

Chartres Cathedral (France)

No 81

3. ICOMOS RECOMMENDATIONS

ICOMOS recommends that the proposed buffer zone for Chartres Cathedral, France, be *approved*.

1. BASIC DATA

State Party: France

Name of property: Chartres Cathedral

Location: Département of Eure-et-Loire,
Centre Region

Inscription: 1979

Brief Description:

Partly built starting in 1145, and then reconstructed over a 26-year period after the fire of 1194, Chartres Cathedral marks the high point of French Gothic art. The vast nave, in pure ogival style, the porches adorned with fine sculptures from the middle of the 12th century, and the magnificent 12th- and 13th-century stained-glass windows, all in remarkable condition, combine to make it a masterpiece.

Date of ICOMOS' approval of this report: 10 April 2009

2. ISSUES RAISED

Background

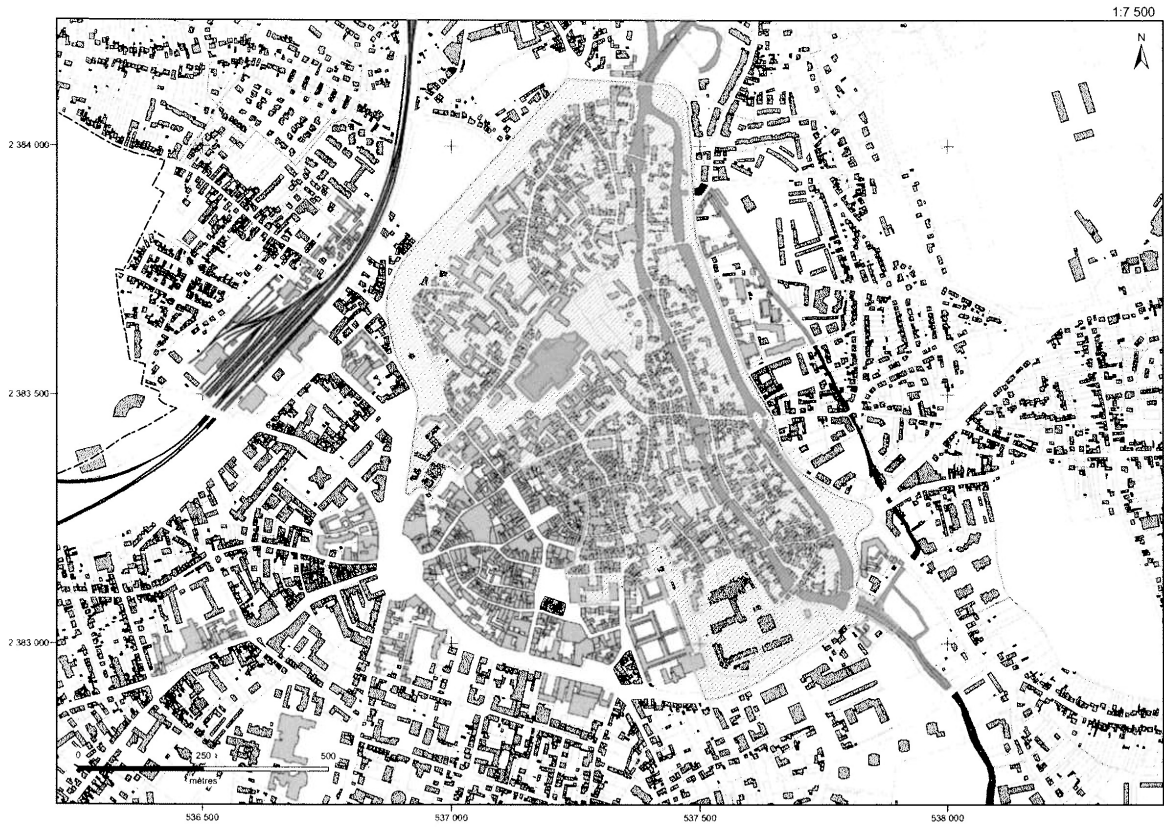
During the 1st cycle of Periodic Reporting for Europe in 2005, the State Party noted that although the limits of the site were adequate, there was a need to define a buffer zone.

It was noted that although legislation in place protected the surroundings of the Cathedral since 1964, a new area was under review in 1991 to address potential concerns.

Modification

The inscribed property encompasses 1.064 ha and the State Party is now proposing a buffer zone of 62.412 ha which coincides with the area safeguarded by current urban codes. No further information is provided about the specific legislative or management arrangements that are either in place or will be implemented for the buffer zone.

The proposed buffer zone is large enough to protect character-defining features surrounding the property and its integrity.



Map showing the boundaries of the proposed buffer zone