

Pont du Gard (France)

No 344

1. BASIC DATA

State Party: France

Name of property: Pont du Gard

Location: Vers-Pont-du-Gard, Département of Gard, Languedoc-Roussillon Region

Inscription: 1985

Brief Description:

The Pont du Gard was built shortly before the Christian era to allow the aqueduct of Nîmes (which is almost 50 km long) to cross the Gard river. The Roman architects and hydraulic engineers who designed this bridge, which stands almost 50 m high and is on three levels – the longest measuring 275 m – created a technical as well as an artistic masterpiece

2. ISSUES RAISED

Background

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

At the time of inscription there was no buffer zone; only the aqueduct was inscribed. The Committee drew the attention of the French authorities to the importance of strictly protecting the site's surroundings.

Modification

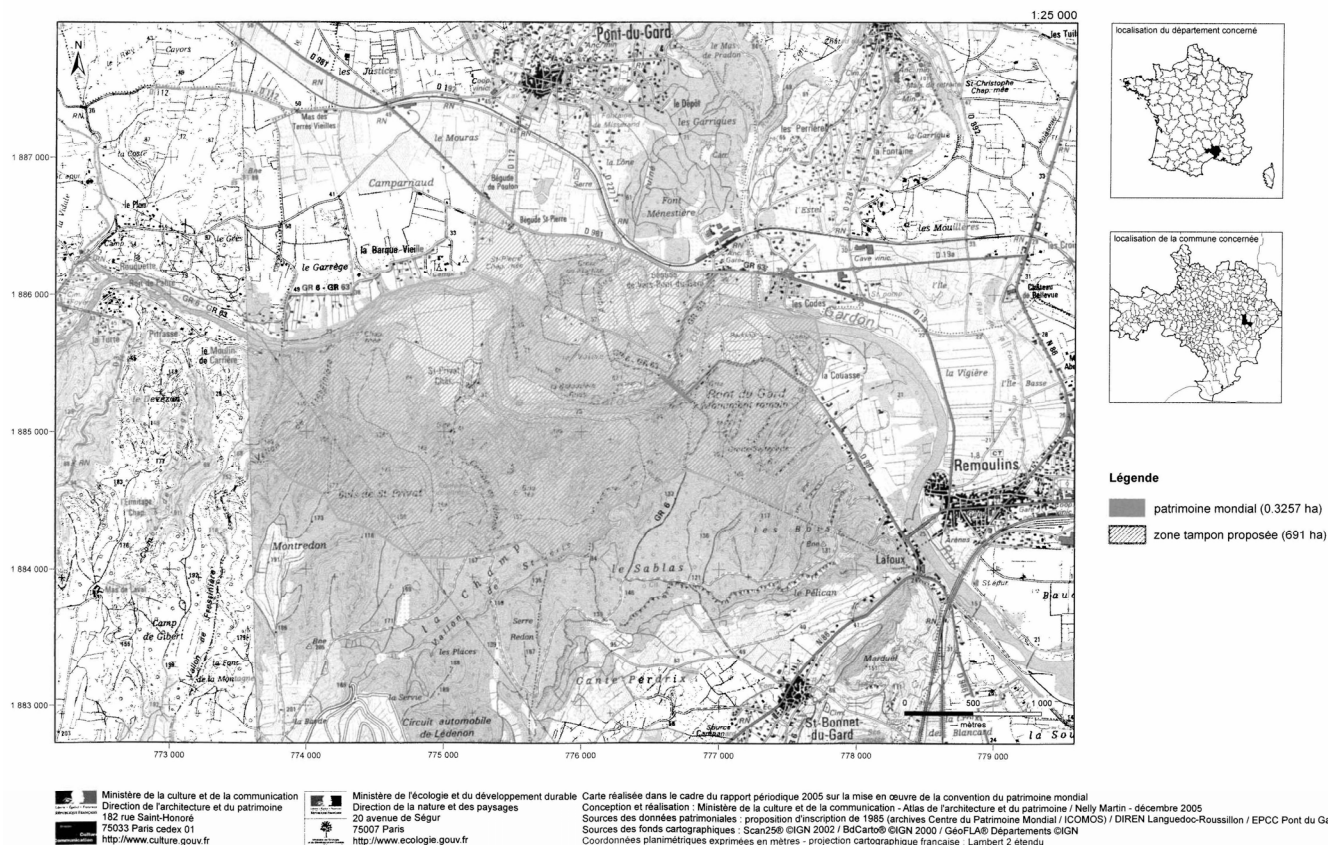
A Buffer zone of 691ha is now proposed by the State Party to protect the setting of the aqueduct. The area of the buffer zone coincides with a site *classé*.

3. ICOMOS RECOMMENDATIONS

ICOMOS recommends that the buffer zone for the Pont du Gard (France) be approved.



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Map showing the boundaries of the proposed buffer zone