visit the Brescia site each year.

ICOMOS considers that while the large number of projects announced (more than 500) are certainly a manifestation of the dynamism of the property's forward management, especially at the local level, this apparent abundance is not without the need to raise some questions. Many of these projects have no direct link with the property's conservation and management. The conservation projects need to be better identified within this vast ensemble, prioritised, financially consolidated and guaranteed as regards the long-term management of the property.

In Spoleto, the State Party specified in its February 2011 reply that Salmi Square, immediately adjacent to the Basilica, is to become a pedestrian area, with paving in harmony with the style of the Basilica. It is also planned to restrict automobile traffic along the southern side of the Basilica.

Risk preparedness

Given the fragile nature of some of the painted decoration and stucco, and their vulnerability in the presence of the public, notably in Cividale del Friuli, Castelseprio, Campello sul Clitunno and Monte Sant'Angelo, provisions for restricting the number of visitors and/or protective railings are in place. These measures can be adapted depending on the monitoring of the conservation, which is reinforced for the most sensitive areas.

In general, surveillance systems are in place and no acts of vandalism have been reported in recent years.

The monuments are periodically checked for seismic effects.

The risk of fire at the sites is limited by the general absence of flammable material. In those instances where such a risk might exist (Monte Sant'Angelo and Spoleto Basilica) monitoring and response measures are or will soon be in place. They concern both monitoring and response systems. In its February 2011 reply, the State Party specified the measures taken in Spoleto.

ICOMOS considers that as a general rule the risks are well identified by the State Party and that they are monitored and managed satisfactorily. The database and potential risk mapping system is regularly updated to detect risks sufficiently early and plan the appropriate measures.

Involvement of the local communities

The local communities are involved through the extensive participation of the municipalities in the *Italia Langobardorum* management entity and their direct involvement in the management of several sites.

Resources, including staffing levels, expertise and training

The financial resources are mainly guaranteed by the municipalities, regional and provincial authorities, and the Ministry of Culture when it participates directly in the management of a site (Cividale del Friuli and Campello sul Clitunno). Italian government and European Union funds can consolidate certain projects. The sites and museums have their own income from entry fees and their activities. The religious institutions participate in restoration expenses when they are the owners (Cividale del Friuli, Benevento and Monte Sant'Angelo). Other institutions or foundations (FAI) contribute to certain projects.

Permanent site personnel include specialists and professionals (architects and town planners specialising in the conservation of historic monuments, archaeologists, art historians, museum curators, etc.), people engaged in tourism promotion (museum staff, guides, guards, etc.), technical maintenance and restoration personnel, management and secretarial personnel. Employment is generally provided by the municipalities or the Ministry of Culture or religious institutions. The total employee numbers are: Cividale del Friuli: 87; Brescia: 224; Castelseprio-Torba: 57; Spoleto: 10; Campello sul Clitunno: 9; Benevento: 34; and Monte Sant'Angelo: 82.

The positions of the *Italia Langobardorum* association personnel are guaranteed by the municipalities and the Ministry of Culture, but their number and expertise are not specified.

Several national institutes, sponsored or recognised by the Ministry of Culture, are able to provide experts and training in conservation and management techniques. These include, particularly, the *Istituto Centrale per il Restauro* (ICR), *Opificio delle Pietre Dure*, Central Institute of Documentation (ICCD) and the new *la Veneria Reale* institute.

Each of the sites also has access to the services of regional or local institutions, especially the Ministry's regional offices (*Soprintendenza*), museums associated with the sites, specialist research institutions and universities.

ICOMOS considers that the serial property benefits from the presence of numerous competent specialists and

professionals onsite and within the property's national, regional and local environment. The permanent staff of the *Italia Langobardorum* association needs to be specified and possibly increased.

Effectiveness of current management

ICOMOS considers there is also good individual management of the sites. There is an over-arching management authority and a management plan for the property that was recently updated (2010-2015). An effective management structure is therefore in place. Nonetheless, within a vast ensemble of general or site-specific projects, prioritisation and sustainable financial consolidation must be provided to maintain site conservation as a priority.

ICOMOS considers that the property's management system is adequate and that it has a detailed management plan. Nonetheless, conservation project prioritisation and sustainable financial consolidation must be provided; the permanent staff of the *Italia Langobardorum* association needs to be specified and possibly increased. The landscaped areas immediately surrounding the sites require urgent action in some cases, such as in the case of the parking area alongside the church in Spoleto.

6 Monitoring

The state of conservation of the monuments, the decorative work, and archaeological sites forming the core of the property's various components is generally good. Most of the remedial work was completed in past years (see Conservation). The State Party went on to establish standardised monitoring for the various components of the property set against a generally high standard of conservation, in order to have a coherent and permanent view of its condition. For this, it relies on the working document of the Central Institute of Restoration (ICR), in Rome, the Italian Cultural Heritage Risk Map (1990). This document is used to identify in detail the various risks for each element of the property, to establish periodic monitoring indicators, and to diagnose rapidly the appropriate preventive measures. The results of the observations and measures associated with each indicator are used to compile a detailed monitoring file for each element of the property, by type of risk. The body of information forms a map at any given point in time of the relevant element of the property, while the separate maps taken together form the database for monitoring the property. The basic monitoring sheets are standardised by the ICR, thereby making possible comparisons, cross-referencing, statistical approaches, and bringing each of the sites spread across Italy into line with one another if necessary.

In its update of the Management Plan (December 2009), the State Party provided details for the annual monitoring and conservation programmes for the 2010-2015 period.

ICOMOS considers that the property's monitoring is satisfactory.

7 Conclusions

ICOMOS recognises the Outstanding Universal Value of the serial property, The Longobards in Italy. Places of the power (568-774 A.D.), as a unique and exceptional testimony to the transition between antiquity and the European Middle Ages.

ICOMOS considers that the series could be extended to include Pavia, which would significantly contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the series, in particular to fully justify the expression "places of the power" in the title and to reinforce the demonstration of criterion (vi). Furthermore, with the exception of the above possibility, ICOMOS considers that the series is closed.

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the Longobards in Italy. Places of the power (568-774 A.D.), Italy, be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii), (iii) and (vi)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

The serial property represents the quintessence of the remaining built and artistic heritage of the Lombards in Italy today. A people of Germanic origin, having settled and converted to Christianity, the Lombards assimilated the material and cultural values inherited from the end of the Roman world. Also in contact with Byzantine, Hellenistic and Middle Eastern influences, the Lombards achieved a cultural, architectural and artistic synthesis, unique in terms of its monumental and stylistic diversity and the various secular and religious uses. It is one of the main roots of the beginnings of the medieval European world and the establishment of Western Christianity.

Criterion (ii): The Lombard monuments are an exemplary testimony to the cultural and artistic synthesis that occurred in Italy in the 6th to the 8th centuries, between the Roman heritage, Christian spirituality, Byzantine influence and the values derived from the Germanic world. They paved the way for and heralded the flowering of Carolingian culture and artistry.

Criterion (iii): The Lombard places of the power express remarkable new artistic and monumental forms, testifying to a Lombard culture characteristic of the European High Middle Ages. It takes the form of a clearly identifiable and unique cultural ensemble, the many languages and objectives of which express the power of the Lombard elite.

Criterion (vi): The place of the Lombards and their heritage in the spiritual and cultural structures of medieval European Christianity is very important. They considerably reinforced the monastic movement and contributed to the establishment of a forerunner venue for the great pilgrimages, in Monte Sant'Angelo, with the spread of the worship of St Michael. They also played an important role in the transmission of literary, technical, architectural, scientific, historical and legal works from Antiquity to the nascent European world.

Integrity

The sites meet the conditions of integrity, in particular as regards the serial justification. The application of rigorous selection criteria has led to the exclusion of the ancient Lombard royal capitals and the imposition of strict boundaries. Nonetheless, the sites include all the elements required to express the series' Outstanding Universal Value, notably through the adequate state of conservation of its components.

Authenticity

The conditions of authenticity of the monumental, decorative and epigraphic elements presented are adequate. They are accompanied by detailed architectural, artistic, archaeological and historical documentation that justifies both their selection and their authenticity.

Management and protection requirements

All the nominated sites benefit from the highest level of legal protection, established by the Legislative Decree No 42 of 22 January 2004 (*Codice dei beni culturali e del paesaggio*).

It is a complex property with many of its important components being intrinsically fragile and delicate to conserve, such as the archaeological remains, paintings and stucco. Nonetheless, adequate conservation measures are implemented by the State Party.

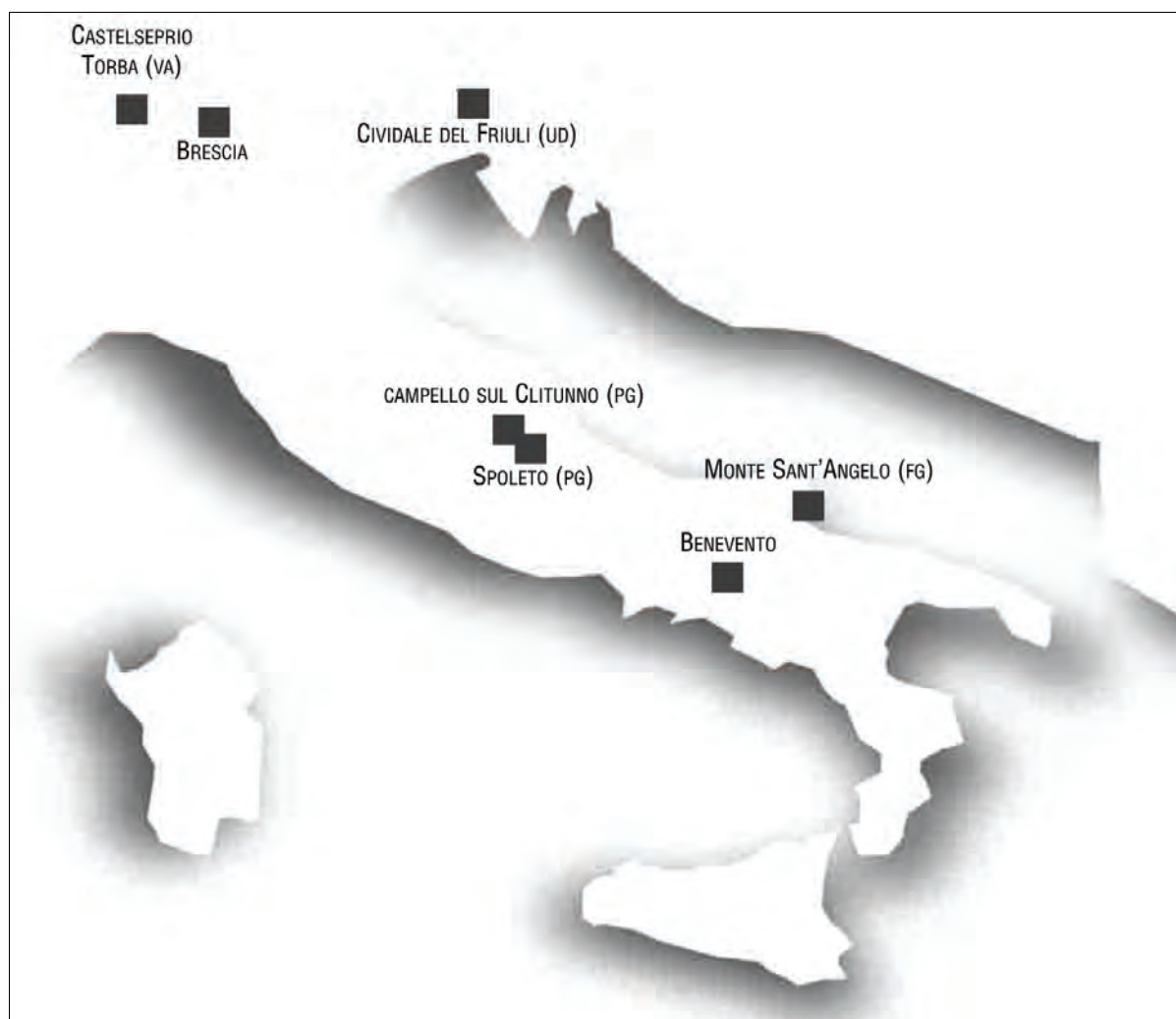
There is a specific management system for each of the seven properties, in relation to their ownership, comprising many and varied stakeholders. The *Italia Langobardorum* association network has become a over-arching authority able to harmonise and monitor the series.

The Management Plan includes a very comprehensive range of projects. Nonetheless, they need to be prioritised in terms of the lasting conservation of the properties and the environmental expression of their outstanding value.

In addition to the natural seismic and river erosion risks present at certain sites, tourism development pressure could threaten those components of the property most susceptible to human presence.

ICOMOS recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- Pay particular attention to the conservation of the most fragile mural paintings and stucco decorative elements that may be threatened by excessive or poorly controlled tourism;
- Identify, prioritise, financially consolidate and guarantee for the long term the conservation projects included in the Management Plan;
- Specify and possibly increase the number of permanent staff of the *Italia Langobardorum* association;
- Examine the possibility of extending the series to include the Lombard remains in Pavia.



Map showing the location of the nominated properties



Cividale del Friuli, aerial view of the Episcopal ensemble



Brescia, convent of San Salvatore – Santa Giulia



Castelseprio – Torba, Torba tower and Santa Maria Church



Spoletto, Basilica of San Salvatore



Campello sul Clitunno, Tempio del Clitunno



Benevento, Santa Sofia ensemble