



MINISTRY OF CULTURE
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF ANTIQUITIES AND MUSEUMS

APPLICATION DOCUMENT FOR MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATION OF SITE OF PALMYRA

Dossier n 23

(SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC)

May 30, 2017

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Project activities commenced in April and May 2017. Discussions were held with Palmyra Antiquities concerning the protection issues. A decision was made to establish the project depending on the request of the WHC for the ICOMOS evaluation to the Minor Boundary Modification (buffer zone) of Palmyra proposed on 2016. Experts were involved of program to a field visits to Palmyra for 9 days during April and May, unfortunately the current crises unable the expert to visit all the surrounding area.

Collection of all available data related to the site and its settlements was done including some planned investments:

- Topographic maps at different scales.
- Field visit of possible places that can serve the objective of the project.
- GPS measurement and Recording on GIS.

In order to commence initial activities the procurement of a series of essential base maps and documentation was considered essential. DGAM assigned a full time expert to undertake an aerial photos of the site. Several consultant meetings should be held in the near future with the governorate of Homs in order to keep them informed about the modifications. The Ministerial decree was prepared with maps and should be formally issued in the following days.

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1) Introduction

At the time of inscription, no buffer zone was defined for the property. The original boundary of the property enclosed one area of 1.2 km². This encompassed the main archaeological remains but excluded the necropolises and the remains of the Roman aqueduct which were situated outside the fortified walls. The World Heritage Committee recommended that the latter should be included in the protected zone (CONF 016 V.12). This property boundary coincided with the boundary of the archaeological park protected on the National Heritage List by decree in 1934. (Map 1)

The DGAM has submitted a delineation of a buffer zone that define on 2008 to encompass areas for experimental research and rehabilitation, as well as for education, tourism and recreational facilities. It expands and redefines the area as a cultural landscape, in order to protect the immediate setting of the property and important views. It encompasses 'transitional zones' around the archaeological site, the oasis and the city and covers an area of about (13.6 km² archaeological site+ 23.4 km² buffer zones = Total 37 km²). This buffer zone was presented to the World Heritage Committee for approval on 2016. (Map 2)

The requirement for modifying the site boundaries with its buffer zone was raised in the ICOMOS Report 2016. The experts stated that in order to allow greater clarity on the purpose and protection of the buffer zone, more precision is needed on the precise definition of the proposed boundaries, and on the projection that is offered by the various protective zones in relation both to protecting attributes that relate to OUV and to managing development pressures. Although the World Heritage Site boundary covers the core area of the designed landscape, some significant features lie outside (the museum and the SE and SW necropolises and the remains of the Roman aqueduct which were situated outside the fortified walls). There is a need to review the boundary to ensure that it includes those areas that are essential to retain the site's outstanding universal value. There is also a need to develop a formal buffer zone. (Map 3)

2) Description of the Modification (2017)

The WH boundary covers the immediate setting of the World Heritage Site. Detailed maps of the World Heritage Site boundary (Map 3 – Map 11) and the proposed buffer zone are included in annexes of this submission.

Noted that The clarification of the 1980 boundaries sent in 2016 was submitted in a matter of urgency last year due to the situation and needed to be revised according to a sound study of the limits using appropriate technologies.

The aim of the new suggested buffer zone:

- Provide greater clarity on the line of the proposed boundaries;
- Provide greater clarity on the protection offered by the various protective zones;
- Ensure that protection offered by the buffer zone in relation to the property encompasses not only visual parameters but recognizes attributes that are related to OUV such as palm-groves, Wâhat, underground water channels, Qanât-s, quarries, remains of caravan routes and archaeological sites;
- Protect the visual setting of the site.
- Respect the integrity of the Palmyra' designed landscape including the visual setting.

a)Area of the Property:

The area of the registered site elements of Palmyra World Heritage Property on 1980 was 15.6 km²

Name	Coordinate main point (Temple of Bell)	Size in km2	Map n
Archaeological site (1980)	N:34°32'50".6 E:38°16'26".65	15.6	1
Archaeological site (2016)	N:34°32'50".6 E:38°16'26".65	13.6	2

Table 1: Coordinates of the main point, size and topographical maps involved of the site elements of 1980 registered WH property.

b) As Modified:

The Red zone - RZ:

The site boundary was redrawn around the archaeological features, determined by the horizontal extent of archaeological remains observed on the ground surface. The area of the proposed minor boundary modification to the site element of the Palmyra World Heritage property is 18.4 km² and encompasses the SE necropolises, SW necropolises, the museum. The modification will result in an increase of approximately 2.9% of the inscribed property, i.e. 2.54 km² in total (Tab. 1).

The boundary in the northeast follow the outlines of the main road from Homs to Deir ezZour and also the urban settlement, it is have been linked to the urban settlement by the transitional area, in this area to completely include the museum area. The boundary turns on the southeastern to follow the edge of a significant extension of the Oasis, 25m to 10m distance on the southern west from the main road, in this area to completely include the Southeastern necropolis. From the west it is follow the main road Damascus – Deir ezZour, turns to the edge of the modern hotel (Tadamora Palace Hotel and extend to the peak of the mountain (Jabal Al Qssour) to the edge of the main road Homs Deir ezZour, in this area to completely include the Southwestern necropolis. (Map 4)

Name	Site Element	Coordinates of Centre Points	Size in km ²	Map No.
Archaeological sites	- The museum area	N: 34°33'19". 2 E: 38°16'29".32	0.6	4
	- The SE necropolises area	N: 34°32'9". 7 E: 38°16'45".21	0.1	
	- The SW necropolises area	N:34°32'31". 53 E: 38°15'18".03	0.5	
	- West adjacent area		1.34	
Total			2.54	

Table 2: Coordinates of the center points, size and topographical maps involved of the added areas of proposed modified of the property.

Name	Size in km ²	Map No.
Area of the WH as inscribed	15.6	1
Area of the WH site (2016)	13.6	2
Areas added to the WHS (from 2016 to 2017) Significant features lie within and outside the WH boundaries	2.54	4
Total Area (2017)	16.14	

Table 3: Size and topographical maps involved of the archaeological site

Name	Size in km ²	Map No.
Area of the WH site as proposed	16.4	4
Area of the buffer zone	168	5
Total Area	184.4	

Table 4: Total area of the proposed modification for the WH site and the Buffer zone (2017)

a) Description of the archaeological added areas:

SW necropolises: This area includes several of burial grounds and towers, the most important of them are: the three brothers (160AD), Malik (the 2nd century A.D, Mubarak (98 A.D) Atantan family (the 3rd century A.D) and others.



SW necropolises

SE necropolises: located in the east of the city close to the olive and palms oasis, there are tens of Palmyrean graves (1-3 centuries A.D) with many burial grounds, towers and houses. The most important are Artaban, Zbaida, Pulla and Porfa.



Tomb of the Artaban family (n 5)

The museum area: The Palmyra's museum, located between the archaeological site and the new town, contains statues and objects excavated from the site, the building constructed on 1961 it's area about (3001 m²), construction by limestone bought from Palmyra quarries.



The museum area

a) Area of the Buffer zone: (Map 5)

A buffer zone established on 2017 to encompass areas for experimental research and rehabilitation, as well as for education, tourism and recreational facilities. The buffer zone expands and redefines the area as a cultural landscape, in order to protect the immediate setting of the property and important views. It encompasses 'transitional zones' around the archaeological site, the oasis and the surroundings Mountains and covers an area of about 184.4 km².

The desert landscape and the aesthetics surrounding the ruins is still the major reason for the fascination of the visitor for Palmyra. Therefore preserving the landscape of Palmyra is a priority number one for a sustainable development planning. Keeping in mind that Palmyra has at least 5 mutually interactive landscapes that make its archeological site unique: - the palmery - the flat desert to the south and the east - the Sabkhat to the south - the rocky mountains to the north.

b) Description of the Modification:

The buffer zone has been divided into five strategic zones. The zones are identified below, viz:

The Blue zone - BZ:

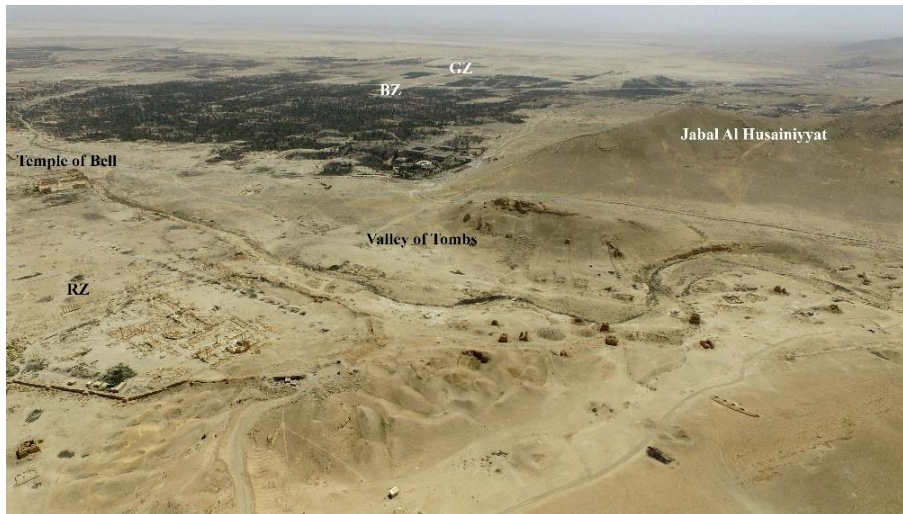
The zone which covers 2 km² is bounded from North by the archaeological site, from the south the edge of the EW road. It separates the archaeological site from the part of the Oases and Al Mouh Sabkhat. The width of the BZ is to be 250 m measured from any external edge of surrounding RZ.



View from the road at the west site towards the BZ

The Green zone - GZ:

The GZ zone is defined in the north by the boundary of BZ to the south with the topography of the Al Mouh Sabkhat areas this seasonal salt lake, located south of the oasis of Palmyra, It covers an area of 23 km².



Ariel view show the extends of the GZ

The White zone – Transitional Zone- WZ:

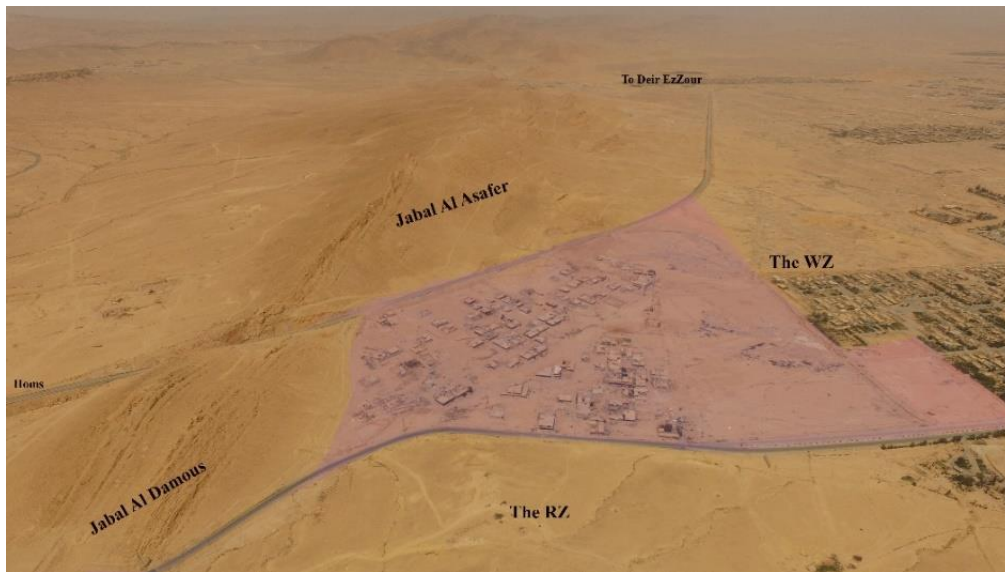
The WZ is designated as Transitional Zone, it is defined in the south by the boundary of the archaeological site at the main road separated the two areas. It is forms part of the residential area overlooking at the archaeological site. The inhabitant area forms the eastern boundary of the zone, while the road from Homs Deir ezZour demarcate the western boundary of the zone. It covers an area of 3 km² the width of the BZ is to be 250 m.



Ariel view show the WZ with the surrounding area

The Purple zone – PZ:

The PZ is defined to the south by the boundary of the archaeological site (RZ) at the main road. To the east it is bounded by the edge of the road separated the area from the (WZ), to the North the foothill of Jabal Al Damous while to the north it is defined by the main road (Homs – Deir ezZour). The majority of the zone is plain terrain with predominantly low to medium density residential development around the archaeological site. It covers an area of 0.5 km².



Ariel view
show the PZ
with the
surrounding
area

The Yellow zone – YZ: (Maps 6-7-8)

This buffer zone of the area proposed for candidacy corresponds to the North-Western of the city's historical center, and includes area occupied by the city, which was dating back to Roman times. The North east buffer zone is extended from SW to the NE of Palmyra, including the series of mountains adjacent the red zone, the queries, Qanâtal-Umm al-Omi and Abu Al Fawares that situated within the steppe. The Zone occupies an area of about 167.75 km², its boundaries at the North align with the highest peaks of series mountains that overlooking at the red zone: Jabal Al Qssour, Jabal Al Mentar, Abu Al Fawares plain, Jabal Mohamed and Jabal Al Mazar. At the South the boundaries of the YZ aligned with the topography surrounding the sites.



Ariel view taken from the south towards the citadel show the YZ with the surrounding area

Buffer Zone Name	Size in km ²	Map No.
Blue Zone (BZ)	2	4
Green Zone (GZ)	23	4
White Zone (WZ)	3	7
Purple Zone (PZ)	0.5	4
Yellow Zone (YZ1)	139.400	8
Total Property	168	

Table 5: size and topographical maps involved of the proposed modified buffer zone of the property.

These remains of the Roman aqueduct which were situated outside the fortified walls within the Yellow buffer zone (YZ) are showed in the table and described below:

Name	Site Element	Coordinates of Centre Points	Distance From the archaeological site	Size in km ²	Map No.
Quarries (Maklaa)	Quarry (Maklaa) N	N:34°37'55".62 E:38°21'20".50	15km NE of the Palmyra	0.05	8
	Quarry (Maklaa) NE	N:34°37'1".78 E:38°19'47".26		0.06	
Qanât Umm al-Omi	Qanât	N:34°36'30" E:38°16'25".42	NW of Palmyra		4
Qanât Abu Al Fawares	Tomb 1	N:34°33'11".68 E:38°12'49".95	3 km to the W of Palmyra		4
	Tomb 2	N:34°33'13".51			

		E:38°12'52".09			
	Tomb 3	N:34°33'12".14 E:38°12'46".16			
	Tomb 4	N:34°33'12".47 E:38°12'44".67			
	Qanât Abu Al Fawares 2	N:34°33'15".45 E:38°13'32".04			
	Qanât Abu Al Fawares 3	N:34°33'15".21 E:38°14'19".73			
	Qanât Abu Al Fawares 4	N:34°33'14".04 E:38°14'30".77			
	Qanât Abu Al Fawares 5	N:34°33'10".89 E:38°14'36".62			
	Qanât Abu Al Fawares 6	N:34°33'19".22 E:38°11'25".95			
	Qanât Abu Al Fawares 7	N:34°33'16".88 E:38°10'33".04			
Total Property (significant features lie outside the WH boundaries)				0.11	

Table 6: Coordinates of the center points, size and topographical maps involved of the buffer zone (YZ) elements of proposed modified of the property.

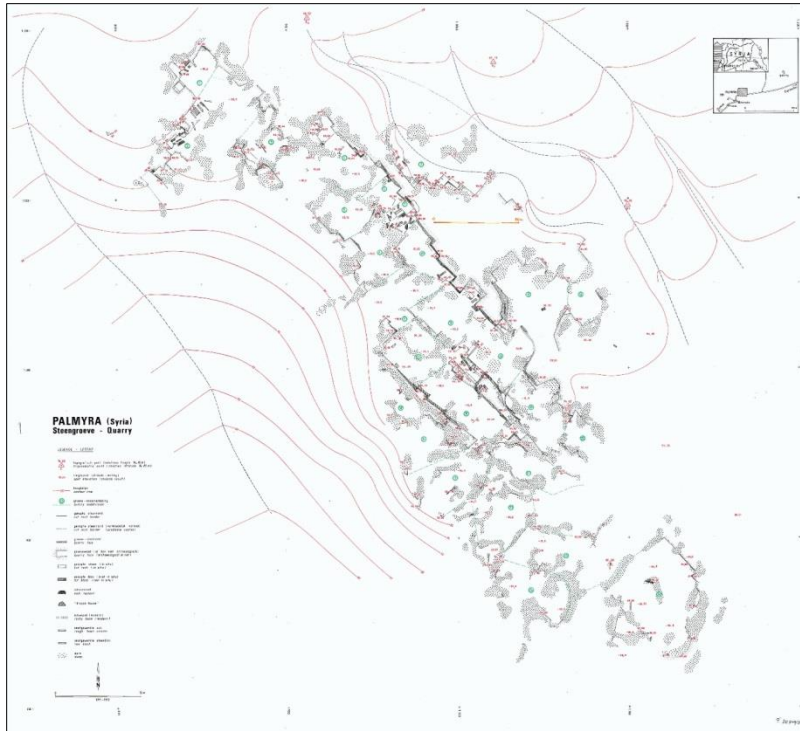
c) Description of the archaeological sites within the buffer zone:

Here is the summary of the importance of the archaeological sites and their relation with the proposed WHS:

- Palmyrian Quarries (Maklaa)

In the limestone cliff, you still can see at some places the remains of the quarries, the Romans and the Palmyrians used to build Palmyra, the quarries of hard limestone that delivered the material for most of the sculptures and buildings of ancient Palmyra. There are numerous examples of calcareous stones and sandstones sculptured for columns, walls, graves and towers prepared for transportation to Palmyra.

One of the quarries gives detailed information about the daily life and social environment of the workers: caves artificially enlarged were used as living quarters. These quarries have provided the city with the hard limestone used in the visible parts of constructions. The necessary amount of water supply was granted by a sophisticated system of water channels and cisterns laid out all over the area. 'Dragon-houses' constructed of broken or rejected blocks were used as shelters for guardians and for storing working material. Graffiti on the walls of such structures reveal the names and professions of masons and quarry workers. Loading ramps distributed all over the quarries allow us to reconstruct the means of transport also known from sculptured representations: carts with a loading height of about 1m and pulled by bulls. Many unfinished blocks left in the quarries, as well as the traces of tools on the quarry walls, give reliable information on the different methods used for extraction and for manufacturing the raw material. Furthermore, the different traces of the tools give hints for a dating of otherwise undated buildings in the town and thus to clear up the chronology of the urban development of ancient Palmyra.



Site map of the NE Quarry



Places the remains of the quarries at the NE of Palmyra

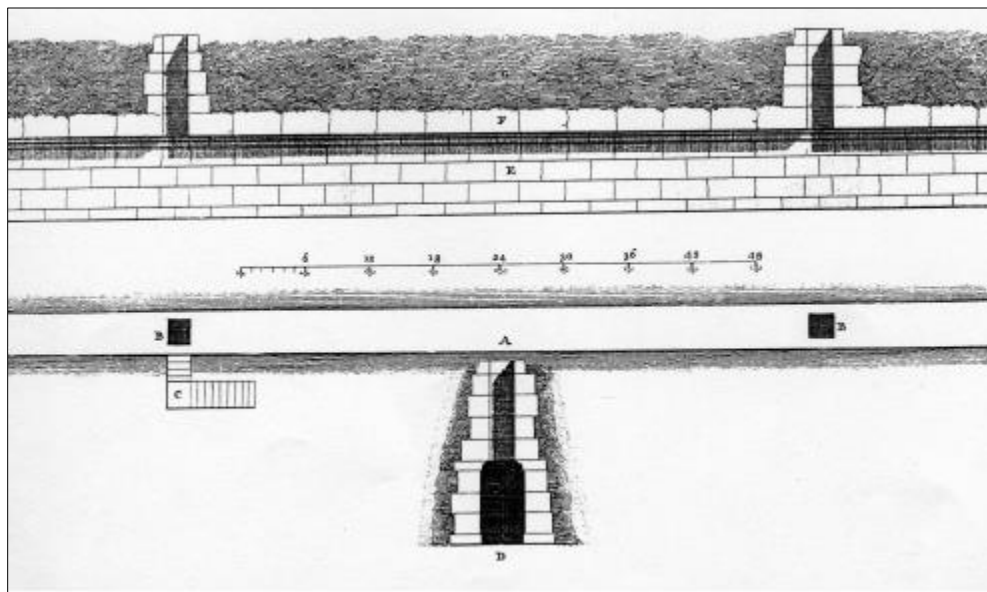
- **Qanât-Umm al-Omi**

Uses sources from piedmont of Jebel Chifa, N of Palmyra. Nine steps of marble and an entrance gate with sculptured arcade Rectangular galleries (Kobori 1989, 9; Wood 1753). Depth: 2.50m, Breadth: 0:80 – Date to Roman Period.



1-Umm al-Omi qanat, underground entrance

2- Umm al-Omi qanat, a cistern provide the Qanât with water



Umm al-Omi qanat, Palmyra, [Wood 1753, plate 27].

North West

- **Abu Alfawares**

Abu fawares, a small settlement, possibly a farm, abandoned in the past century, located approximately 3 km west of palmyra, on the line of the aqueduct. This historic town owes its existence to some of the springs in the northern mountain range.

The Qanât of Abu al-Fawares and a basin brought water from a spring located 12 km to the west of the city. Starting from abu fawares, the aqueduct emerged from underground and became a

stone-lined conduit that ran aboveground to the area of diocletian's camp. Traces of a big water tank, associated with the last phase of occupation, can still be seen in this locality, to the south of the aqueduct local tradition speaks of this water channel still being used in the first half of the 20th century. Length 3000m, Breadth 0.40m, depth 2.0m. – Date to Roman Period.



Traces of
water tank in
Abu al-
Fawares,
Water supply
survey in 2010



Abu al-
Fawares,
Five channels
cut into hill
feed Qanât
and
congregates
in a 30 m deep
well
Underground
channel: 5 km
then turns into
open channel
to Diocletian's
Camp
Feeds
terracotta and
later stone
pipeline in
city.
Rectangular in
shape.

4. Justification for the boundary of the archaeological site and its Buffer Zone

The establishment of a Perimeter of the archaeological site and the buffer zone together with an appropriate policy framework will help ensure that planning decisions around the World Heritage Site fully consider the potential impact which they might have upon those elements and contribute to the site's outstanding universal value.

By this means it helps to ensure that important views and vistas and the wider setting of the World Heritage Site are appropriately managed.

The advantages of identifying a buffer zone are:

- a) A buffer zone provides the basis for the formal adoption of policies to protect the visual integrity of the site and also to protect outlying portions of the designed landscape and other features associated with the archaeological site.
- b) For Planning Officers making decisions on planning applications, it provides a simple visual indication of the areas where the impact of new development upon the World Heritage Site may be an issue.
- c) For those preparing planning policy documents, it will help identify where sites which are being put forward for development may impact upon the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site.

5. Contribution to the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value

The proposed buffer zone will make an important contribution to maintenance of the outstanding universal value of the property as set out in the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value.

The buffer zone will specifically:

- Ensure the protection of views and vistas from within the World Heritage Site to the surrounding area, which were an important element of the Palmyra' design and therefore the site's outstanding universal value. Through inclusion in the buffer zone, these views and vistas will be protected from developments which may obstruct, intrude on or detract from them. These include views from locations within the site including from Temple of Bell and the castle.
- Ensure consideration is given in planning decisions to outlying elements of the Palmyra designed landscape not currently within the World Heritage Site but within the proposed buffer zone.

6. Implications for legal protection

The Syrian Government protects World Heritage Sites and their buffer zones in two ways. Firstly individual buildings, monuments and landscapes are designated under the Act n 222/1962 Antiquities Act and secondly through the Ministerial decree that sets out the strategic policy for protecting the site which includes World Heritage Sites.

The draft ministerial decree (*hasn't been published officially*) include the following regulations:

The aim of this decree is:

- a) Redefining the boundary of the historical city of Palmyra.
- b) Determining the city's archaeological boundaries according to the topographic map which is an integral part of this decision.
- c) Identification of the special features and limits of the ancient city.
- d) To determine the terms of references for the investment of land within the limits of liability.
- e) Determine the terms of references of the activities allowed within the city and the surrounding monuments (construction - agriculture - industries and handicrafts - infrastructure and public works ... etc...).
- f) To ensure the protection of the archaeological city and the natural landscape surrounding it;

General Conditions:

Item 1: The principle of not allowing construction:

In general; Building, alteration and expansion of existing buildings within the archaeological site (RZ), the individual sites and the buffer zone are prohibited. With an exceptions in the following areas:

- a) Construction, reconstruction and restoration are permitted in the north-west region (the PZ) by building 50% of the property owned by the owners, provided that the building does not exceed (200m²) in area, (5m) in height, environmental building with one floor in proportion to the surrounding environment after obtaining the approval of the Antiquities Authority and under its supervision.
- b) Construction, reconstruction and restoration are permitted in the north and north eastern region (the WZ) for housing, touristic facilities, environment services and infrastructure (Parking lots, gardens, etc ...), in accordance with the following requirements, in a manner consistent with the general character of the city and its surroundings:
 - The height of buildings shall not exceed (12 m)
 - Using building materials available in the region (only beige color and its gradations) and not to use of colors in the decoration of the facades.
 - Not to use architectural vocabulary of unusual styles from the region, for example, but not limited to (tiled ceilings and others).
 - Use transparent glass or dark brown (vim) and no other color is allowed for glass windows or reflective glass.
 - The air conditioning equipment and machines shall not be placed on the facades overlooking the main road and the archaeological city.
 - Observe and cover the water tanks, fuel oil and air pumps with suitable materials to ensure that they are not seen from the archaeological city.
- c) Construction, reconstruction and restoration in the Oasis area shall be permitted, taking in consideration that the building shall be limited to the agricultural warehouse within the agricultural land of not less than (500 m²) with a maximum of building area (20 m²) and a height of (3 m) starting from the surface of the land.
- d) The establishment of environmental tourism facilities in the Oasis area shall be permitted, provided that the building shall be limited to small cafeterias, kiosks for sale, rest areas, camping, service roads and signboards by using light materials without

foundation, easy to move and installation, in small sizes and colors suitable to the environment of the site.

Item 2: Prohibited agricultural activities:

In general; the following agricultural activities are prohibited within the archaeological site and its buffer zone:

- a) The uprooting of trees that are an integral part of the landscape of cultural importance (eg oak, olive, etc.)
- b) Planting trees.
- c) Land reclamation.
- d) Removing stones by using heavy machinery in agricultural land within the boundaries of the archaeological site.

With the exception:

The following works shall be subject to the approval of the competent authority and the approval of the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums according to the conditions that are set for each case:

- a) The uprooting and logging of the trees mentioned above (in the scope of renovation and treatment of diseased trees).
- b) Agrarian Reform outside the boundaries of the archaeological site.
- a) Afforestation.

Item 3: Permitted agricultural activities

The traditional agricultural work in the oasis are allowed within the boundaries of the archaeological site after the approval of the competent authority and the approval of the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums.

Item 4: Industrial activities:

The following activities are prohibited within the boundaries of the archaeological site and its buffer zone:

- a) Establishment Industrial activities and industrial zones.
- b) Construction and investment of stone quarries.
- c) Construction and investment of sites for the development of construction waste and household and industrial products.

Item 5: Touristic activities:

The establishment of tourist facilities, such as large hotels (swimming pools, casinos, restaurants, etc.) within the boundaries of the archaeological site and its buffer zone is prohibited.

With the exception:

a) Facilities are allowed for the purpose of managing and promoting within the boundaries of the buffer zone, for example, a small cafeteria parking lot, a medical center, non-fixed service stations, temporary tents, etc.. According to the conditions that it determines by DGAM.

b) The establishment of light tourism facilities, such as small restaurants, small hotels, temporary tents, etc., are allowed in the transitional area (WZ).

Item 6: Infrastructure activities:

The following actions are prohibited within the boundaries of the archaeological sites and their buffer zone:

- a) Constructing autos trade roads and establishing railway corridors.
- b) Paving the existing roads.
- c) Drilling corridors for electricity, water, telephone, gas and sewage networks.
- d) Passing electricity networks (high voltage networks).
- e) Constructing electric power stations, regular telephone stations, barges, receiving and strengthening towers, television stations, water collection and pumping stations, dams and irrigation channels.

With the exceptions:

The following works are permitted at the (BZ) after obtaining the approval of the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums:

- a) Constructing asphalt and agricultural roads are used for the purpose of serving residential communities and agricultural lands.
- b) Constructing and renewal asphalt and soil roads that exclusively for the purpose of management and promotion of the site.
- c) Establishment of medium and light electricity networks.
- d) Establishment of electrical distribution stations, regular telephone stations, barges and towers to receive and strengthen television broadcasting.

7. Implication for Management:

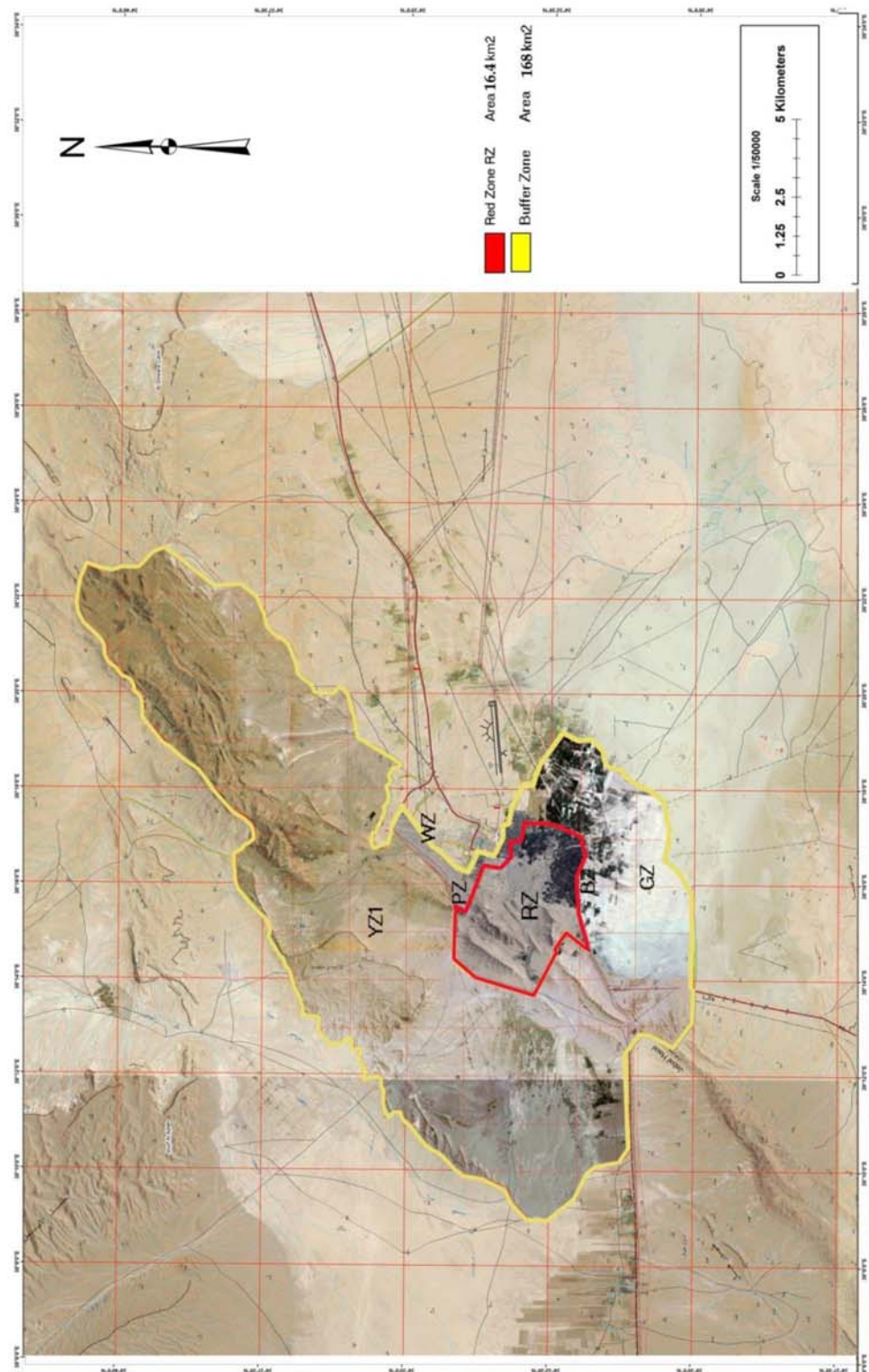
The site with the buffer zone is protected by various national laws such as:

- Antiquities law n 222 dated 1963, Ministerial decree n 380/A dated 2003
- Municipality of Palmyra in coordination Directorate Antiquities of Homs & Palmyra are responsible for the management of cultural property.

The site with the proposed area and its buffer-zone are fully integrated into the antiquities Monitoring and Assessment.

The DGAM had launched a project of revising the Law of Antiquities n° 222 of 1963 last year. Measures relating to the protection, management and promotion of the Cultural Heritage is considered in the new law to entrenched in a sound and comprehensive legislative framework which respects the security of the law and the principles of legality according to which the law operates and establishes the foundation and the framework for the activities of the State. The law is in its final steps to issued.

7-1 The main partners in administration



- The governorate of Homs/city council of Palmyra is a main partner in management due to the location of ancient city of Palmyra is within the administrative border of the governorate of Homs.
- The ministry of agriculture is also partner because there is a green oasis in the site that is considered part of the natural and cultural context of the site.

7-2 The importance of the management plan

- The ancient city of Palmyra, registered on the UNESCO world heritage list since 1980, has a significant importance both nationally and internationally, because of its distinctive cultural value and the role it played during its long history as one of the main kingdoms with many significant archaeological monuments and artifacts .
- There are many challenges facing the site of Palmyra, these challenges are threatening the natural and cultural scene of the ancient city. Therefore a long versioned management plan should be established containing clear directions and precise and fair principles that prioritize preserving the exceptional and international value of the ancient city, taking in to consideration the other interests that intersect within the site and the ancient city.
- We reiterate that the success of the ancient Palmyra management plan is the safety valve of protecting the exceptional and international value of the ancient city and its natural scene in a time where the real estate development plans and the random investments are considered the real threat of the archeological site and its natural scene.

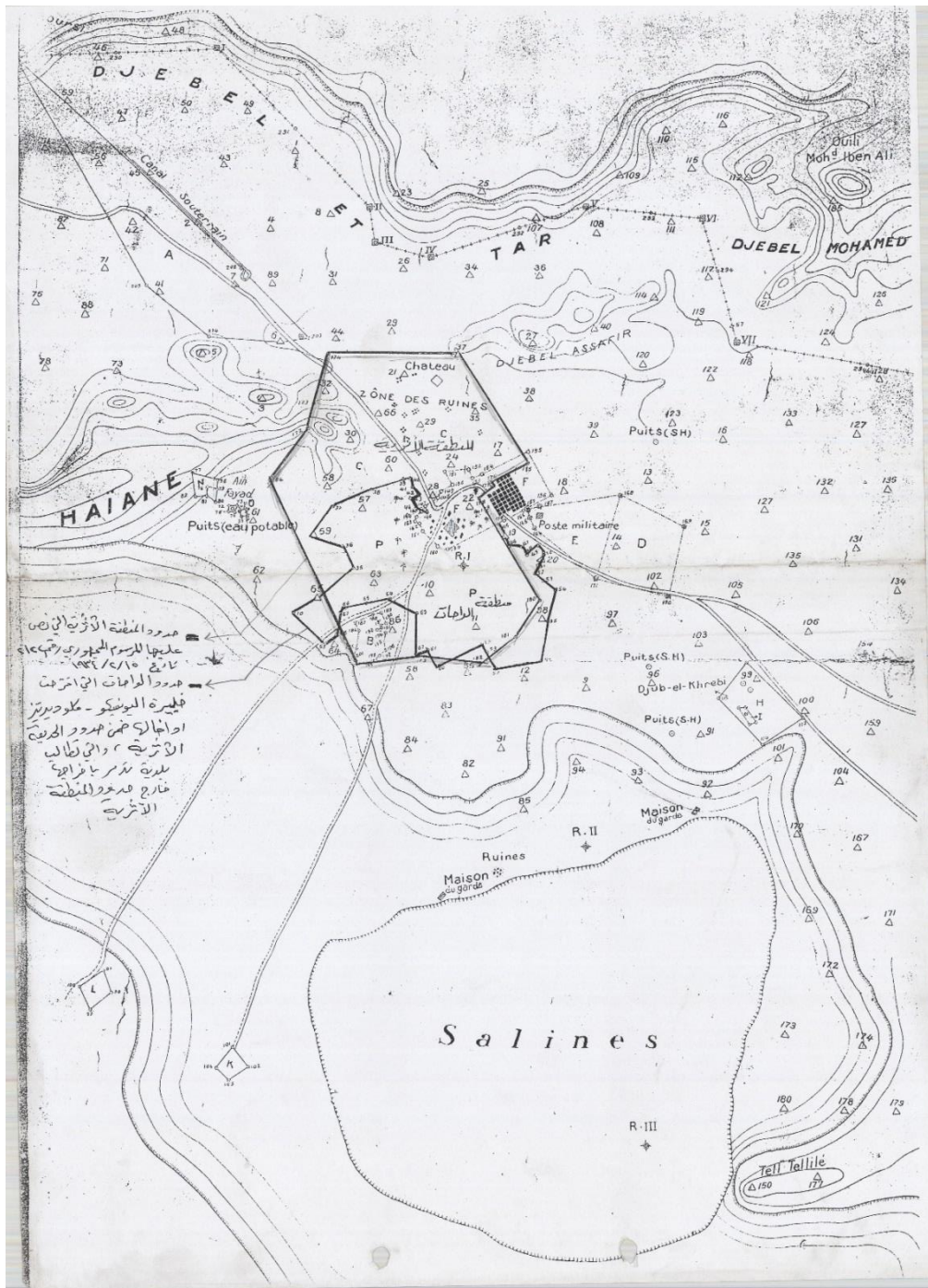
7-3 The objectives of the management plan :

- Managing, preserving, protecting and enhancing the exceptional universal value of the ancient city of Palmyra and its natural scene.
- Encouraging the economic activities that are related to the sustainable development of the world heritage sites.
- Encouraging the scientific, archaeological, architectural, social, economic, touristic, environmental researches in the site.
- Upgrading the cultural and economic level of the local community.

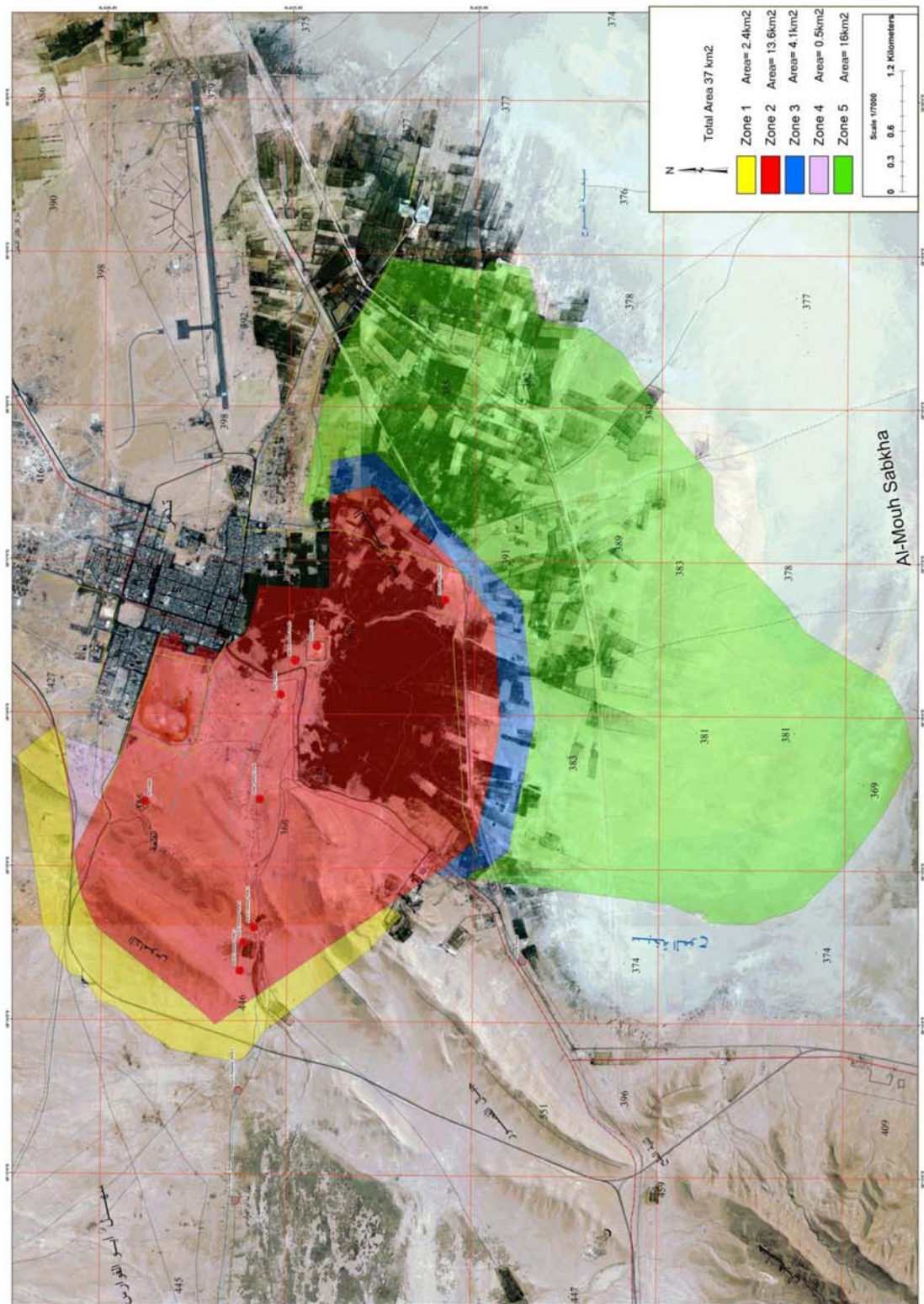
7-4 The administrative levels in ancient city of Palmyra

1. The scientific administrative.
2. Human resources administrative.
3. Economic administrative and activity administrative.

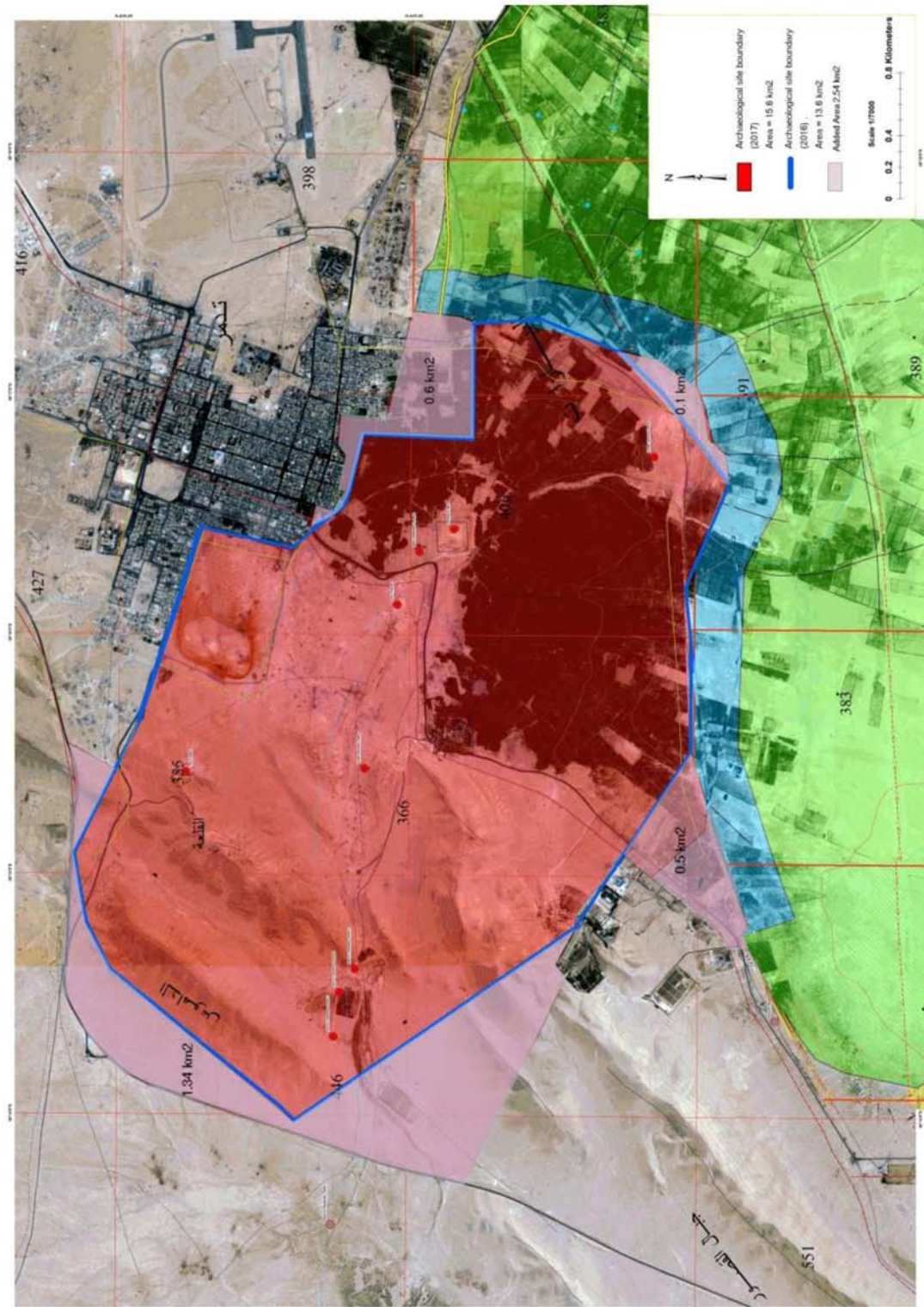
Annex 1



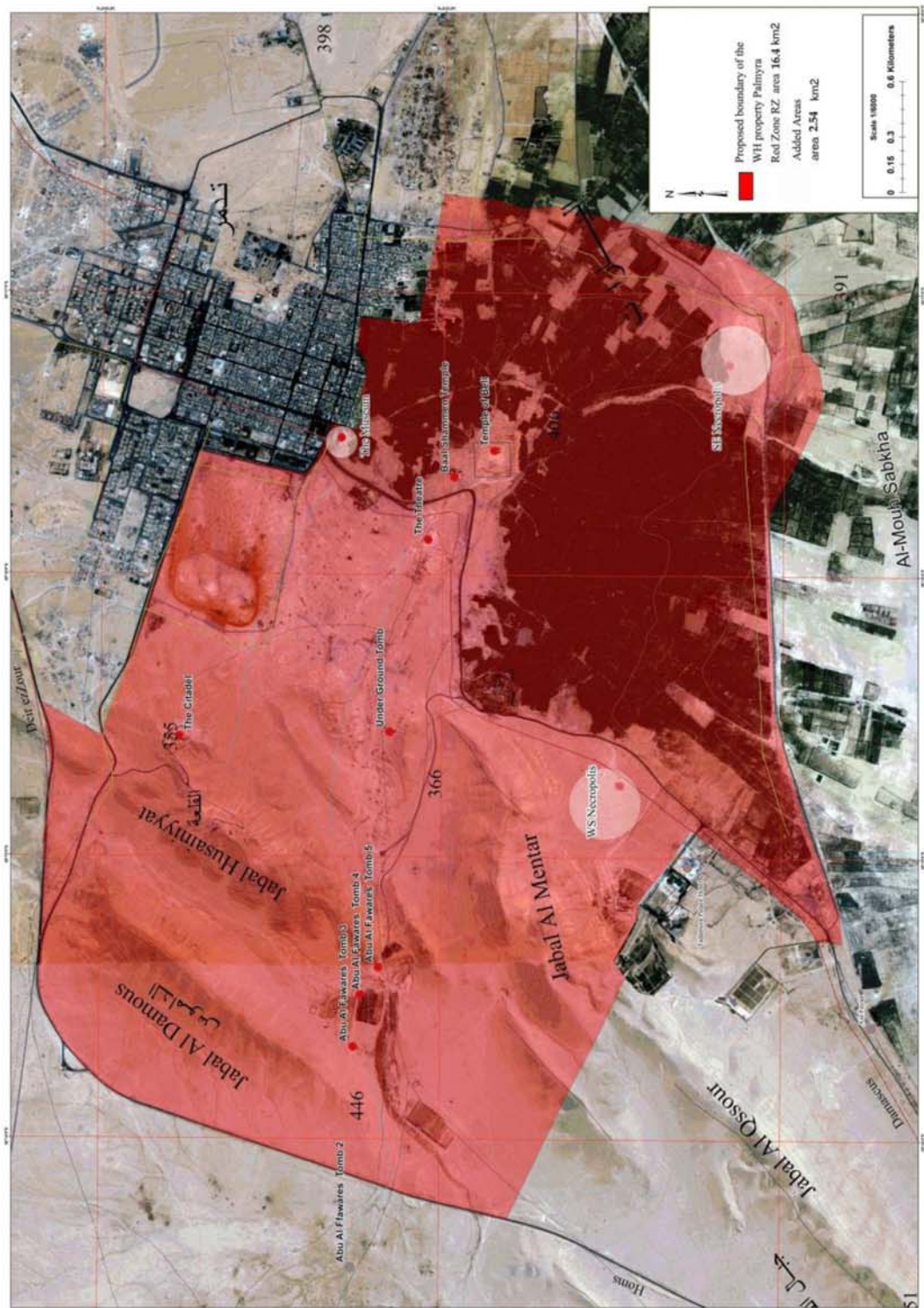
Map 1: Palmyra property boundary as registered on the WHL 1980



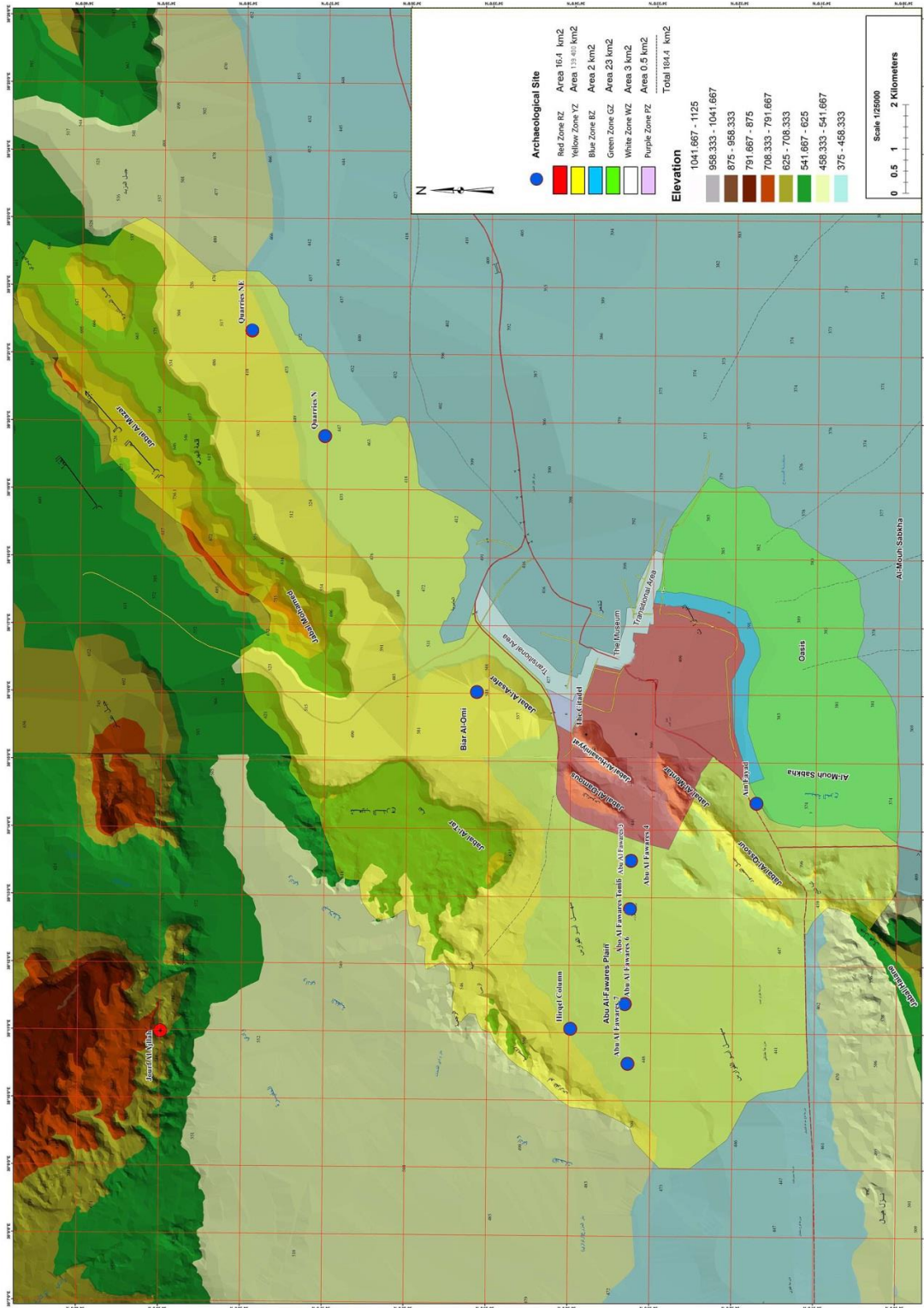
Map 2: Palmyra property boundary (2016) and the buffer zone as registered on national list by the ministerial decree 3A/ 2008



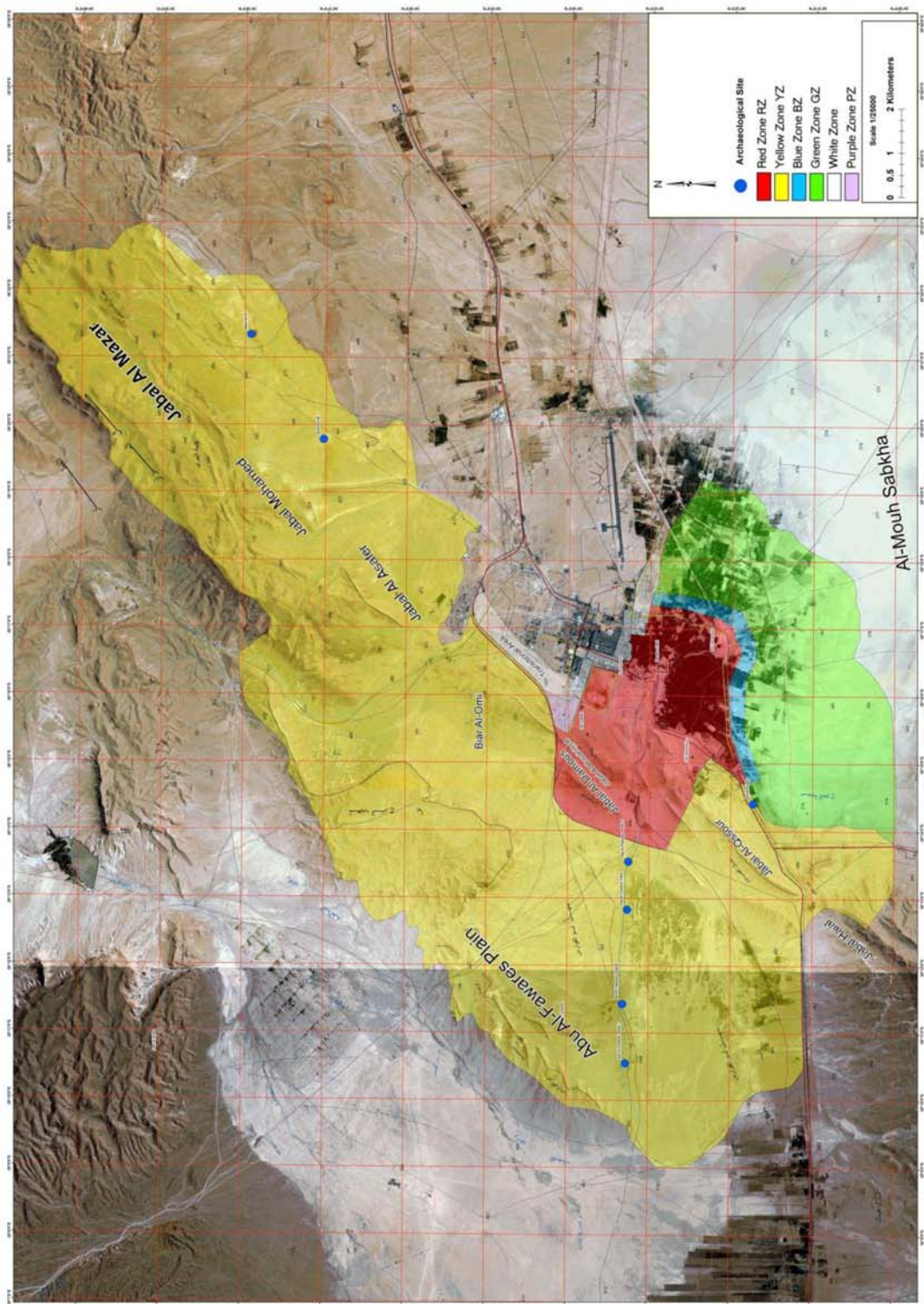
Map3: Added Areas to the site boundaries on 2016 - 2017



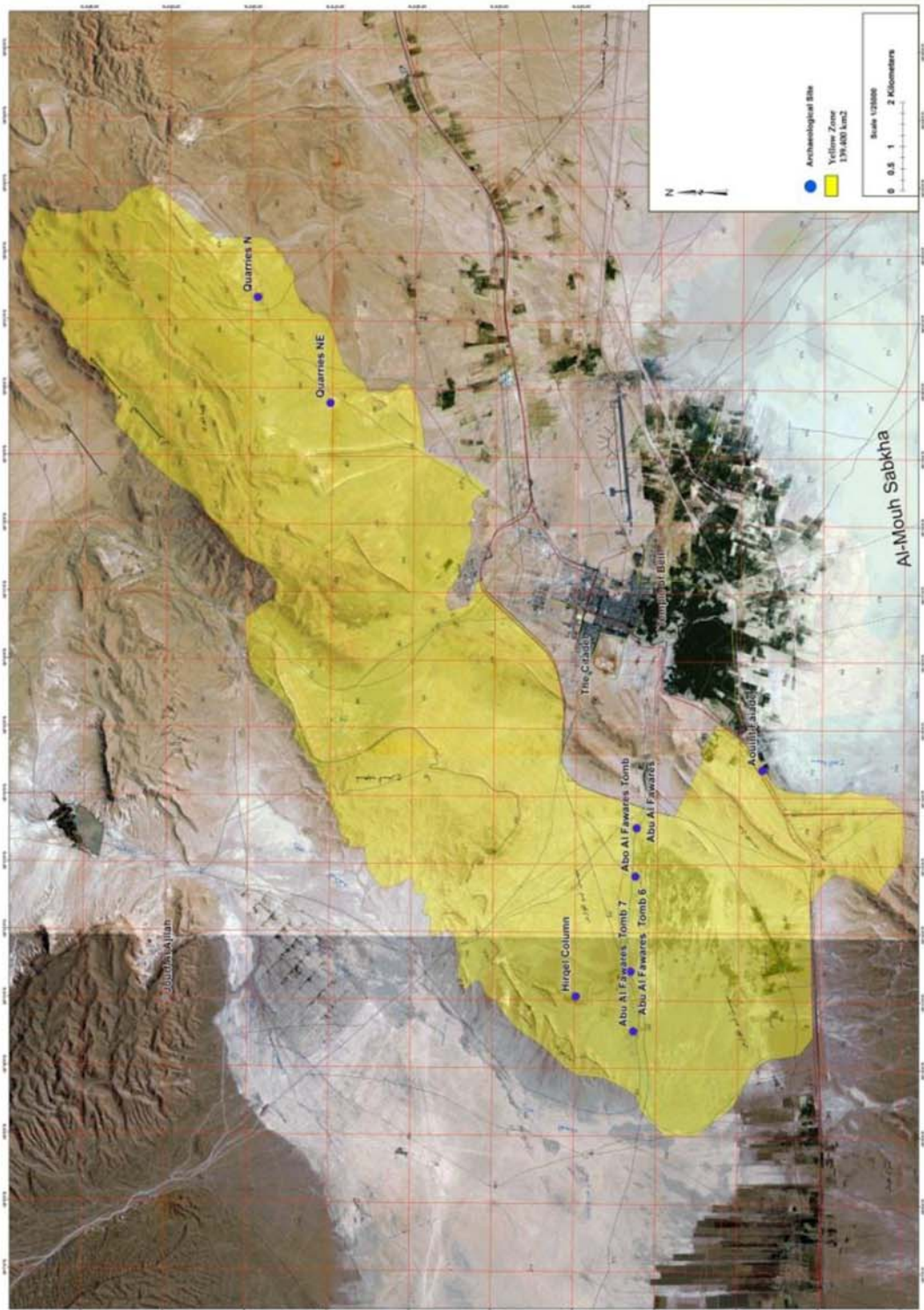
Map 4: Added areas to the property proposed boundary (2017)



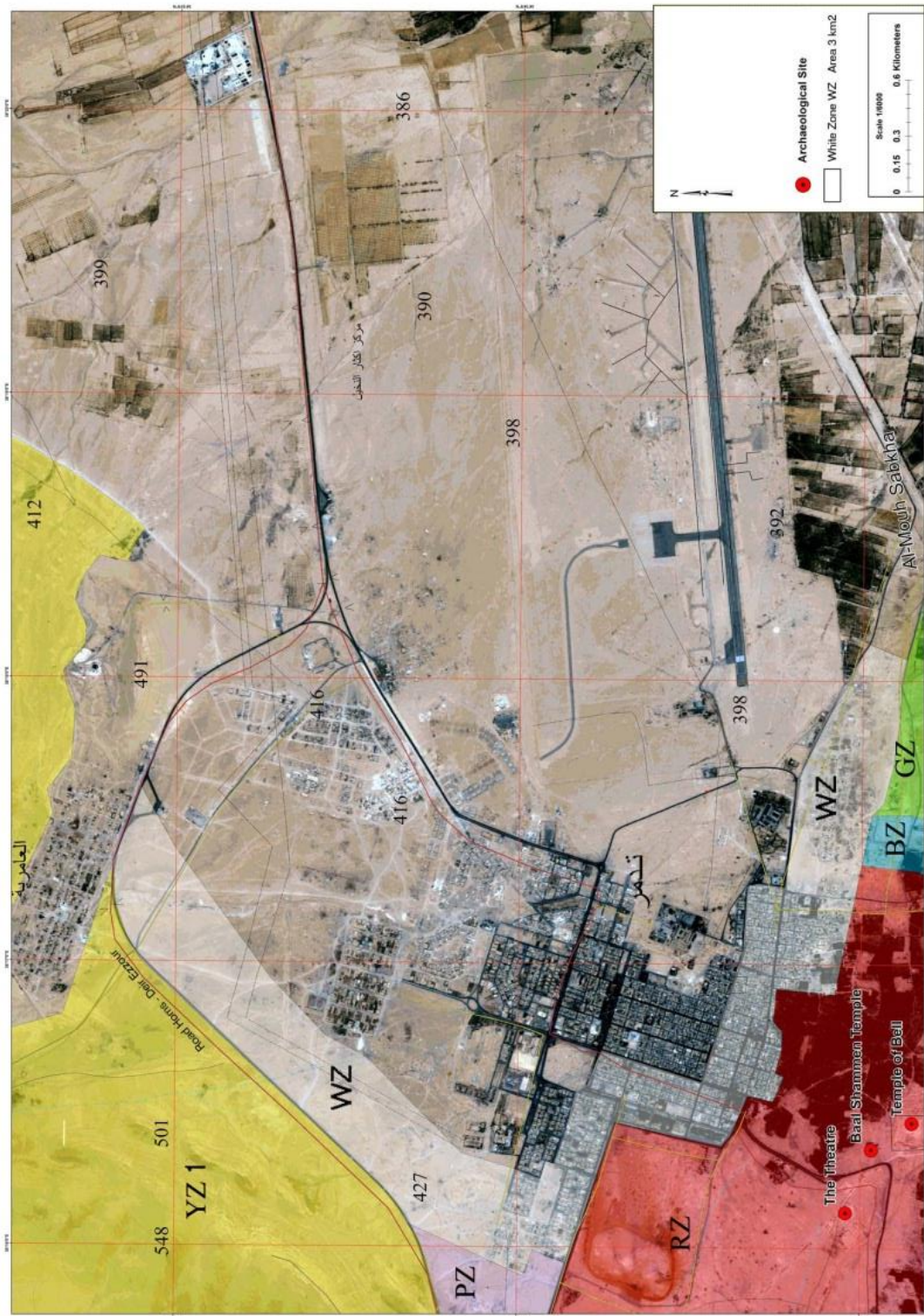
Map 5: Topographic map for Palmyra property proposed boundary and the buffer zones with areas (2017)



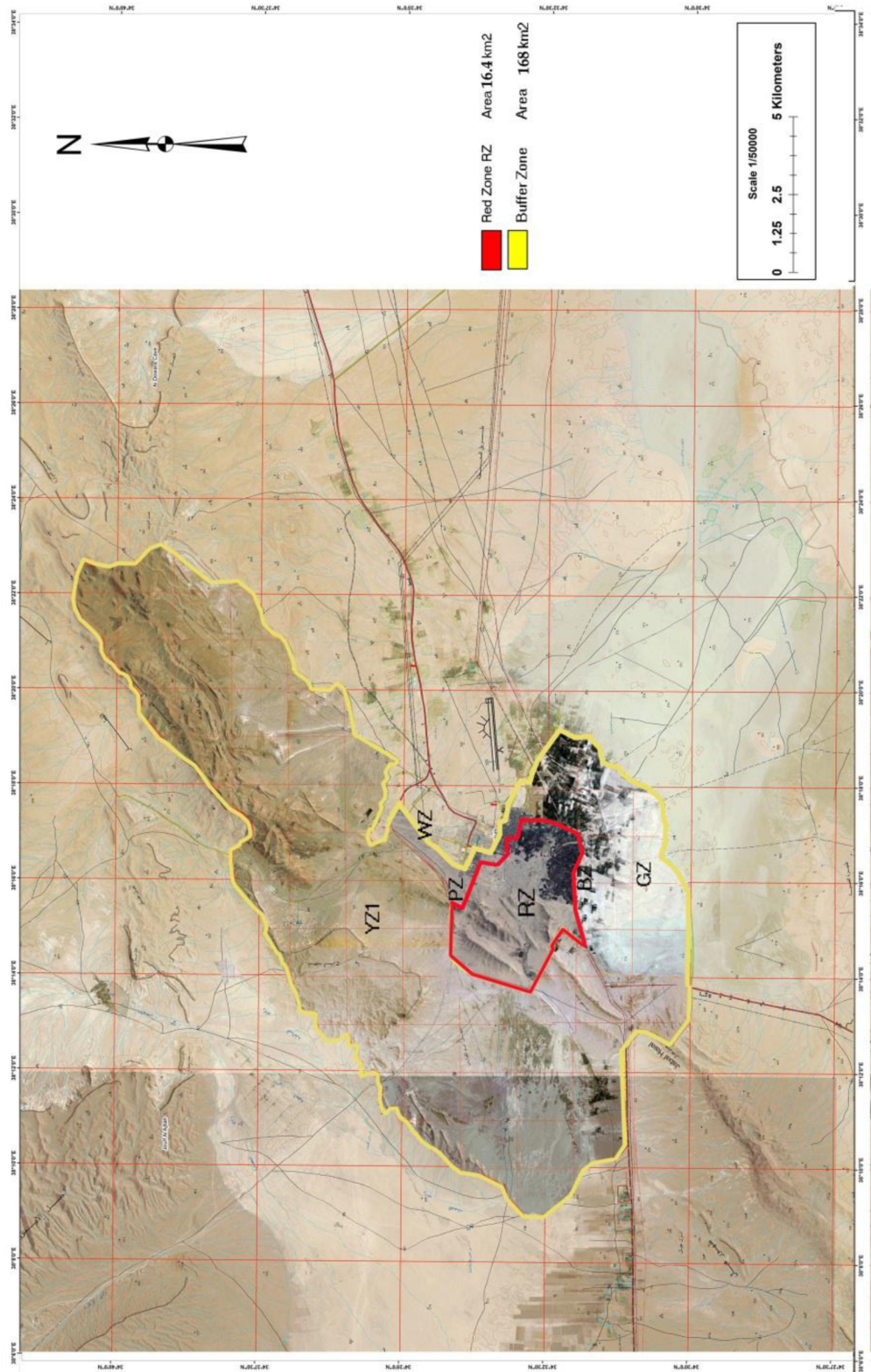
Map6: Proposed boundary to the WHS (Palmyra)- 2017



Map7: Proposed boundary to the Yellow Area YZ - 2017



Map8: Proposed boundary to the white Area WZ - 2017



Map9: Proposed property boundary and bufferzone - 2017

Archaeological sites lie outside the World Heritage Site boundary (proposed to be added to the WHS):

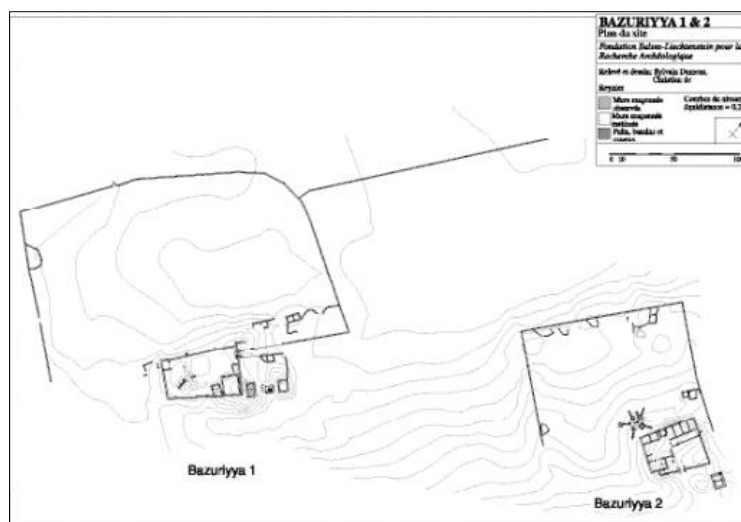
These important elements of the designed archaeological sites lie outside the World Heritage Site boundary and related to the integrity of the wider historic estate. These areas include: Al Bazouriya palace, Al-Bakhra, Al-Sukkari Palace and Khan Hallabat.

South of Palmyra

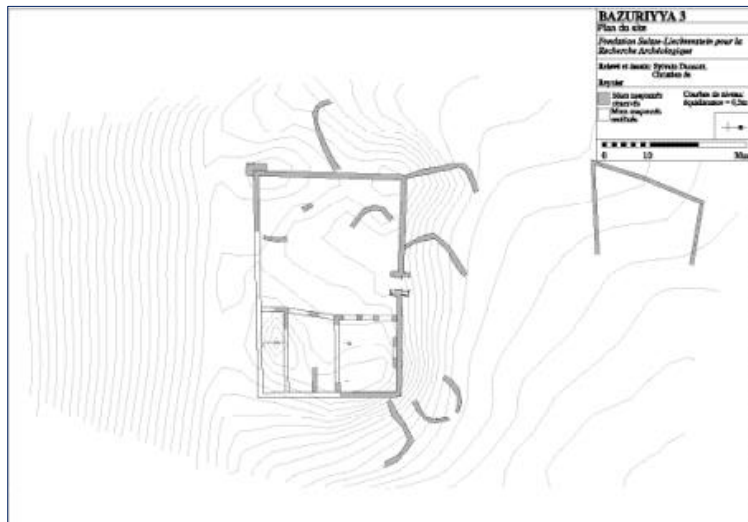
Diocletian built a series of forts along the route leading from Palmyra to Damascus in the steppe called “la route des Khans” or “Strata Diocletiana”. In the alluvial plain of wadi el Hallabat, slightly before it’s flowing in to Sebkhah al Muh there are five important settlements: Al Bakhra, Sukkariyya and Bazouriya 1-3 .

- Al Bazouriya palace

Built from sculptured, trimmed calcareous and marble regular stones. It dates back to the roman and byzantine period and was used until the Omayyad period (100-800A.D) as a stations for convoys and agricultural settlements for the breeding of horses, cattle and camels (necessary for the army and trade) as well as agricultural centers where they contain many wells. A tomb dated 170 A.C was found here. A three forts (30*60 meters each), located approximately 35 km south of Palmyra, E-SE from Sukkariyya and Al Bakhra and are characterized by the presence of tower on arch which opened on a court. In the eastern part of the court there is a building with arcades. Bazouriya 1 presents a second tower, whose eastern side is decorated with crosses. Bazouriya 1 and 2 are provided with big cisterns to collect water. Also in the case of Bazouriya 3, there is a permanent settlements which should be related to the agricultural exploitation of the semi-arid belt of the Byzantine *chore*.



Ground plan of Bazouriya 1 and 2

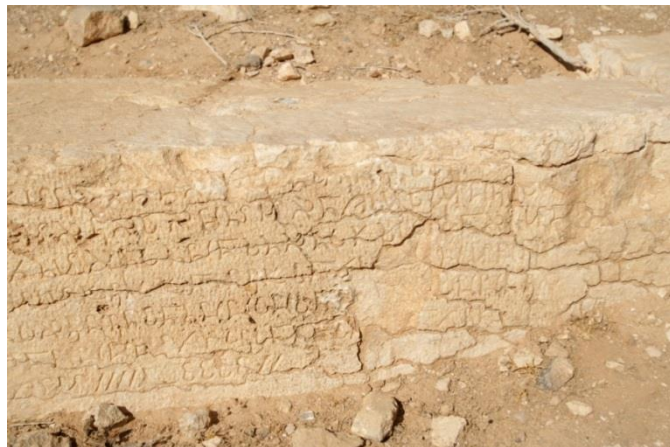




Al Bazouriya E 2,
the remains of
rectangular hall
6*10m,
Intermediate by a
stone arches



Al Bazouriya E 2,
the remains of
building
foundation of
50*25m, includes
halls, residential
rooms and some
elements of a
stone gate, all
defined by stone
walls



Al Bazouriya E 2, a
stone door
sarcophagus,
transferred and
reused at the site
with engraving
Aramaic text
dating to the sale
of parts of the
burial of Salma
daughter of Boulah
Ben Borfa to Malik
bin Muqem ibn
Ajja for 120 dinars
silver in May of
171,



Al Bazouriya W 3,
located 1.5 km
South west of
Bazouriya 1,
consist of semi
buried building,
with eastern gate,
remains of stone
arches at the N E
corner and small
rectangular tower
at the N W corner.

- **Kherbit Al-Bakhra**

A remains of fortified city (600*750m) that dates back to the 3rd century AD Roman period date back to the reign of Dioclecian and was in use until the beginning of the V century AD, when the site might be identified as *Avatha*, *caput viae* of one of the main course of the *Strata Diocleciana*. During the Omayyad period the fort which was protected by round towers, was expanded on its northern side. The fort ruins and its annexes extend over an area of about 40 hectares. Omayyad sources informed us that the site, already known during the Omayyad age, was formed by a village (*qariya*), whose remains are still visible with its current name North and South of the castle.

The gateway flanked by two U shaped towers and interior of fort. The site began as a Tetrarchic fort attributed to an auxilliary cavalry unit. During the Umayyad period the fort was modified and a huge extension delimited by a new enclosure wall was added. There are also numerous houses, funerary structures and hydraulic devices. The Umayyad castle or qasr belonged to one of the Companions of the Prophet and his descendants. It was also the location where the caliph al-Walid II was killed shortly before the collapse of the Umayyad dynasty.

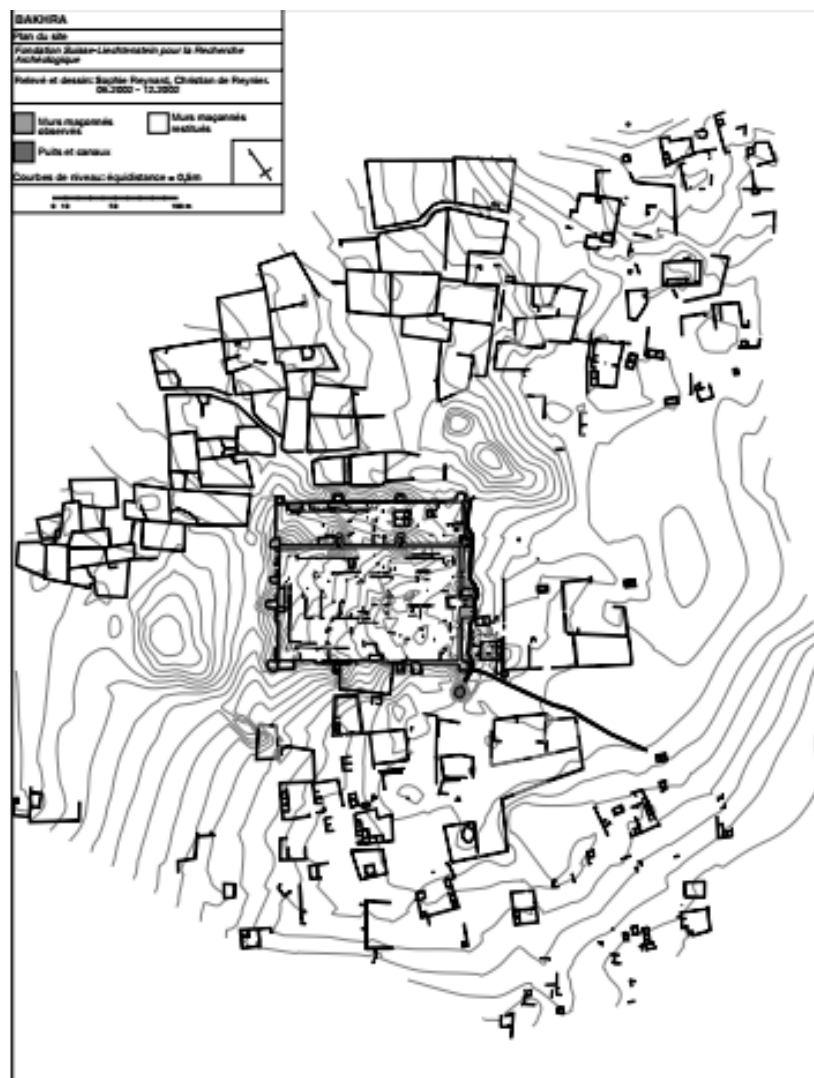
The site, now completely ruined and is located on a slight prominence in a vast plain. The presence of an artesian spring in al-Bakhra has been the main reason for human settlement at the site, including the Roman military occupation. The spring, at the bottom of a deep hole in the bed-rock, is situated in the immediate vicinity of the southern corner tower of the Roman fort.

The Roman fort, with a huge extension to the north-east, occupies the center of the site. The northern part of the site is mainly formed by a dense network of enclosures, while the south-western, southern and eastern parts consist of numerous houses and a few funerary monuments and structures.

Al-Bakhra have brought to light a somewhat unexpected and unique example of a Late Antique military fort transformed into an Umayyad settlement of a type very different to those that are already well known.



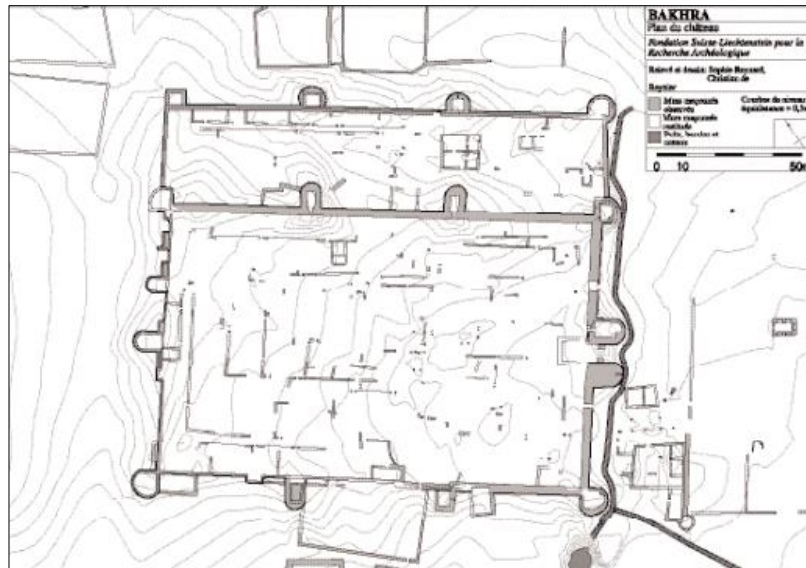
Al Bakhra, remains of wall foundation 3m width, supported with circular fortified towers.



Site plan of Kherbit Al-Bakhra

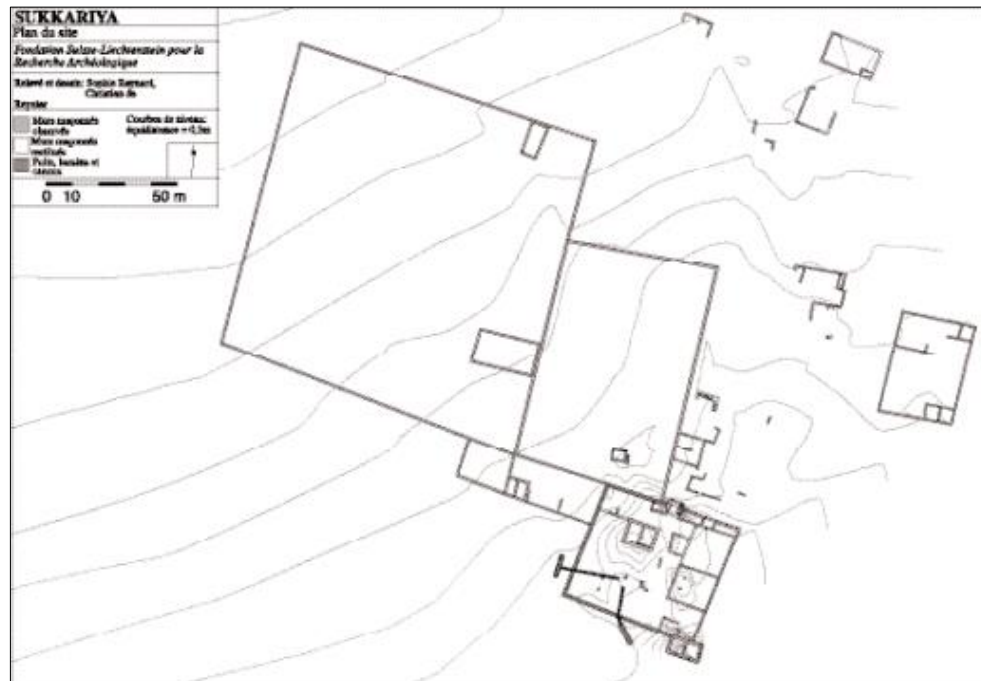
The site measures approximately 600 m. from west to east and 750 m. from north to south, covering around 40 hectares

Figure 1. General plan of al-Bakhra² (drawing: S. Reynard and C. de Reynier).



- Al- Sukkariyya Palace

The Palace is located 1.5 km NW of Al Bakhra, it was walled in the VI century AD. The site has a square plan and consists of a building with a monumental arches entrance and massive corner tower with three floors. Up to six mud bricks dwellings are related to the main building of the site; moreover, a *foggara* is located 1 km westwards, northwards oriented and reached the length of 2 km. the site can be interrupted as one of the several *villae* built on the steppe to carry out agriculture exploitation of the region in the Byzantine times. Sukkariyya (named al Hazim at the beginning of the last century, as it is also recorded at the Omayyad phase, although its role during this period can't be established. However it is likely that its use was similar with that of the Omayyad castle of Al Bakhra.



Ground plan of Al- Sukkariyya Palace



The building consists of a monumental arches entrance and massive corner tower.



Exterior facade
of
the tower-
porch.



A massive
corner
tower with
three floors.

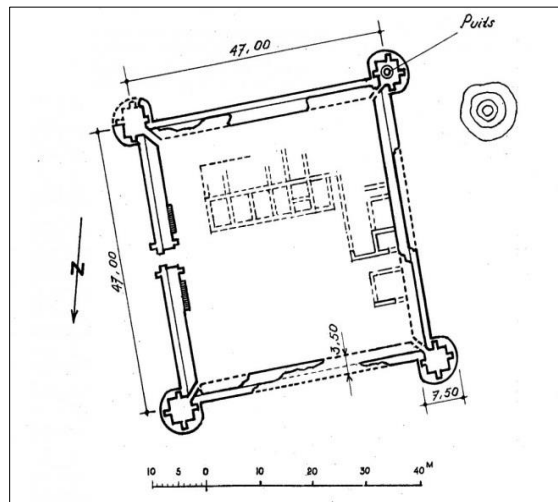


Some
decorated
elements
can be
found at the
site.

South west of Palmyra

- Qasr/Khan Al Hallabat

Khan Al-Hallabat was an important transit for the commercial caravans and dates back to the early 3rdC roman and byzantine period and was in use until the Omayyad period. It is a fortification in the form of a square planned with four circular towers (47*47m), in its vicinity there are about 10 houses belonging to the Bani Khaled tribe culturing a large farm of olive trees. The Qasr situated 31km south east of Palmyra. In the vicinity lie many hewn stones, some of them of marble. It provides a striking example of the type of legionary post established along Diocletian's frontier in the late third century.



Ground plan of the fortification in the form of a square planned with four circular towers (47*47m).



The NE tower



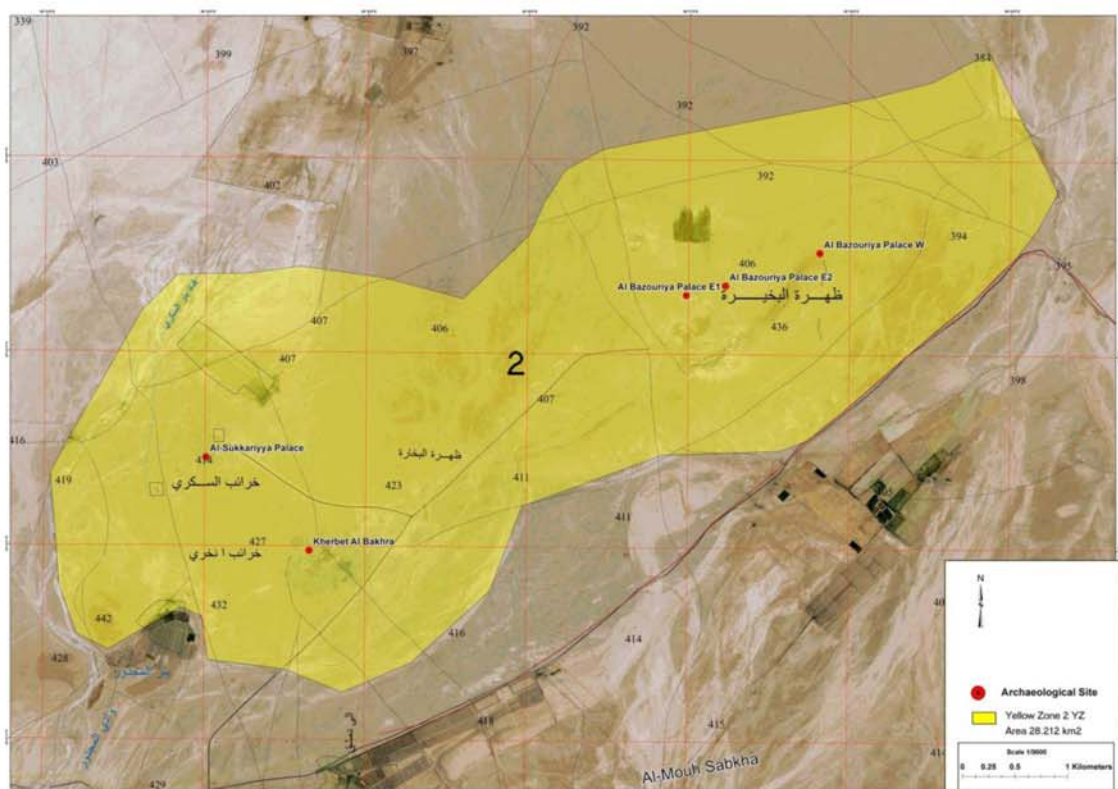
Remains inside
Sukkariyya Palace



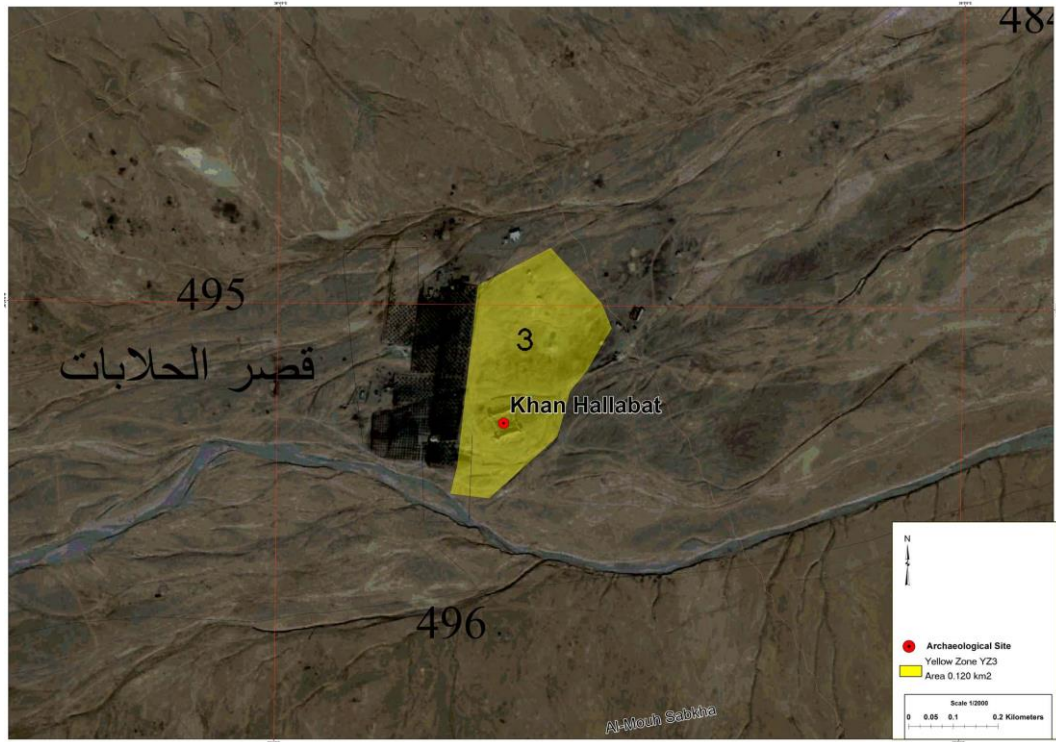
Remains of Sukkariyya
Palace

Name	Site Element	Coordinates of Centre Points	Distance From the archaeological site	Size in km ²	Map No.
Al Bazouriya palaces	Al Bazouriya E 1	N:34°23'21".30 E:3817'12".80	35 km SE of Palmyra	0.0018	9
	Al Bazouriya E 2	N:34°23'31".55 E:38°17'48".94		0.0018	
	Al Bazouriya W	N:34°23'18".72 38°16'59.19"		0.0018	
Kherbit Al-Bakhra	Roman Camp	N:34°21'58".58 E:38°14'39".15	25 km SE of Palmyra	0.42	9
Al- Sukkariyya	Palace	N:34°22'27".31 E:38°14'0".42	20 km SE of Palmyra	0.0035	9
Total (significant features lie outside the WH boundaries)				0.25	

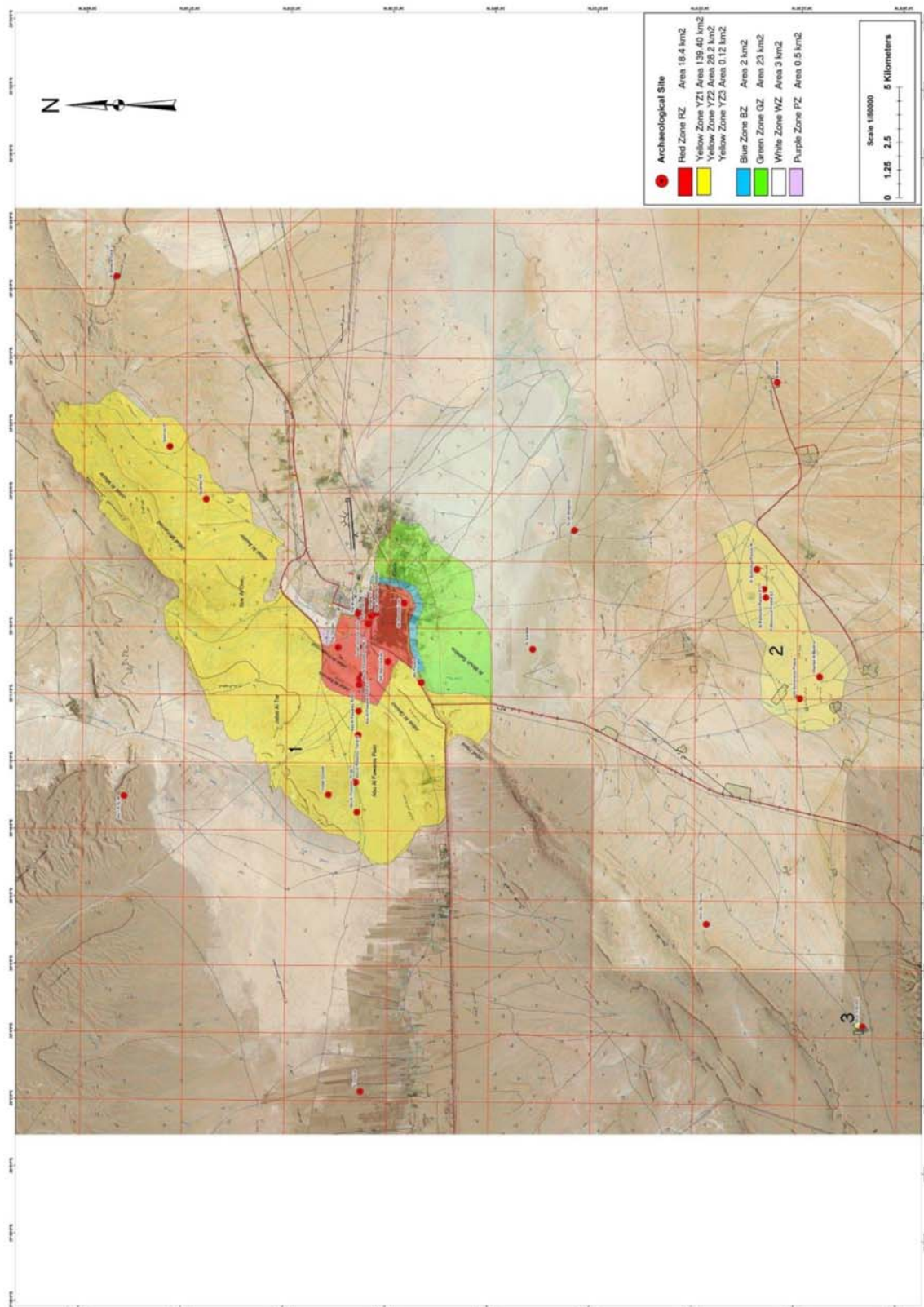
Table 7: Coordinates of the center points, size and topographical maps outside the buffer zone



Potential boundary to the yellow Area YZ2



Proposed boundary to the Yellow Area 3 YZ3



Map of the potential future new nomination with new archaeological sites that relates to the OUV of the Site of Palmyra

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