

Section 0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Executive Summary

- **State Party**

Republic of Korea

- **State, Province or Region**

Youngju City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
Hamyang County, Gyeongsangnam-do Province
Gyeongju City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
Andong City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
Jangseong County, Jeollanam-do Province
Dalseong County, Daegu Metropolitan City
Andong City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
Jeungeup City, Jeollabuk-do Province
Nonsan City, Chungcheongnam-do Province

- **Name of Property**

Seowon, Korean Neo-Confucian Academies

• Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

Id No.	Name of the component	City / County	Coordinates of the Central Point	Area of Nominated component of the Property (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)	Figure No
1	<i>Sosu-seowon</i>	Youngju	N 36° 55' 31.46" E 128° 34' 48.39"	17.16	73.62	0-2
2	<i>Namgye-seowon</i>	Hamyang	N 35° 32' 54.57" E 127° 46' 59.71"	4.11	78.67	0-3
3	<i>Oksan-seowon</i>	Gyeongju	N 36° 00' 42.14" E 129° 09' 47.91"	6.44	80.83	0-4
4	<i>Dosan-seowon</i>	Andong	N 36° 43' 38.27" E 128° 50' 36.34"	36.73	166.84	0-5
5.	<i>Piram-seowon</i>	Jangseong	N 35° 18' 38.82" E 126° 45' 10.28"	1.38	51.06	0-6
6	<i>Dodong-seowon</i>	Dalseong	N 35° 42' 03.33" E 128° 22' 18.87"	2.32	81.23	0-7
7	<i>Byeongsan-seowon</i>	Andong	N 36° 32' 27.66" E 128° 33' 11.16"	30.08	164.3	0-8
8	<i>Museong-seowon</i>	Jeungeup	N 35° 36' 06.61" E 126° 59' 01.45"	0.84	54.96	0-9
9	<i>Donam-seowon</i>	Nonsan	N 36° 12' 33.21" E 127° 10' 50.75"	3.43	45.23	0-10
Total area (in hectares)				102.49	796.74	

• Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property

The boundaries of the nominated property are delineated to include all elements that attest to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. In the case of flat land, the boundary follows sightlines or land lots; in the case of mountainous area, the boundary follows the ridges.

To safeguard all elements testifying the OUV of the property in its entirety, the boundaries of the buffer zone are delineated in consideration of natural topographic features such as mountains, rivers, streams, flat land, settlement and farmlands adjacent to the property, as well as areas protected under the Cultural Heritage Protection Act

- A4 size maps of the nominated property, showing boundaries and buffer zone

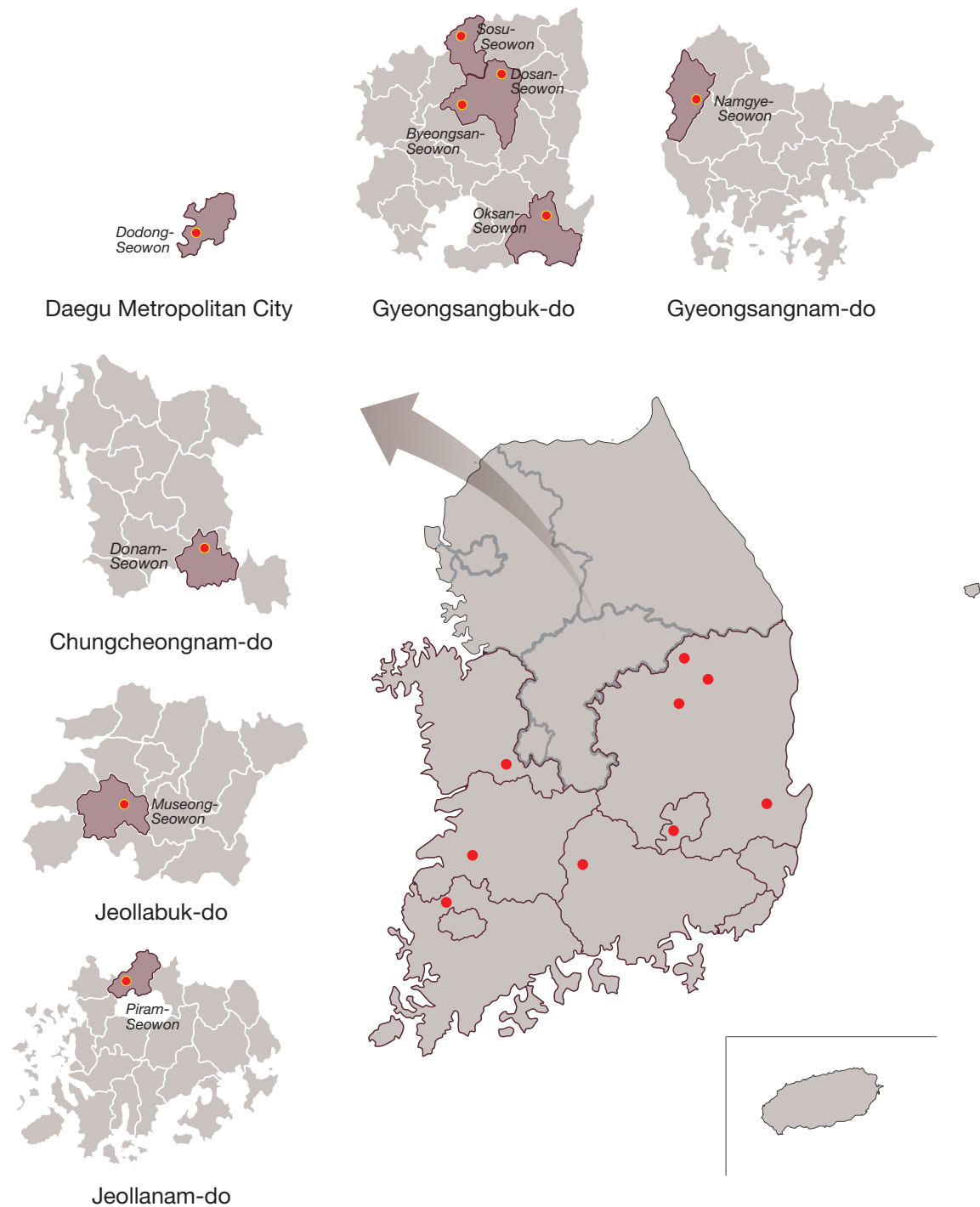


Figure 0-1. Administrative location of the nine components

Sosu-seowon

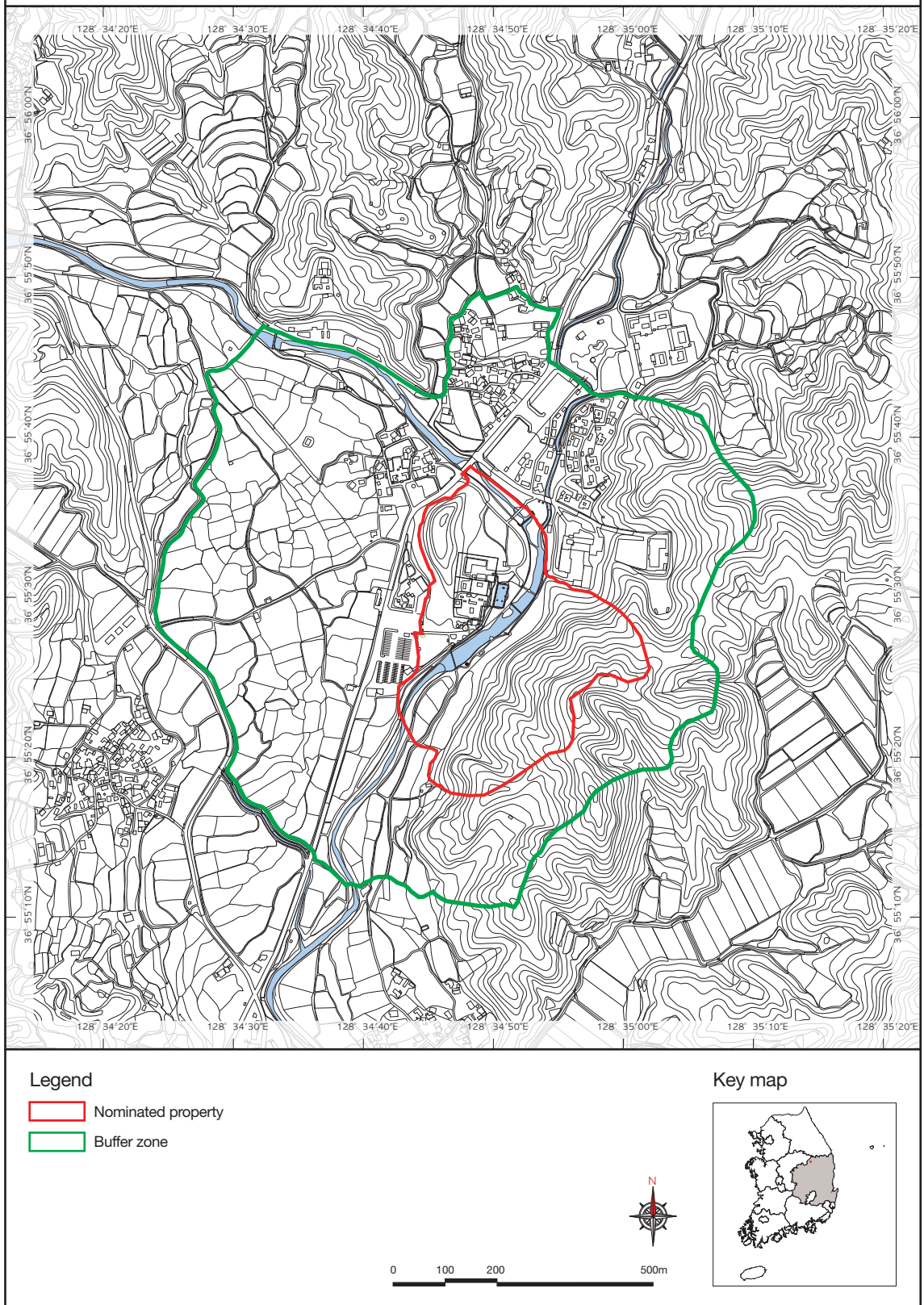


Figure 0-2. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Sosu-seowon*

Namgye-seowon

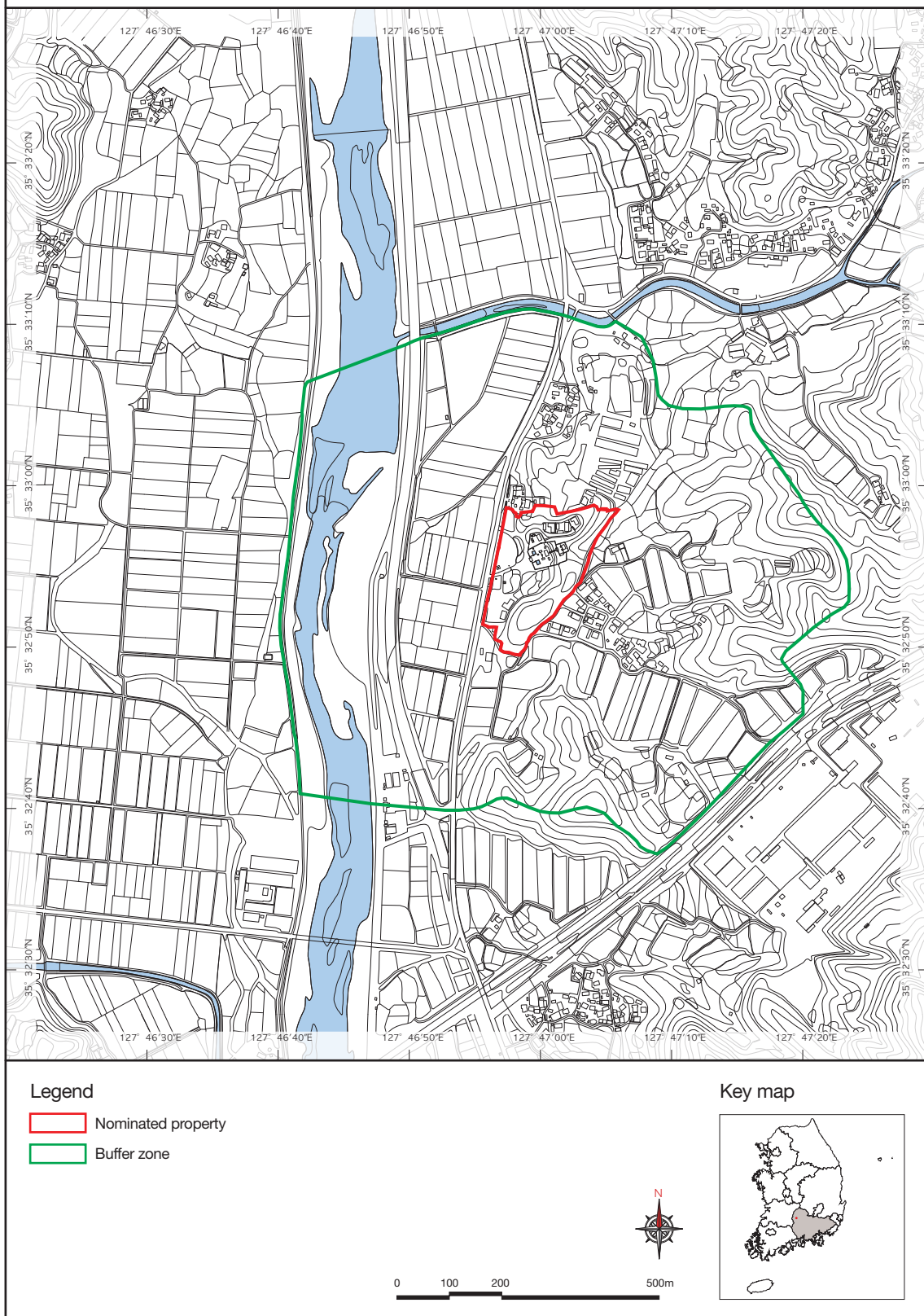


Figure 0-3. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of Namgye-seowon

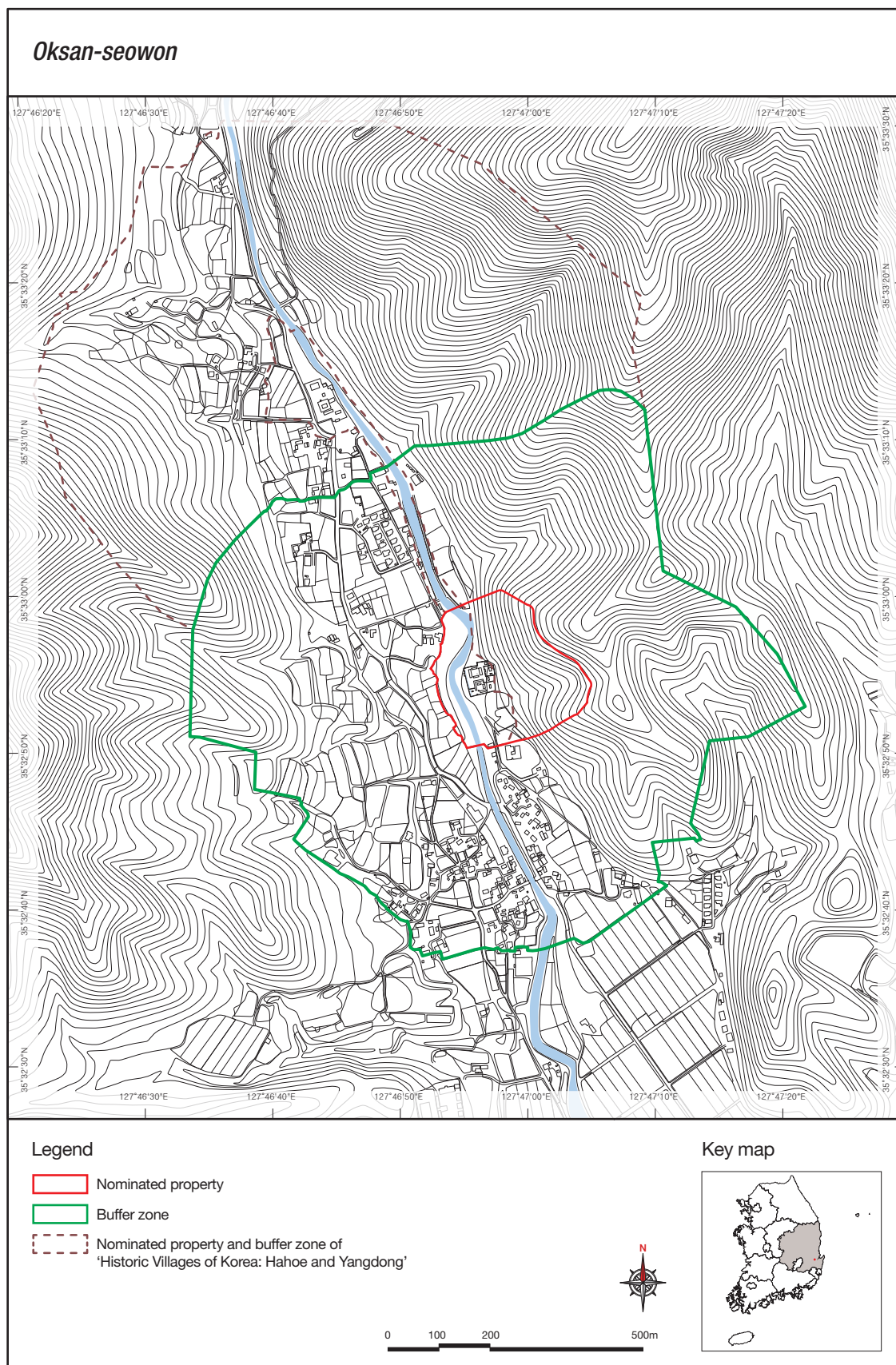


Figure 0-4. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Oksan-seowon*

Dosan-seowon

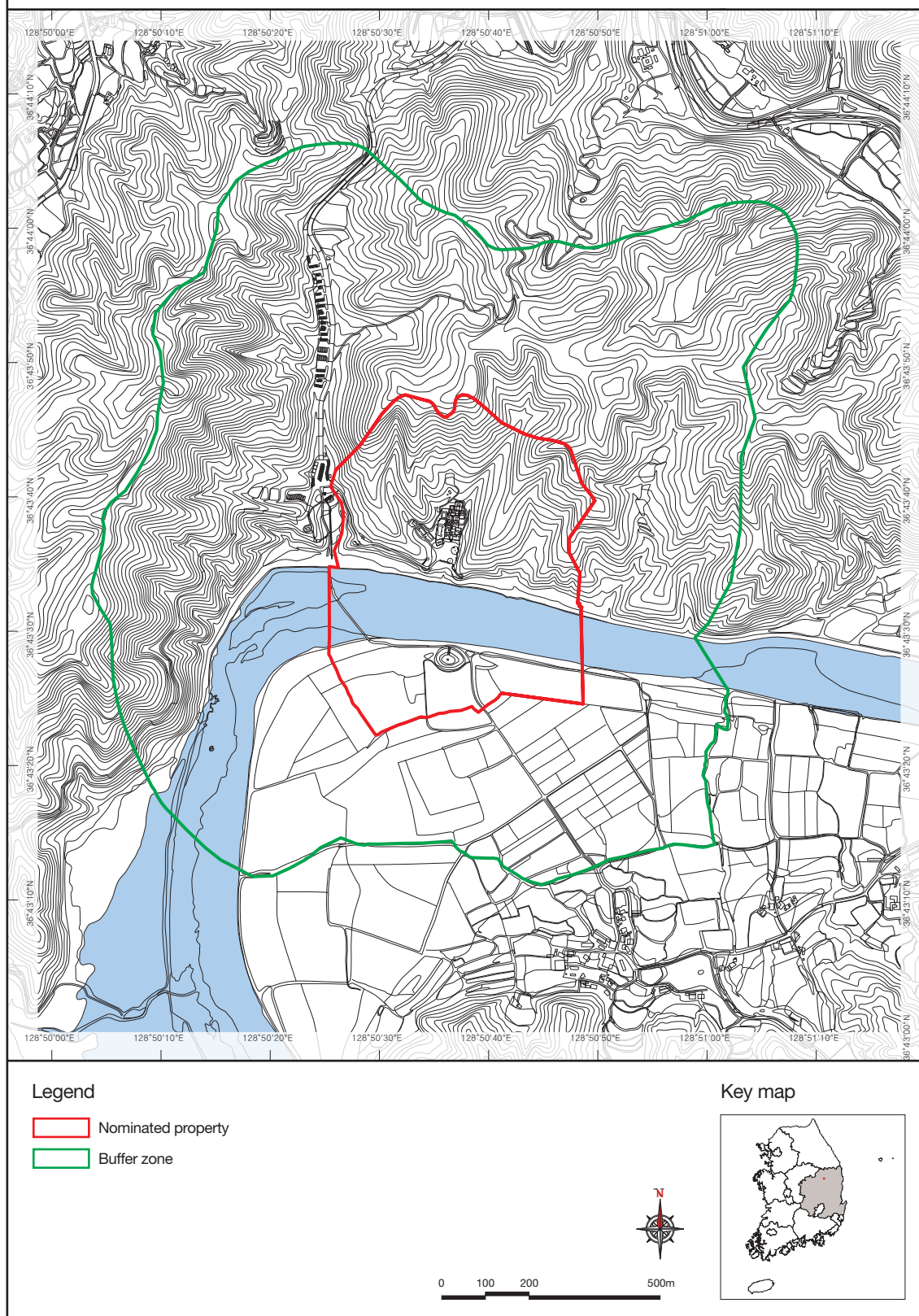


Figure 0-5. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Dosan-seowon*

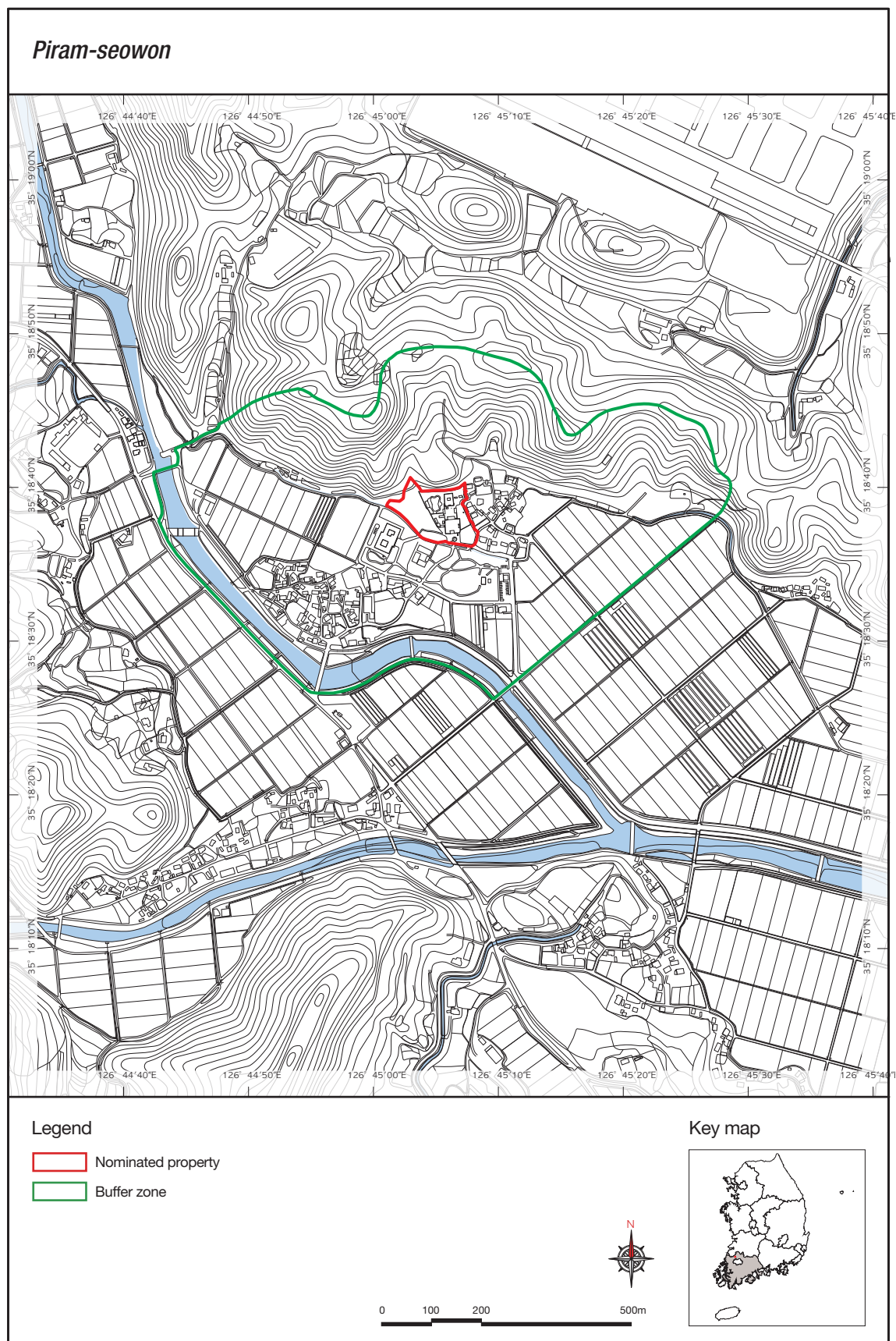


Figure 0-6. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Piram-seowon*

Dodong-seowon

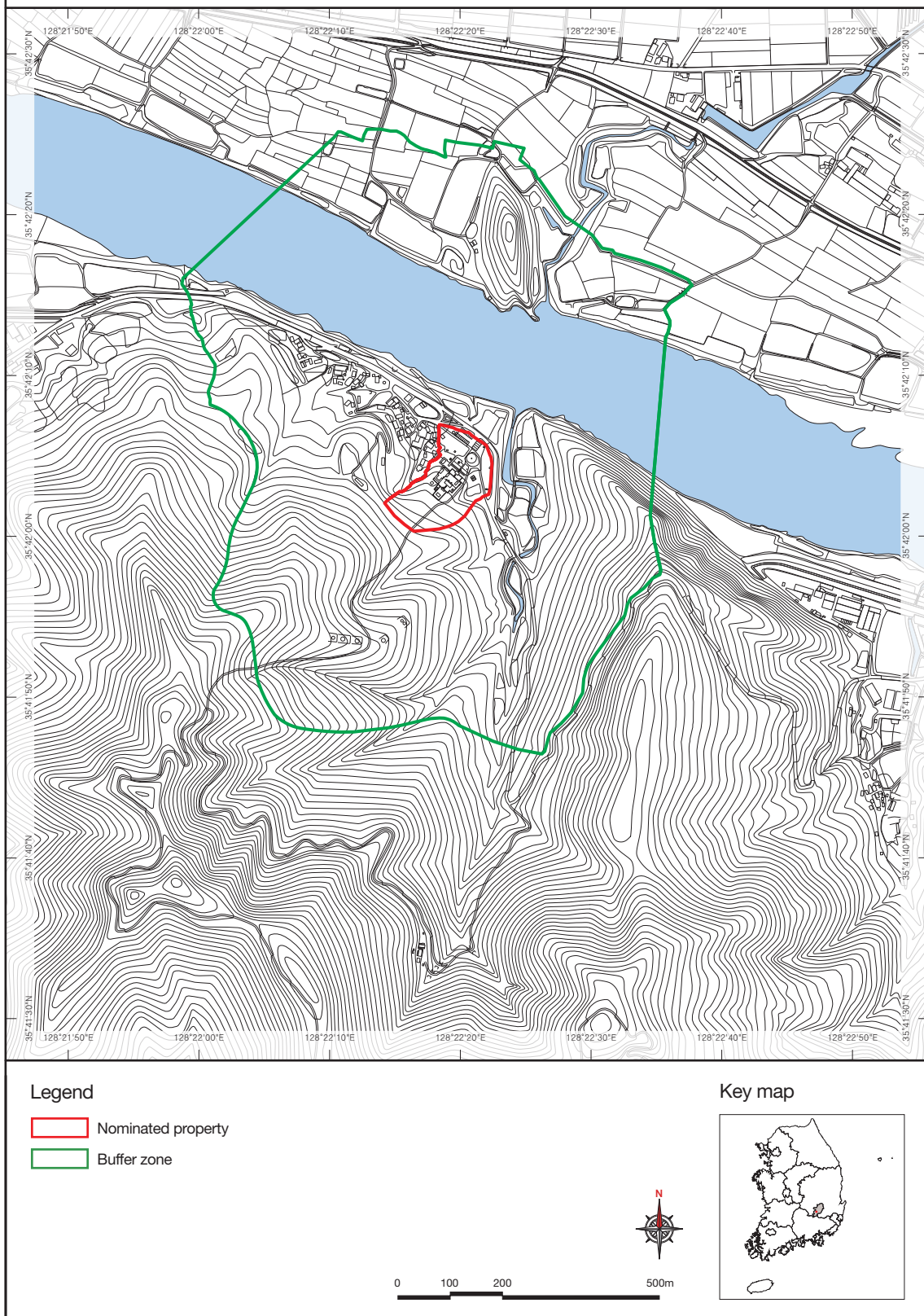


Figure 0-7. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Dodong-seowon*

Byeongsan-seowon

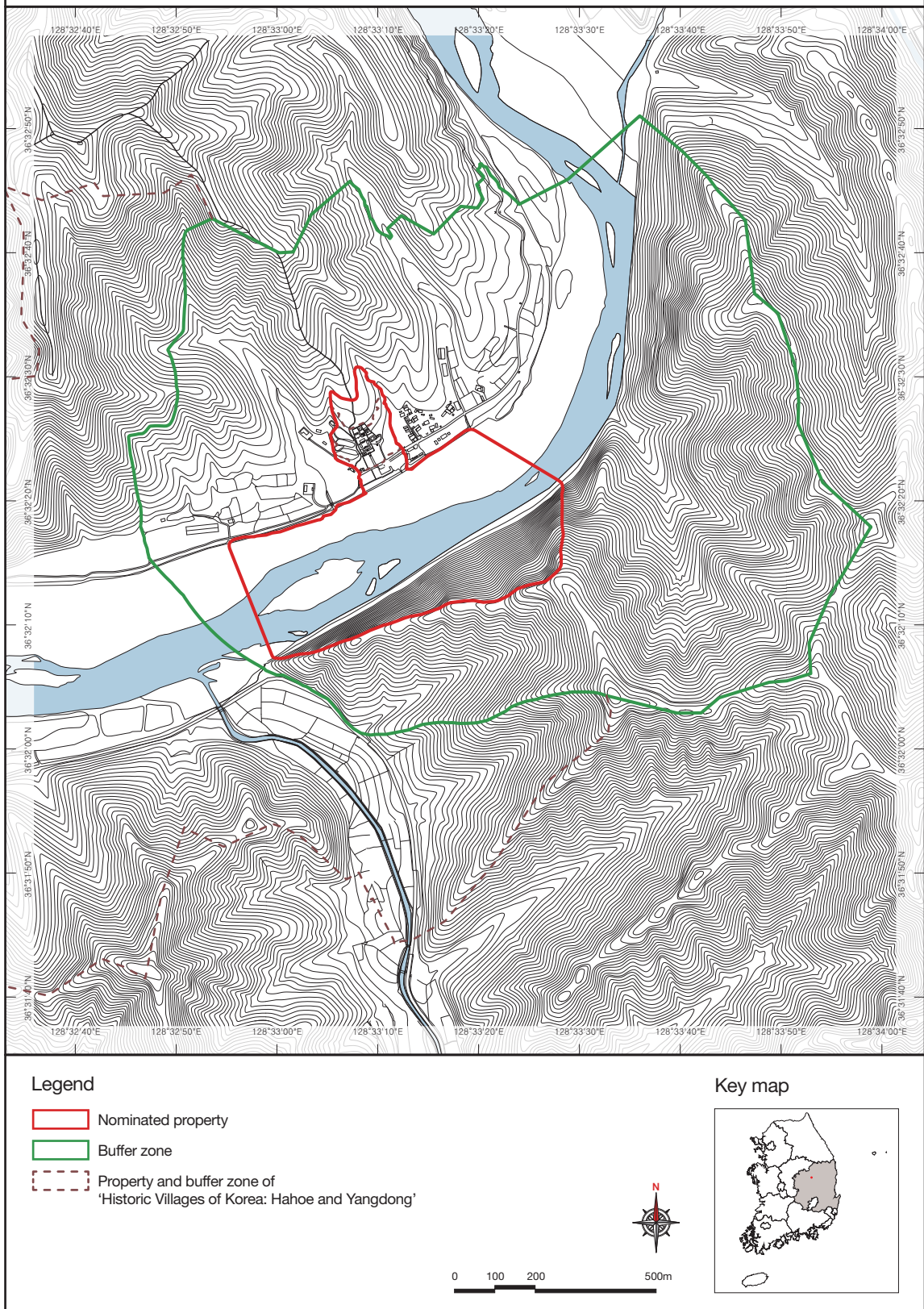


Figure 0-8. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Byeongsan-seowon*

Museong-seowon

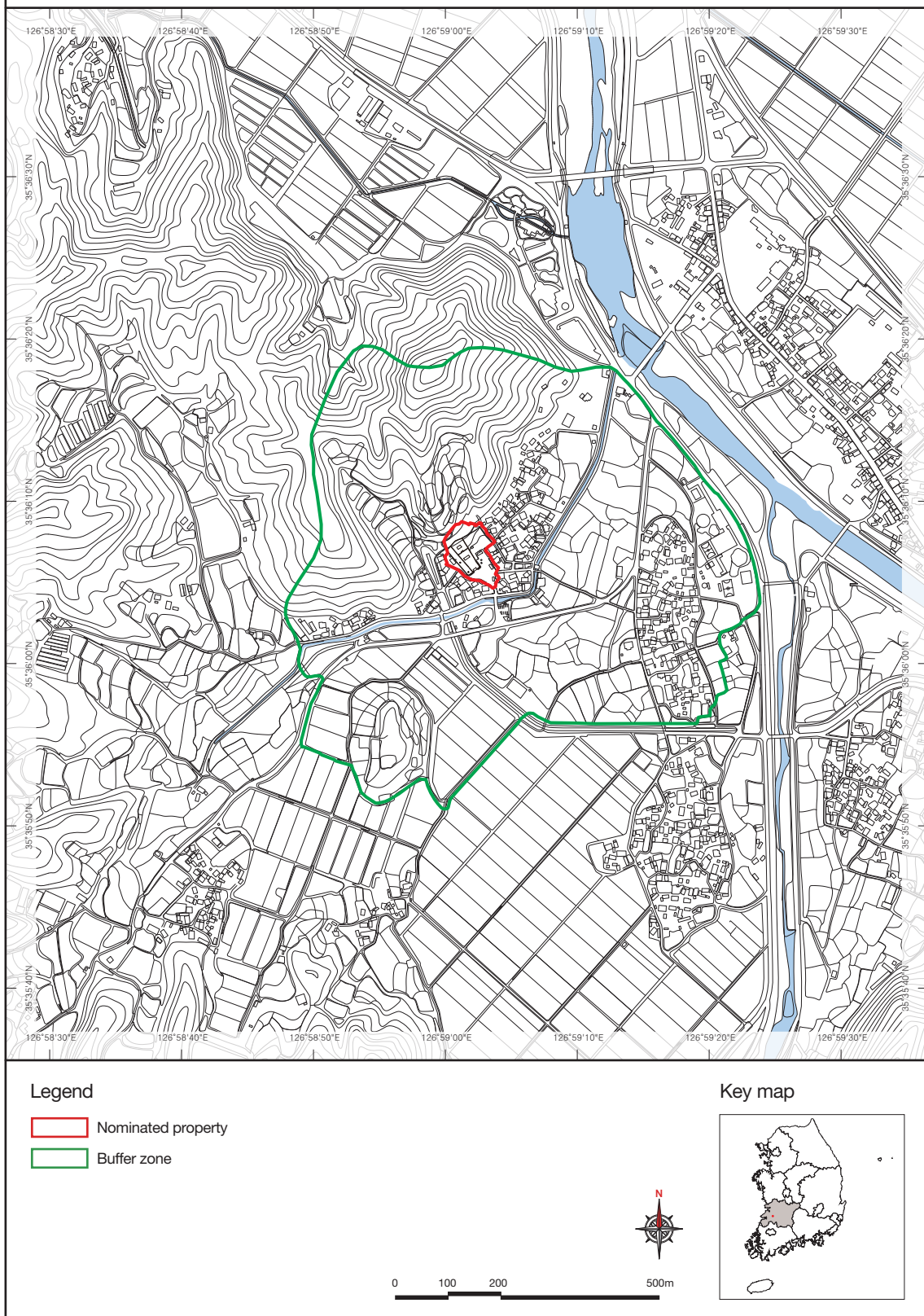


Figure 0-9. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Museong-seowon*

Donam-seowon

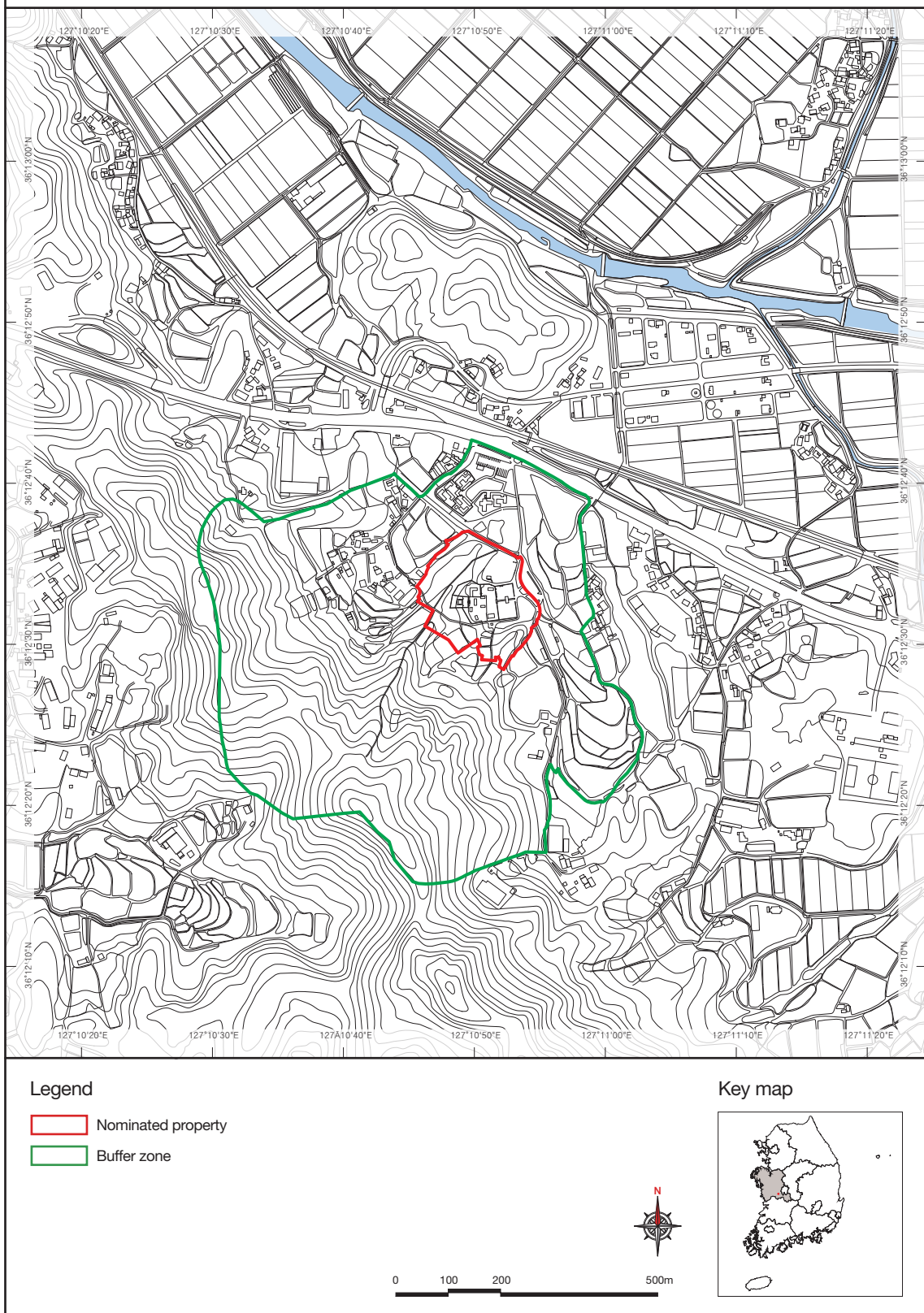


Figure 0-10. Topographic map of nominated property and buffer zone of *Donam-seowon*

• Criteria under which property is nominated

(iii) *To bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared*

The nominated property is an outstanding testimony to the prevalence of Neo-Confucianism in educational and social practices in the Joseon Dynasty. Established from the mid-16th to mid-17th century, the property exhibits a unique tradition of history and intangible values of Neo-Confucianism serving as an underlying base of education. The local literati at the property created an educational system and architectures conducive to fully commit to Neo-Confucian learning. Furthermore, the property offered a venue for various social and political activities, which contributed to disseminating the principles of Neo-Confucianism throughout the nation.

(iv) *To be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history*

The nominated property bears exceptional examples of architectural prototypes of Korean Neo-Confucian academies. The efforts at typifying architectural layout had rapidly progressed during the early stage of *seowon* establishment movement and became reference to subsequent academies. The property is conducive to the practices of learning, veneration and interaction with buildings of lecture halls, shrines and pavilions, respectively. Architectural hierarchy is displayed by the use of natural topography and landscape, stylobates, wall fences and gates.

• Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The nominated property was established from the mid-16th to mid-17th century through the backing of local literati. The property is comprised of nine components, which are *Sosu-seowon*, *Namgye-seowon*, *Oksan-seowon*, *Dosan-seowon*, *Piram-seowon*, *Dodong-seowon*, *Byeongsan-seowon*, *Museong-seowon* and *Donam-seowon*, all of which are located across the nation.

The property exhibits an outstanding testimony to thriving Neo-Confucian academies that promoted learning of Neo-Confucianism, which was introduced from China and became fundamental to every aspect of Korea. The local literati at *seowon* created educational system and tangible structures conducive to fully commit themselves to learning. They studied Neo-Confucian classics and literary works and endeavored in understanding the universe and becoming ideal person. They venerated late contemporary Neo-Confucian figures, and formed strong academic lineage spearheaded by venerated scholars. Furthermore, local literati made significant contribution to disseminating principles of Neo-Confucianism through various social and political activities based on the property.

The nominated property bears an exceptional example of the localization of Neo-Confucian academies. *Seowon* were built in association with the venerated scholars and an environment favorable to cultivate ideal Neo-Confucian scholars, when selecting the site of the property. Each area of veneration, learning and interaction was arranged by making use of natural topography and the landscape to create prototype of *seowon* architecture. Such typification—rapidly established during the early stage of *seowon* establishment movement spanning one hundred year, and became reference to subsequent academies—is clearly demonstrated by the architectural layout. The property is conducive to the practices of learning, veneration and interaction with buildings of lecture halls, shrines and pavilions, respectively. Hierarchy is demonstrated through the use of natural topography and landscape, stylobates, wall fences and gates.

The property as a whole exhibits the unique process of the localized and thriving Neo-Confucianism that had been spread across East Asia. The property represents distinctive culture tradition completed by typification of architectural attributes of *seowon* in Korea. The property comprising

nine components has preserved fully developed attributes that attest to seowon of Korea, and exhibits each stage of how seowon had been developed as an architectural type.

The property as a whole exhibits the OUV, while individual components satisfy integrity on its own.

The property has preserved not only the corresponding buildings in learning, veneration, interaction areas, but also the original topography and surrounding environment. Shrines have been preserved in veneration area; lecture hall, dormitory and library in learning area have been maintained well; and pavilion in interaction area. Important elements in the landscape attesting to the OUV of the property are included in the property area and buffer zone.

Since the property is located far from urban areas and protected in accordance with the CHPA, there are no foreseeable issues in terms of development and environment. Various legal measurements prevent the property from any damage. In addition, daily monitoring is being carried out by on-site managers, while regular monitoring is executed by every three years.

The property preserves high levels of authenticity in multiple aspects, including form and design, materials and substance, traditions, techniques and management system, location and setting,

and the surrounding environment. The property has maintained its original form of the site and surrounding landscape; the architectural layout and buildings in relation to Of the learning, veneration, interaction practices.

Traditionally, local craftsmen applied vernacular construction methods and techniques, which have now been executed by carefully selected certified engineers and experts trained at traditional construction techniques since the mid-20th century.

The nine components are benefitting from both national and communal management. Administrative committee at each seowon has continued to involve in managing seowon, while the CHA and local governments provide legal protection.

Moreover, a diverse range of documentary and intangible heritage proving the entire history of seowon has been well maintained, contributing to the authenticity of the property.

The fundamental legal basis of protecting and managing the nominated property is the CHPA. As state-designated Historic Sites, the property is benefitted from multiple layers of legal protection, including the Historic and Cultural Environment Preservation Areas (hereinafter referred to as “HCEPA”). The boundaries of the nominated property are delineated within legal instruments,

including all elements retaining its OUV. Land utilization and development activities are strictly restricted in accordance with the CHPA, and additional relevant legal measures such as National Land Planning and Utilization Act and Framework Act on the Management of Disasters and Safety. Accordingly, there is little possibility of development and environmental pressure that may have negative impacts on the nominated property.

The nominated property has been managed and protected in accordance with the mid-to-long term programs worked out by the central government or by pertinent local governments with jurisdiction over the nine components.

The CHA carries out a number of researches and education on protection of cultural heritages against natural disasters, fire, and climate change and regular monitoring. The Seowon Foundation has been established to work closely with the related governments to set up the required monitoring indicators of regular inspections of the state of conservation of the nominated property. Although the current tourism pressure is low, all stakeholders are coming up with multiple approaches to minimize any negative tourism impacts, which may arise from the inscription on the World Heritage List.

• Name and contact information of official agency

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