
The Burgundy Climats (France) No 1425

Official name as proposed by the State Party

The Climats, terroirs of Burgundy

Location

Department of the Côte-d'Or
Department of Saône-et-Loire
France

Brief description

The Climats are precisely delimited vineyard parcels located on the slopes of the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune, extending south of Dijon up to Maranges. The nominated area encompasses the elements that made possible the development and differentiation of the Climats and comprises two separated components: the first covers 1,247 viticultural parcels, each identified by its own name and cadastral data, the associated productive units, the rural villages and the town of Beaune, which represents the commercial dimension of the Burgundy vine/wine production system; the second includes the historic core of Dijon, which materializes the political-regulatory impetus to the formation of the Climats system.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a *site*.

It has not been nominated as a cultural landscape, although ICOMOS considers that, in terms of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (July 2013) paragraph 47, it is a *cultural landscape*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

1 February 2002

International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

14 March 2013

Background

This is a new nomination.

Consultations

ICOMOS consulted its International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes and several independent experts.

Technical Evaluation Mission

An ICOMOS technical evaluation mission visited the property from 24 to 30 September 2014.

Additional information received by ICOMOS

On 26 September 2014 ICOMOS requested additional information from the State Party on the following aspects:

- the reasons why the property has not been nominated also as a cultural landscape;
- the rationale for the boundaries of the Dijon component;
- an expanded comparative analysis;
- details on measures and mechanisms for the conservation of rural built heritage;
- additional maps.

The State Party responded on 5 November 2014. The additional information provided has been included in the relevant sections of this report. On 17 November 2014 the State Party also provided an English version of the additional information report.

On 22 December 2014, ICOMOS sent a second letter to the State Party asking for additional information on the following points:

- further justify the selected criteria for the towns of Dijon and Beaune;
- consider reducing the boundaries of the Dijon component;
- strengthen the protection of the nominated property (especially Beaune) and its buffer zone;
- provide updated information on the provisions of the Burgundy regional wind plan;
- the enforcement of the landscape plan for the enhancement of the quarry district at Comblanchien.

The State Party responded on 28 February 2015 and the additional information provided has been incorporated into the relevant sections of the present report.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

12 March 2015

2 The property

Description

The nominated serial property encompasses a series of small hills known as Côte de Nuits and Côte de Beaune – extending in a north-south direction some 60km south of Dijon up to Maranges and in a west-east direction no more than 6km.

The area is marked by micro-differences in soil, basically constituted of calcareous and clay formations. This diversity finds its origins in 30 million-year old tectonic phenomena and in more recent depositional layers of glacial, wind and alluvial origins.

The latitude grants a temperate climate, while the longitude protects from the excesses of continental and of oceanic climates. The orography, on the other hand, favours the mitigating influences of the Mediterranean.

The current territorial layout of the nominated property has been influenced by the disposition of the cadastral parcels and of the municipal territories as well as by the north-south communication routes that border the area and that have long since connected the region to important centres on the Mediterranean and Northern Europe.

Three factors are held as essential and reciprocally complementary in the progressive construction, recognition and differentiation of the Climats: a productive dimension, materialised by the Climats themselves, a political and regulatory aspect, represented by the city of Dijon, and a commercial/ distribution factor, embodied by the town of Beaune.

This is reflected in the selection of the components of the series.

Part 1 – The Climats, the landscape and the villages

The Climats – there are 1,247 in total occupying some 8000ha – constitute a mosaic of precisely delimited vineyard parcels, small in size, inscribed in the cadastral limits, identified by specific names and defined by enclosures, walls, hedgerows, and paths still legible in the landscape.

They are distinct from one another due to their specific natural conditions (geology, soil, slope, exposure, meteorological conditions, vine type, etc) that have been shaped by human work and progressively identified in relation to the characteristics of the wine they produce.

The word 'climat' derives from the Greek *klima*, which designates the slope of the ground. In Roman times the word *clima* came to indicate a measurement unit of about 324m² used to measure the land to be farmed. The evolution of the word into the Climat thus embodies two crucial aspects for the definition of this entity.

Overall, the nominated area exhibits an open and homogenous character, with distant views towards the plain on the east and the gentle, protective relief of the plateau on the western side. Micro features, e.g., the geometric parcels, the vine-rows, the paths, the dry-stone walls, the terraces, the stone piles (*meurgers*), huts, etc. enrich the landscape mosaic. Four distinct geographical units may however be identified: the Côte de Beaune, the Côte de Nuits, the Hautes-Côtes and the plain.

The Côte de Beaune features smooth slopes extending towards the plain of the Saone River; the east-facing sides are covered by vineyards where the vines are mainly laid out perpendicular to the slopes, the ridge is covered by meadows and wooded areas, and parallel ravines separate the slopes. Wide and deep views towards the plain and inter-visibility between villages and vineyards characterise this landscape unit.

The Côte de Nuits exhibits a steeper slope and frequent calcareous outcrops; the vineyards occupy the lower part of the slopes and part of the plain. Sheer wooded ravines cut the hillsides and create visual and ecological links with the Hautes-Côtes. The Comblanchien quarry has left a visible mark on the landscape of the Côte.

The Hautes-Côtes and the plateau contrast with the vineyard mosaic of the hillsides: cut by ravines and mainly covered with woods, they exhibit a wilder character, although in some areas, meadows and cereal cultivation may be found.

The plain extends at the foot of the Côtes. Here the distribution and density of the vineyards vary considerably: in certain areas they appear omnipresent as a monoculture (Corgoloin, Vougeot, Vosne-Romanée, Gevrey-Chambertin, etc.); in other areas vineyards are intermingled with pasture, woods or other crops, e.g., east of the RD974. Here the micro scale of the landscape mosaic is more evident and better preserved.

The villages have grown on the lowest part of the alluvial fans at the mouth of the ravines; whilst in general they exhibit a rural aspect, Beaune and Nuits-Saint-Georges show a more urban character. The villages preserve their historic fabric and their street network with a varied urban organisation including linear or radial layouts, that reflect the topography of the site.

Beaune

The town of Beaune is encompassed within the Climat component; however the nomination dossier deals with it as a specific urban element of the Climats system related to commercial activities.

The urban fabric of Beaune developed around a Roman fortification – a *castrum* – and still exhibits a radial organisation coupled with urban districts grown up along the main communication axes. The town built up around three main poles – the Market Place, the Carnot Square and the Notre-Dame collegiate district, witnessing the successive developments of the city. Former abbeys and convents have marked the urban structure of Beaune while the outer districts feature the architecture associated with the specialised professions of wine (cellars, wineries, trading houses, etc.)

Part 2 - Dijon

Dijon is located immediately north of the Côtes. It developed from the 5th century AD onwards when the

bishops of Langres decided to reside within the existing Gallo-Roman *castrum*.

The radial form of the city demonstrates its progressive growth around the ancient core. The streets are narrow, the urban fabric is compact although its texture is not homogeneous, following the different cadastral subdivision of the ancient urban articulation.

The nominated component preserves several edifices and complexes associated with the role played by Dijon in sustaining and promoting viticulture and wine-making on the Côtes, e.g., the Palace of the Dukes and of the States of Burgundy, the Parliament building (Palace of Justice), the Municipal Archives and Library, the Abbey Church of Saint-Bénigne, the Monastery of the Cistercian Nuns (*Monastère des Bernardines*), the numerous private residences and the *maisons de négoce* (trading houses).

History and development

Vine cultivation is attested to in the area since the 1st – 2nd centuries AD. However, findings show that vineyards were rather located in the plain and not on the hillsides. The shift of vineyards onto the slopes of the Côtes probably occurred in the Early Middle Ages, since the 5th - 6th centuries AD, with the spread of Christianity and the establishment of monasteries and bishoprics which pursued the colonisation of the territory and the reinstatement of agricultural activities, particularly vine-growing.

The establishment of the Cistercian order further contributed to the diffusion of viticulture. The Cistercian self-sufficient mode of production is materialised in a specific production unit – the *clos* - where the vineyard, the *cuvée*, equipped with the winepress, the cellar, the residential area and the chapel and even the quarry for the building stones were all enclosed within one single precinct. The *clos* spread throughout the Côtes and imprinted itself on the structure of the region and of the *Climats*.

Also, the laws of Burgundy contributed to the diffusion of vineyards onto the slopes, by allowing the occupation of abandoned plots to reinstate the vineyards.

During the 12th – 13th centuries, while large estates still belonged to religious orders and to the nobility, members of the bourgeoisie and of the professions also started owning vineyards. This fragmentation determined the fine subdivision of parcels, which has been transmitted as the cadastral base for the successive formation of the *Climats*.

The wine from Beaune was already famed in the 13th - 14th centuries but the action of the Valois Dukes of Burgundy, enhanced its quality even further: an order issued in 1395 prohibited growing vine-types of lower quality, e.g., *Gamay*, which had to be removed and replaced by *pineau* (pinot), recommended since 1375.

This regulation along with the knowledge of vine-farming techniques and of the adaptation of vine-types to specific

soil conditions disclosed the potential and diversity of expression of the finer vine-types in relation to each parcel. It was only after this order that the good places for vine-growing began to be identified and distinguished from those yielding grapes and wines with lesser quality.

However, at the beginning, the distinction among wines of better quality was not made with specific reference to places or parcels, but was rather associated with the vicinity of their origin to major towns: in 1446 an order was issued limiting entry into Dijon and Beaune only to wines from certain areas close to these two towns. The place names of wine provenance – Dijon or Beaune – were marked on the barrels, based on the judgement of appointed experts. It was specifically in the 15th century that the process of diversification of separate *cuvées* commenced.

In the 16th century the fragmentation of the large monastic estates and of ducal properties, which had entered into the Royal domain, led to the acquisition of land plots by Burgundy parliament representatives or by the Dijon bourgeoisie. This process facilitated the progressive identification of specific places – the *Climats*. Their identification is witnessed by the appearance of the word in juridical acts and by their early cartographic representation.

The first appellation distinct from those of Dijon or Beaune dates back to the 17th century; it identifies the Climat de Beze and Chambertin, and marks the end of the proximity of the vineyard to Beaune or Dijon as an indicator of wine quality.

While the system of *Climats* had been consolidating during the 18th century, the commercialisation of wine also changed: from the system of appointed 'courtiers-gourmets' to expert sellers with their trading houses (*maisons de négoce*) through the commissioners, independent intermediaries able to recognise the specific provenance of the wines. An order issued in 1766 marked the official beginning of the recognition and distinction of wines on a micro-geographic basis.

During the 18th century the description and classification of the *Climats* and of their qualities in relation to the characteristics of the wines produced there began, to be systematized in the 19th century.

The devastation caused by phylloxera at the end of the 19th, early 20th centuries prompted a new impetus to viticulture and the construction of an updated body of knowledge as traditional practices were no longer useful or sufficient: technical schools were then established in Beaune and Dijon.

After this crisis, the model of the *Climats* system was consciously chosen and re-established as the way to regain the level of excellence and reputation of the Burgundy wines.

In the 20th century, the trade unions played a central role in guarding against the temptation of monopolies and to protect the differentiation of wines, eventually by promoting and participating in the preparation of the first law for the Appellation of Origin (1919) and then for the appellation of Controlled Origin (1935), in which the linkage between the Appellation of a wine type and the *Climats* fell into place.

3 Justification for inscription, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

The comparative analysis presented in the nomination dossier first examines the possible areas of comparison to be considered, concluding that three macro categories are relevant in this case: vineyards and viticultural properties, where the formation of parcels has been relevant to define wine specificity, and areas where the interaction between geo-morphological and pedological features of a given territory with a specific crop give rise to a product recognised for its specificities, that is to say, with areas corresponding to denominations of controlled origin (DOC).

The comparative analysis is then developed by examining properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List, properties on the Tentative Lists and finally with other properties. For the purpose of the comparison 23 benchmarks have been identified for the vineyards, 10 for the comparison with parcelled sites and 13 for the comparison with DOC areas. Overall the properties examined encompass 35 properties of which 11 are inscribed on the World Heritage List and 6 on the Tentative Lists of State Parties.

ICOMOS nevertheless requested the State Party to expand the comparative analysis by including three further properties. The State Party provided the additional comparison which strengthens the conclusions presented in the nomination dossier.

While the ancientness and role of land parcelling is not unique to the *Climats* (e.g., Douro Wine Region, Portugal) ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis with its addendum meets its objectives and provides an extensive examination of the *Climats* vis-à-vis other properties, both at the national and international levels and highlighting their specificity.

ICOMOS considers that the serial approach is justified by the arguments presented in the nomination dossier and particularly in the additional information.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of this 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 1,247 *Climats* outstandingly materialise a vine/wine production model which has been developed since the early middle ages thanks to the actions of the Benedictine monasteries of Cluny and Cîteaux as well as to the informed rule of the Dukes of Burgundy;
- The *Climats* exceptionally illustrate the profound knowledge and expert use of the specific soil micro-conditions and the viticultural know-how built up in a continuing tradition passed on, in most cases, within the same families of farmers and wine-makers;
- The site of the *Climats* is the outstanding result of a centuries-long work that has marked the territory with a clearly readable imprint made up of paths, boundary walls, *clos* (enclosed plots) and *lieux-dits* (named places);
- The *Climats*, with the organisation of settlements, the production places/buildings, the architecture of power that made this territory thrive, bear witness in a unique manner to the construction of a culture rooted in the territory;
- The *Climats* constitute a unique and living repository of technical know-how which has been continuously transmitted and enriched and to which the contemporary homologation may pose a threat.

The State Party considers that the "geo-system" encompassing the *Climats* has been modelled in a long-term historic process by different inextricable geographic, historic, institutional, technical and cultural factors which are embodied by three complementary elements: the *Climats*, as the productive component; Dijon, as the element representing the political impulse; and Beaune, materialising the commercial component.

Whilst considering the justification appropriate, ICOMOS nevertheless notes that, if the Dukes of Burgundy's role is clearly explained, the action of the monastic community in Cîteaux appears only marginally in the nomination dossier: the abbey of Cîteaux disseminated agricultural practices, winemaking techniques and land management methods, which were fundamental for the development of vine-growing and wine-making in Burgundy and throughout Europe, thanks to monastic networks.

The serial approach is justified by the State Party on the ground that the geo-system of the *Climats* site results from different interacting factors among which the role of the Dukes of Burgundy, and of Dijon as their capital, through their political, regulatory and personal support, greatly contributed to the development of the region as an important wine-making hub.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed Outstanding Universal Value is well sustained by a specific *terroir*, combined with a system of classified agricultural parcels (the *climats*), which have progressively come to express the characteristics of the wines therein produced since the 15th century AD.

The approach of the nomination dossier sets the ground for ICOMOS to recognise that the nominated property could also be understood as a vineyard cultural landscape, the basic matrix element of which are the *Climats*.

While this dimension may not necessarily be reflected in the category under which the property is proposed, ICOMOS considers anyway that the landscape nature of the *Climats* needs to be reflected in the scope and objectives of the management.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

Overall, in ICOMOS' view the nominated property is of an adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and the processes that convey the property's significance.

The area does not suffer from major adverse effects of neglect; the energy and commitment of the vineyard owners ensure the maintenance of the *Climats*, as this is their primary interest. The great economic importance of the vineyards has also contributed to the containment of urban sprawl and to maintaining most of the original features of the villages and the rural landscape.

ICOMOS however observes that, since the 19th century, the structure of the land use has undergone some changes, namely the afforestation with conifers of areas no longer cultivated, and the reduction of the fine-grained structure of the landscape with the disappearance of small features caused by mechanisation in farming practices. These changes have not occurred to such an extent to undermine the integrity of structure of the *Climats*, but require careful monitoring.

ICOMOS also notes that large existing active quarries may negatively affect the landscape values of the nominated property as they impact on its visual integrity, due to their numerousness and concentration.

While ICOMOS recognises that the most relevant aspect of the integrity of the property concerns the retention of the functional linkages and processes that made possible the formation of the *Climats* system and continue to sustain their existence, visual integrity is also an important aspect of the *Climats*.

Finally, in some specific areas, e.g., near Beaune and Chagny or Nuits-Saint-Georges and Gevrey-Chambertin, urban growth and industrial infrastructure require careful attention through adequate urban planning regulations.

Some tall buildings in Dijon cause visual disturbance: stringent monitoring of planning provisions as well as of new building permissions appears necessary.

ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the whole series has been justified. Overall the property does not suffer from neglect, although changes that have occurred to the landscape mosaic need to be monitored and their reversal is advisable. As for the visual integrity, the major issue is represented by some large quarries. Urban development has also caused some impact in some specific areas and requires control.

Authenticity

ICOMOS considers that authenticity has been assessed in a comprehensive way by the State Party. This particularly relies on the continuity of the vine-growing and wine-making business over several centuries, which is visible in the structure of the territory and especially in the *Climats*. Their delimitations are clearly recorded in the cadastre, which is the document attesting to the formal evidence of the *Climats*' localization, extension and ownership, as well as in the AOC (*Appellations d'Origine Contrôlée* – controlled denomination of origin). These reflect in a credible manner the historical process of formation of the *Climats* and the persistence of tradition and ancestral techniques, as well as models of land management associated with agricultural activity.

ICOMOS, however, also believes that the historical process of formation of the *Climats* is evidenced by the several and diverse features scattered throughout the cultivated territory, which have witnessed some loss due to modern farming practices: their conservation, particularly of those elements that make clear the distinction of one climat from the other, is of crucial importance to retain the specificity and micro-diversity of this site.

There is still an alliance between old and modern knowledge, upheld by the persistence of the local vine-growers/wine-makers, who transmit traditional knowledge from one generation to another: this activity still constitutes the basic socio-economic fabric of the region.

In ICOMOS' view, the socio-economic profile represents an element of utmost importance for the sustenance of the values and specificity of the Property.

ICOMOS considers that the authenticity of the whole series has been justified and that the authenticity of the individual sites that comprise the series has been demonstrated, despite the reduction in variety of the landscape mosaic in certain areas.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity of the whole series have been justified. As for individual sites, the conditions of integrity and authenticity are met, despite some reduction in the landscape mosaic variety and the presence of some still-

active quarries. Further issues affecting integrity relate to urban development and tall buildings impacting on some areas.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (iii) and (v).

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 geo-system of the viticultural parcels with the villages that have grown up on the Côtés and the towns of Dijon and Beaune is a remarkable example of a historical vineyard site. Vine-growing and wine-making have been continued throughout several centuries thanks to the uninterrupted transmission of tried and tested farming practices as well as to the two-centuries-long scientific and technical knowledge of viticultural practice. The differentiation of the cultivated parcels and of the corresponding *crus* has been accompanied by the progressive formation of a corpus of regulations the outcome of which coincides with the constitution, in France, of the denominations of controlled origin (AOC - *Appellations d'Origine Controlée*) in the first half of the 20th century.

ICOMOS considers that the Burgundy Climats witness an exceptional living tradition which is reflected by the *Climats'* land parcelling, associated with the classification of wines and by the associated productive units and territorial structure. This intimate linkage has been developed along the centuries to be crystallized in the AOCs.

In its second letter, ICOMOS asked the State Party to provide a justification for this criterion that also covers the urban components of the nominated series.

The State Party responded on 28 February 2015 by providing an extended justification for this criterion where it is clarified that the differentiation of the cultivated parcels and of the wines could be achieved thanks to the impetus of Dijon and Beaune, which still play an active role in knowledge building, education, trade and as institutional centres.

ICOMOS concurs with the expanded justification provided by the State Party.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the whole series.

Criterion (v): *be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the Burgundy *Climats* in their historic construction constitute the exceptional materialisation of a centuries-long culture which has grown in the interaction with its environment and the progressively more refined exploitation of the eco-geo-pedological potential and diversity of the territory to achieve a high quality and differentiated product.

The recognition and the progressive establishment of the *Climats* have been made visible through different forms of boundaries that are often still in place (enclosures, hedges, walls, etc.) or paths, which fix the soil specificities of each *Climat*. More than two millennia of human perseverance coupled with the unique natural conditions have transformed this site into the veritable wine-growing region of *terroirs*.

ICOMOS considers that the way the land has been used over several centuries to achieve the specific land parcelling of the *Climats* is an exceptional example of a property justifying this criterion.

In its second letter, ICOMOS requested the State Party to expand the justification of this criterion to also encompass Dijon and Beaune.

The State Party responded on 28 February 2015 providing an expanded justification for this criterion which clarifies that the *Climats* were able to develop under the political, technical and commercial impetus of Dijon and Beaune. Their urban and architectural heritage, associated with the power and the institutions that managed the territory and the production, bears outstanding witness to this cultural construction.

ICOMOS concurs with the proposed expanded justification.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the whole series.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property meets criteria (iii) and (v) and conditions of authenticity and integrity.

Description of the attributes

The nomination dossier provides a detailed description of the attributes considered relevant to make manifest and understandable the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated series. Their description should be considered the baseline reference for the protection, conservation, sustenance and monitoring of the property.

In the present report, therefore, only a summary is provided, based on the detailed analysis carried out by the State Party.

Attributes have been grouped according to their functions, i.e., those structuring the organisation of the

site, comprising the layout and distribution of the viticultural villages within the vineyards, the vineyard parcels (the *climats*) with their specific plantation rationale and orientations, the stone walls, and the urban morphologies; the monuments exemplifying the emergence of the *Climats*, e.g., the abbeys and monasteries, the Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, the Hospitals in Beaune, the Parliament of Burgundy, the State Archives, etc.; the attributes materialising the productive exploitation, e.g., the vineyard settlements, the production units, the cellars and wineries, the stone huts, the stone piles, the trading houses, the quarries; the attributes revealing a scientific culture related to wine, e.g., the oenological institutions; the attributes illustrating a culture of socialisation linked to the *Climats*, e.g., the wine auction, the guild of wine-tasters.

However, ICOMOS does not consider that each and every quarry could be listed as an attribute of the nominated property, particularly as far as those still active and larger quarries (e.g., in Comblanchien) or the continuation of their exploitation are concerned.

4 Factors affecting the property

ICOMOS observes that the urban developments that have occurred in the southern part of Dijon and in Beaune and Chagny, as well as the growth of infrastructures (industries, transportation etc.) in smaller communities, need to be controlled, reducing the risk of further expansion of built areas. Some tall buildings in the southern part of Dijon create a visual disturbance, while in the rest of the nominated property some individual buildings, especially in industrial areas, appear to be not in line with the visual quality of the site.

While the conservation of the *Climats* is not threatened, the internal structure of the landscape mosaic and the single elements scattered in the area (walls, stone piles, trees, etc.) may be subject to degradation or removal in those areas not included in the restricted area (site classé).

Due to the uphill cultivation techniques applied in most of the *Climats*, soil erosion is a frequent occurrence. In certain areas a wider variety of cultivation methods and the smaller size of the cultivated patches alleviate the problem. Traditional techniques, e.g., bringing back up the soil accumulated at the bottom of the slopes can help, as well as allowing the grass to grow between the rows.

Erosion is a natural phenomenon, but climate change and past catastrophic events suggest the need for additional measures, e.g., ensuring maintenance of traditional water drainage systems, stone terraces and stone walls. This would combine well climate change adaptation and conservation of the local traditional knowledge.

While small or abandoned quarries, some of which have been turned into vineyards, may well be considered links between the use of the area and its natural resources,

larger quarries cause visual disturbance to the nominated property.

Upon ICOMOS' request the State Party has provided additional information and a map with the location of all quarries, which are all sited in the buffer zone, in the close vicinity of the boundary of the nominated property.

ICOMOS notes that the density and extension of quarrying areas in the buffer zone and particularly near Comblanchien may negatively affect views towards the nominated property; in addition, the long-term horizons of their exploitation (2040-2050's) suggest that their impacts are likely to last for a long time.

In this respect, it is important that the announced plan for the quarries (*schéma départemental des carrières*) be completed and enforced as soon as possible; limits to the expansion of the quarries, and mitigation/reintegration measures should also be clearly indicated. Finally, consideration should be given by the relevant authorities to the opportunity to not renew expiring extraction concessions.

Tourism is also one of the possible threats to the *Climats*. The number of French visitors appears constant all the year round, while foreign travellers are mostly concentrated during the summer and in the towns (e.g., Beaune). Promoting tourism in the plateau area could be useful in order to reduce excessive tourism pressure on the *Climats*.

Despite the existence of the highway following almost the same line as the regional route RD 974, this is prone to intense traffic, caused by different factors, tourism being one of the most significant.

The dossier recognizes these problems and describes all the tools developed to control them. However, a specific plan for traffic should also be considered by the concerned authorities.

The nomination dossier mentions a project for building 27 wind turbines in the vicinity of the property.

ICOMOS requested additional information in its first letter and the State Party responded by providing a map excerpted from the Burgundy regional wind plan and by specifying that the territory of the municipalities within the nominated property and buffer zone have been identified in the plan as exclusion zones. Additionally, areas located at a distance less than 10km from the buffer zone are also not eligible for wind turbine construction.

In its second letter, ICOMOS requested further updated information on the wind farm Plan for the Burgundy region and the State Party responded explaining that the Plan was adopted in 2012, and the territory of the municipalities included in the nominated property and in the buffer zone has been assessed as areas of exclusion. In the past, 8 turbines were authorised in the buffer zone (Bessey-en-

Chaume) but now this municipality has been excluded from the area of possible development.

ICOMOS considers that the main threats to the property are urban development, disappearance of the micro elements of the landscape mosaic, traffic and tourism pressures, energy infrastructure development, and quarrying activity. While establishing regulatory protection may improve the situation for all other threats, traffic and tourism would require specific management strategies that need to be integrated into the enforced planning framework.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The boundaries of the nominated components have been determined by means of geo-morphological, physical and cultural criteria. The boundaries are said to reflect: the size of the geo-system of *Climats*, including the parcels, the urban centres and villages directly linked to the development of the vineyards and the major communication routes which structured the region; the area with the highest concentration of identified attributes expressing the development and exploitation of the parcelled territory; and the limits of this cultural heritage at its most developed stage, that is, the end of the 19th century, beginning of the 20th century.

The boundaries of the nominated property are shown clearly on the series of maps contained in the nomination dossier. They include the area resulting from the historical evolution of the *Climats*, as can be seen by the series of historical maps presented in the dossier.

In its first letter, ICOMOS requested additional explanation and cartographic documentation concerning the Dijon component. The State Party responded on 5 November 2014, providing the required material.

In its second letter, ICOMOS suggested that the State Party consider reducing the boundaries of the Dijon component to include only the area encompassed by the *secteur sauvegardé*, as the majority of the attributes related to the justification for inscription are concentrated in this area.

The State Party responded on 28 February 2015 concurring with ICOMOS' view on the opportunity to reduce the boundary of the Dijon component to the *secteur sauvegardé*, where the majority of the attributes are located, and providing revised cartographic documentation with the boundaries modified accordingly. The State Party also informed that the late 19th – early 20th century expansions of Dijon will be included in an AVAP (*Aire de Valorisation de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine*), officially decided in June 2014 by the Municipality of Dijon.

ICOMOS considers that the components of the series reflect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value. The *Climats* component can be considered of adequate size to illustrate the processes and their tangible and intangible evidence that supports the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the boundaries of the nominated component encompassing the *Climats* are adequate and justified and, following the modifications of the boundaries of the Dijon component, the boundaries of the nominated serial property also are adequate and justified. The boundaries of the buffer zone are adequate.

Ownership

The nominated property and particularly the *Climats* are for the most part privately owned, public buildings and land are in the ownership of the Department of Côte-d'Or or of the State.

Protection

The State protection relates to the Heritage Code, the Urban Code, Environmental Code, the Rural Code and the Forest Code. Several items and areas within the nominated property and its buffer zone are already covered by specific measures according to the laws incorporated into the above-mentioned codes and are listed in the nomination dossier.

The State Party has underlined the role of the Appellations of Controlled Origin and the associated *cahiers des charges* as effective forms of protection for the *Climats*, in that they establish in detail standards for vine farming, wine-making and for the characteristics of the soil.

However, a comprehensive map illustrating protection areas was necessary, therefore ICOMOS asked for additional documentation from the State Party, who responded on 5 November 2014 providing additional maps and explanations.

On the basis of the additional information, ICOMOS observes that a large part of the nominated property is not covered yet by specific regulatory protection measures. The same consideration applies to the buffer zone, as only part of its territory is included in protected areas, which were established mainly for their natural values.

The *cahiers des charges* for the denomination of origin certainly represent a crucial instrument for the protection and the perpetuation of the *Climats*. However, ICOMOS notes that they do not define all necessary measures to protect all the attributes of the nominated property, e.g., stone walls, stone piles, stone huts, water channels, hedgerows, isolated trees, etc., therefore, the protection they grant does not appear currently adequate or complete to ensure effective protection to all relevant attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

The urban and built heritage in Beaune is protected by mechanisms set up for the buffer zones of classified monuments (*abords des monuments*). ICOMOS considers that it would be important that the historic urban and built fabric of the town be protected through appropriate measures in their entirety.

With regard to the planning framework, the Schéma de Cohérence Territoriale – SCOT (plan for territorial coherence) is considered the most important instrument that should ensure coordination of the planning system to the area to which it applies.

As explained in the additional information provided by the State Party in November 2014 upon ICOMOS' request, planning provisions and provisions of municipal master plans (PLU) should be compatible with the objectives pursued by the SCOT. One year is allowed to Municipalities for this process, while adaptation of the land-use plans (POS) is immediate upon approval of the SCOT; if this is not enforced by 1st January 2016, POS validity ceases and they are replaced by the National Regulations for Urban Planning until a new PLU is approved.

Two SCOT's are said to apply to the nominated property – the SCOT of Dijon region (in force since 2010), the SCOT of the Agglomerations of Beaune and Nuits-Saint-Georges (in force since April 2014); however, small parts of the nominated property and of the buffer zone fall under the SCOT for the Châlonnais and the one for Autunois-Morvan.

It would be equally desirable that the objectives of the various SCOT's covering the nominated property and its buffer zone be consistent with those of the protection and sustenance of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

ICOMOS also observes that not all villages are covered by local plans (PLU): some have POS or even municipal charters. It would be desirable that all municipalities within the nominated property and the buffer zone develop a PLU, also in association with other municipalities.

The additional information provided by the State Party explains that mechanisms to strengthen the protection of the buffer zone on its eastern side have been studied and municipalities within a distance less than 10km from the buffer zone have been earmarked as areas of exclusion for wind turbine construction.

ICOMOS considers that this measure is very helpful and should be enforced as soon as possible; nevertheless, careful assessment of the impact of wind turbines planned in farther areas need anyway to be undertaken, due to the open character of the territory towards the east of the nominated property.

In its second letter to the State Party, ICOMOS requested updated information on the advancements made in the protection strengthening process.

The State Party responded on 28 February 2015 informing that Beaune and 9 further municipalities of the agglomeration communities of Beaune, Côte et Sud and of Pays de Nuits-Saint-Georges have initiated the procedures for the establishment of an AVAP, which is planned to be completed by the end of 2017. Additionally, the State Party underlines that currently the protection of the urban fabric of Beaune is granted by multiple tools: buffer zones of 32 protected monuments, 10ha protected as *sites classés* and 45,95ha protected as *sites inscrits*. Additionally the planning provisions aim at improving the architectural, urban and landscape quality of the city and they are accompanied by a local by-law to regulate advertising signs.

ICOMOS considers that the AVAP being established for Beaune and the other municipalities represents a very important instrument for the control of urban development and its quality. During the period of the development of the AVAP, it is however important that safeguarding measures ensure that the historic urban landscape of Beaune is retained.

As for the Climats, the State Party informs that the southern Côte de Beaune was registered as a *site classé* in 1992 and explains in detail the protective mechanisms in force. Additionally, the procedure to set up two further *sites classés* – the extension (8 municipalities concerned, 4,000ha covered) to the north of the existing *site classé* of Côte de Beaune and an area covering the Côte de Nuits (12 municipalities involved, 4,900ha covered) – has been initiated and their finalisation is expected by 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 respectively.

The State Party also informs that 14 municipalities have formally committed themselves to initiating the studies to establish AVAPs, and their regulations (*cahiers des charges*) will foresee the inventory and specific preservation measures of the small elements that delimit the vineyard parcels.

ICOMOS acknowledges the effort made by the concerned authorities at all levels to grant an adequate protection for the nominated property and its buffer zone; the establishment of two additional *sites classés* covering large parts of the Climats and sensitive areas in the buffer zone and of several AVAPs is an important sign of commitment.

However, ICOMOS observes that the area south of Beaune enclosed between the road D974 and the railway is not protected nor is it included in any special project area (as it is the case for a landscape rehabilitation project for the quarry area north of Beaune). The perimeters of the planned AVAPs for the 14 municipalities are not known, so it is not clear whether they will cover the entirety of the municipal territory encompassed within the nominated property, or only concern the built up areas.

ICOMOS also notes that no implementation timeframe is provided for the above mentioned AVAPs.

ICOMOS therefore considers that a process to extend the *site classé* of the Côte de Beaune to also encompass this area should be initiated, so as to achieve the same level of stable protection for the whole of the nominated property.

With regard to the wind farm plan for the Burgundy region, the State Party informs that it was approved in 2012 already with an indication of areas of exclusion for the nominated property and its buffer zone, as well as an area of 'reinforced vigilance' in municipalities located at less than 10km from the area of exclusion. In this area, wind farm projects will be subject to strict control of their possible impacts.

ICOMOS observes that, to the east of the property, 10km as the limit of attention may not suffice, due to the open character of the landscape, with wide views towards the Saône plain, therefore any proposed installation of wind turbines that may impact on the nominated property will require a Heritage Impact Assessment to be submitted to the World Heritage Committee via the World Heritage Centre.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the legal protection in place will be fully adequate when the entire nominated property is covered by regulatory protection measures. This applies specifically to the areas not included in the existing or planned *sites classés*. ICOMOS considers that the planning framework, particularly the SCOTs and their landscape quality objectives, is adequate, although adaptation of local plans to the SCOT's objectives and rationale is of utmost importance. It is equally desirable that all municipalities progressively upgrade their planning instruments to the PLU level. ICOMOS considers that the 10km-wide area of reinforced vigilance for wind turbines may not be sufficient in areas to the east of the nominated property, due to the open character of the landscape, therefore a Heritage Impact Assessment for any wind turbine project is necessary.

Conservation

Guidelines have been developed for the maintenance of the stone walls and other dry-stone features; however, in some cases techniques adopted in the maintenance or reconstruction of these features do not appear appropriate for the preservation of their specificity.

Inventories and recording have been undertaken on a systematic basis within the nominated property and have already provided considerable results; however the micro elements of the rural territory would need a specific systematic mapping. An updated map of the Climats indicating their physical limits and specific land use would also be useful for monitoring purposes.

With regard to the built heritage, programmes at the municipal level for its rehabilitation are in place in some municipalities following national initiatives.

In this regard, ICOMOS requested additional information from the State Party.

The State Party responded on 5 November 2014 providing detailed information on a variety of conservation programmes, strategies and supporting mechanisms carried out or active within the nominated property.

ICOMOS nevertheless considers that strategies to integrate the conservation of the micro attributes of the landscape mosaic into the programmes of rural policies should be envisaged and extended to the nominated property in its entirety, as currently these elements appear to be effectively cared for only within the *sites classés*. In particular, more attention to the reconstruction methods of the dry-stone walls would be beneficial.

In the additional information provided by the State Party, it is also mentioned that a landscape plan covering 10 municipalities concerned with the quarrying district is envisaged.

ICOMOS considers that its elaboration and implementation is of utmost importance to mitigate the impact of existing quarries and in its second letter, sent in December 2014, ICOMOS requested additional updated information on the advancement of this project and its implementation.

The State Party responded on 28 February 2015, informing that the Landscape Plan for the quarrying area has been developed in agreement with local stakeholders, i.e., the quarrying enterprises, who will also be the co-funders to implement the project. It is structured around three topics – analysis, definition of objectives and of actions – and may include the signing of a 'landscape contract' which engages all actors to carry out identified actions. It is planned to begin in January 2016.

Additionally, the State Party explains that the municipalities of Chenôve, Dijon and Marsannay-la-Côte have begun a rehabilitation project in 2015, with a view to improving the landscape character of the area between Dijon and the Climats.

The objectives of the two SCOTs have been explained and they demonstrate a due consideration for the values of the nominated property, the role of the buffer zone and of its wider setting, particularly towards the east.

ICOMOS considers that the additional information provided by the State Party clarifies important aspects for the overall conservation and maintenance of the nominated property and of its buffer zone.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the elaboration and implementation of the Landscape Plan for the quarrying district is crucial for protection of the value of the nominated property. Equally, a Heritage Impact Assessment should be carried out for the Landscape Plan along with the elaboration of the project, and

submitted to the World Heritage Centre. Additionally, elements related to traditional farming would need comprehensive recording and mapping.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

The overall management system is based on the responsibilities and competences of the different authorities and bodies established by the institutional framework in force in the State Party and include: the peripheral branches of the State, the municipalities, four inter-municipal cooperation bodies, the Agencies for the implementation of the two SCOT's (Dijonnais and Beaune Nuits-Saint-Georges), and representatives of the vine-wine professions.

In order to achieve coordination amongst all actors responsible for the nominated property and its buffer zone, a Territorial Charter was signed in 2011. This defines common objectives and orientations and represents the core document engaging all signatories in the protection and sustenance of the nominated property within its wider territory.

To ensure the effective management of the property and of its buffer zone, an articulated structure was established in 2013 named *Mission Climats de Bourgogne*, which includes a decisional coordinating body (the territorial conference), an operational body (the permanent technical commission), advised by a scientific committee, and a participation forum of citizens and civil society. The expertise of the commission relies on the technical competences of the permanent staff of existing offices.

Financial resources for the functioning of the Mission are allocated by each body and organisation involved within their ordinary budgets. Human resources also come from the respective permanent staff. On the other hand, the resources needed to carry out envisaged management actions come from the multi-annual operational programmes of territorial bodies.

ICOMOS has requested additional information on financial resources from the State Party, who provided an overview of the available programmes and a list of projects carried out or underway within the property and its buffer zone.

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

The management system is grounded in the existing legal and planning instruments to ensure the safeguarding of the nominated property and its attributes.

A management document has been elaborated (latest version August 2014) describing the management structure and the strategic action plan. The envisaged actions are accompanied by cards illustrating syntheses of goals, deliverables, implementation timeframe,

responsible institution, and human and financial resources.

Both protection and management, particularly of the buffer zone, relies mainly on protected areas established for natural values. However, ICOMOS observes that the vegetation composition of the buffer zone results from centuries-long human management practices, therefore it would be worthwhile that management embraces the notion of bio-cultural diversity (CBD – UNESCO declaration).

The experiments undertaken by the Forest National Office in the forest of Cîteaux to re-establish the links between woods and the vineyards should be further developed so as to integrate forest management with farming activities.

ICOMOS further notes that, since a minor part of the nominated property and of its buffer zone falls outside the department of Côte-d'Or (Department of Saône-et-Loire), it would be important that steps be undertaken to ensure coordination and harmonisation of regulation and planning provisions between the two departments, to avoid possible negative impacts deriving from activities carried out in or authorised by the Department of Saône-et-Loire.

As for risk management, upon ICOMOS' request the State Party provided additional information, which clarifies that a risk prevention plan does exist and it is the responsibility of the State and that specific flood prevention plans and mappings are under elaboration.

Involvement of the local communities

The management structure set up for the nominated property shows also the level and maturity of engagement of the local communities in their ability to respond to such an undertaking.

In ICOMOS' view, the management architecture that has been set up seems to ensure both dialogue and effective synergy and operational coordination among the actors, including local communities.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the management system for the property is adequate, although it could be extended to take into account the notion of bio-cultural diversity according to the CBD – UNESCO declaration. ICOMOS also underlines that steps undertaken to grant coordination of the planning instruments between of the Departments of Côte-d'Or and Saône-et-Loire should be continued.

6 Monitoring

ICOMOS considers that, besides the indicators already proposed in the dossier, a monitoring system capable of taking note of the changes occurring in the landscape mosaics should be developed as a basis for appropriate management strategies.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring system should be extended to all the elements forming the landscape mosaic.

7 Conclusions

The 1,247 Climats of Burgundy materialise in an outstanding manner the long-lasting relationship of the local human communities with their territory and their ability to identify, exploit and distinguish their differences and potential already centuries ago.

The process of construction and of differentiation of the Climats in relation to the characteristics and qualities of the wine produced has been long and complex, resulting from the action of several actors: the monastic communities stemming from the abbeys of Cluny and Cîteaux, the Dukes of Burgundy, the bourgeoisie, the commissioners and the *maisons de négoce*, the independent vine-growers and wine-makers.

These many factors are convincingly and outstandingly illustrated by the components of the series and the functional role played by the rural areas, with the vineyards, villages and production units, and by the urban elements (Dijon and Beaune). These include attributes illustrating the regulatory and commercial factors that contributed to the growth of the wine-making tradition of the region and to shape progressively the differentiation of the Climats in relation to their features (soil composition, exposure, slope, etc.) and to the peculiarities of the wines obtained from grapes produced therein.

The State Party has decided not to nominate the Climats of Burgundy as a cultural landscape but as a cultural site in that the landscape expression of the Climats would not convey in an adequate manner the specificity of this vineyard model which has been modelled throughout the centuries as a functional and coherent geo-system.

ICOMOS notes that this decision seems to underlie an understanding of cultural landscapes that only refers to aesthetic and visual dimensions, overlooking the importance that this notion assigns to historical processes and to the continued human interactions with a specific territory.

ICOMOS recognises that the major attribute of the *Climats* resides in the permanence and sustenance of the specificity and delimitation of each *Climat* in association with the peculiarities and features of the wine types, a linkage rooted in the continuity of the know-how in vine-growing and wine-making. However, the nomination dossier itself also identifies micro elements that contribute to physically define the *Climats* and their rural territory as a cultural landscape, and includes them among the attributes that make manifest the Outstanding Universal Value.

In ICOMOS' view, these features need particular attention as changes in farming methods may continue to cause their loss, as has already occurred in the past; therefore systematic inventories of these features and of programmes for their maintenance and rehabilitation where needed should be put in place.

In this regards, it is important that the landscape nature of the Climats is reflected in the scope and objectives of the management, even if the property has not been nominated as a cultural landscape.

ICOMOS asked for additional information in two different phases of the evaluation process and the State Party's responses helped clarify a number of aspects. In particular, ICOMOS underlines the exceptional quality and detail of the maps of the nominated property and of its buffer zone prepared by the State Party. However, the legal protection, although being reinforced for some parts of the nominated property, does not cover, at present, its entirety, as the area south of Beaune is not covered by specific designations (e.g., *site classé*, *site inscrit*, etc.).

The planning and management system shows a high level of interconnectedness and articulation that, if well coordinated in relation to the values of the nominated property, constitute the appropriate framework for the compatible and sustainable development of the property within its wider region and for the rehabilitation of areas, the integrity of which has been undermined.

The management structure has been conceived to be representative and inclusive, and represents an important platform for the reinforcement of the political and community vision for the property and for the assumption of clear responsibilities in relation to factors currently affecting the property, namely the quarrying activity, the appropriate location of new energy infrastructures, the protection and reinforcement of the landscape qualities of the *Climats* vis à vis the exigencies of vine-growers and wine-makers, the wise management of tourism and the reduction of traffic.

8 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the nomination of the Climats, terroirs of Burgundy, France, be **referred back** to the State Party in order to allow it to:

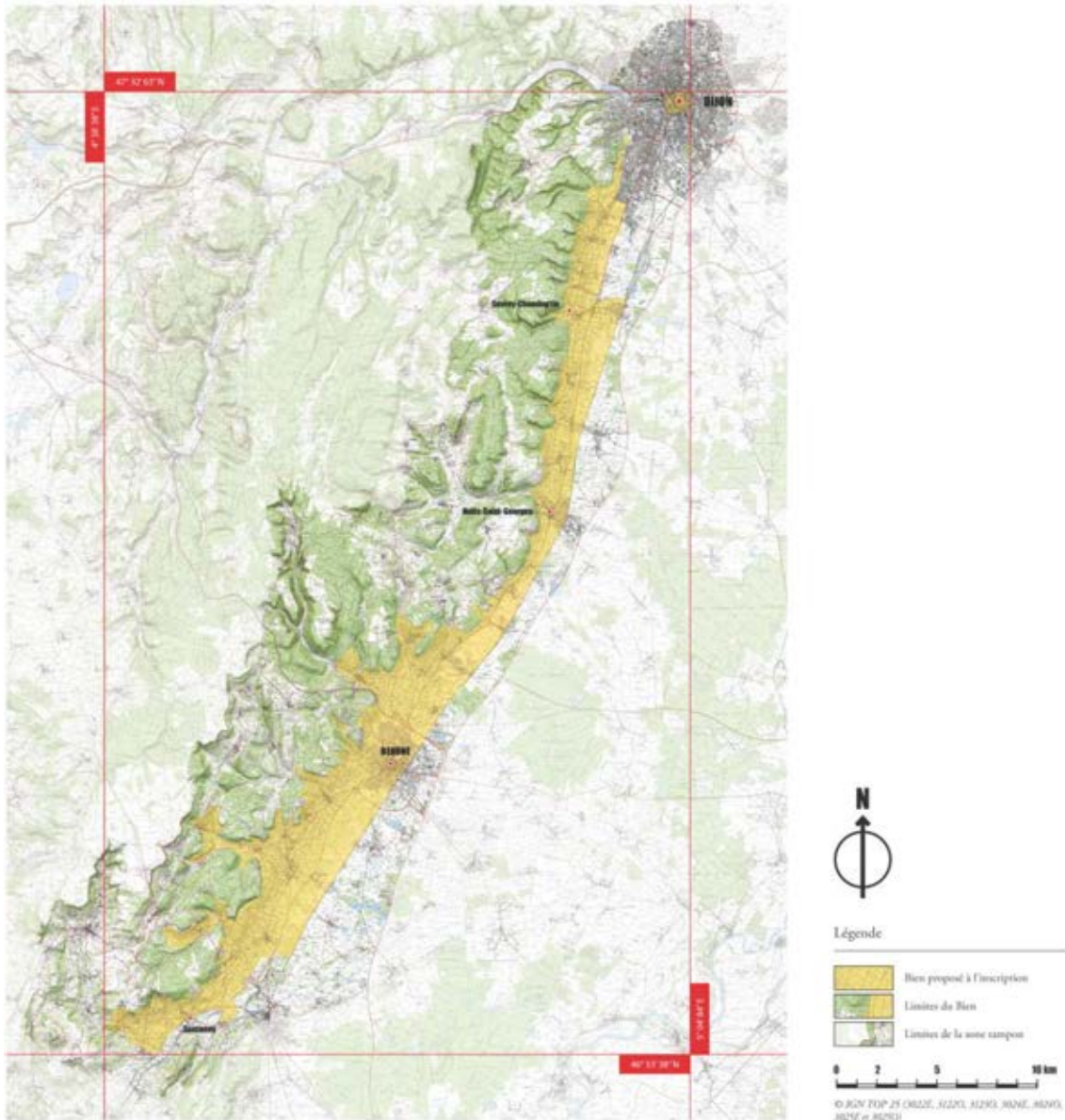
- Extend the protection through regulatory instruments (e.g., sites classés, sites inscrits, AVAPs, etc.) to the entire nominated property, particularly to those areas south of Beaune, between the RD974 and the railway, which do not appear to be included in any existing or planned site classé nor covered by the Landscape Plan of the central zone of the nominated property, so that all attributes that materialise the historical development of the Climats be protected;

- Finalise the landscape plan and related cahiers des charges for the quarry district within the nominated property and prepare a Heritage Impact Assessment for the plan in accordance with ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties.

Additional recommendations

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

- Developing traffic and tourism-specific management strategies to be integrated into the enforced planning framework;
- Continuing the process of coordination and harmonisation of goals with the Department of Saône-et-Loire for planning provisions and projects to avoid negative impacts on the attributes of the nominated property;
- Ensuring the prompt adaptation of local plans to SCOT objectives and rationale, and sensitizing municipalities to upgrade progressively their planning instruments to the PLU level;
- Including the notion of bio-cultural diversity according to the CBD – UNESCO declaration within management ;
- Operationalising the management system so as to manage the property as one entity and as a cultural landscape, paying special attention to the landscape's man-made elements;
- Extending the monitoring system to the elements of the landscape mosaic and map these elements at an adequate scale of representation for conservation planning and monitoring;
- Considering not renewing expiring quarrying concessions, particularly for quarries impacting, visually or geo-hydrologically, on the nominated property.



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 MODIFIÉE LE 14/02/2015

Map showing the boundaries of the nominated property



Coteau de Beaune and Pommard



Walls and portals of the Montrachet vineyard



Meurger in Chassagne-Montrachet vineyard



Drouhin cellars