

In your reply, please refer to:  
En répondant, veuillez rappeler:

IUCN REVIEW

no 80

World Heritage Nomination

1. NAME: Le Mont Saint-Michel et sa Baie
2. LOCATION: Basse Normandie et Bretagne
3. NOMINATED BY:
4. DOCUMENTATION:
  - i) Nomination form
  - ii) Two articles:
    - a) Le Mont St. Michel entre terre et mer
    - b) Un projet pour préserver l'insularité du Mont St. Michel
    - c) Additional documentation sent to ICOMOS as the site is pre-dominantly of cultural interest
5. EVALUATION:

The area has been evaluated against the operational guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention as amended by the World Heritage Committee at its 2nd Meeting.

1. IUCN has no comment on the cultural characteristics or qualities of the site except as they relate to man and his natural environment.
2. The nomination meets criteria C.10 (iii) "exceptional combination of natural and cultural elements". The "island" provided the natural site which has been complemented by the sensitive architectural design and placement of structures.
3. The nomination also meets criteria C.10 (iii) (c) "interaction between man and his natural environment".

In this respect the building of the dyke has commenced the degradation of the original site quality as an "island" in a bay by changing the deposition pattern of tidally shifted sediments. The "island" is gradually being encompassed by tidal flats and marshes. In this respect, the "interaction between man and nature" is gradually reducing the unique character of the site. It is an outstanding illustration of what man can do when he does not fully understand the natural processes which he is disrupting or has disrupted already.

RECOMMENDATION:

Mont St. Michel should be placed on the World Heritage List because of its exceptional combination of natural and cultural elements.



International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

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