DÉLÉGATION PERMANENTE DU ROYAUME D' ARABIE SAOUDITE AUPRÉS DE L'UNESCO PARIS



المملكة العربية السعودية الوفد الدائم لدى اليونسكو باريس

Ref:2/2/6- 2 入て

Paris 23/10/2014

Dear madam,

Referring to your letter ref GB/MA 1472 dated the 8th of September 2014, concerning your request for additional information regarding the nomination of "Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia";

Please find attached the responses of the Saudi Commission for Tourism & Antiquities to the required information, in addition of the following documents:

- 1. Supplementary File 1
- 2. Supplementary File 2
- 3. Supplementary File 3
- 4. 7 books concerning the Tourism & Antiquities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Please accept, dear madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ambassador, Permanent Delegate

of Saudi Arabia

Ziad ALDRESS

Mrs Regina Durighello Director World Heritage Unit ICOMOS







الموضوع: الإجابة على استفسار الأيكوموس

حفظهالله

سعادة سفير المملكة لدى اليونسكو

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

إشارة إلى كتاب مديرة برنامج التراث العالمي في الأيكوموس (مرفق) حول طلبها لمعلومات ووثائق إضافية أرفق لسعادتكم ردنا على استفساراتها والمرفقات المطلوبة.

نأمل من سعادتكم توجيه من ترون بسرعة تسليمها قبل التاريخ المحدد في كتابها.

المرفقات:

نسختين من استراتيجية التنمية السياحية في حائل.

نسختين من استراتيجية الهيئة لتنمية حائل.

نسختین من ملحق ملف رقم ۱

نسختین من ملحق ملف رقم ۲

نسختین من ملحق ملف رقم ٣

نسختین من أعداد أطلال ۱، ۲، ۲، ۹، ۱۰.

ولسعادتكم تحياتنا وتقديرنا.

نائب رئيس الهيئة والمشرف العام

على مشروع تطوير التراث الدكتور على بن إبراهيم الغبان

محكلات وثالماغ المتلكة العربة الكودية لذى الوسك وساريين

ص ب ١٦٦٦٨، الرياض ١١٥٨٦، المملكة العربية السعودية، هاتف ٥٨٨٥ ١١١ ٨٨٠ + فاكس ٨٨٤٤ ١١١ ٩٦٦+ P O Box 66680, Riyadh 11586, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, T: +966 11 8808855 F: +966 11 880 8844 info@scta.gov.sa www.scta.gov.sa



Maps

1. In the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Annex 5), it is stipulated that amongst maps that are submitted together with a nomination document, there should be one that indicates clearly the zones of special legal protection from which the nominated property will benefits. It is noticed that no such map was attached to the nomination dossier, and it would therefore be helpful if a map that outlines the nominated properties' zones of use or of special legal protection could be provided by the State Party. Especially, in light of the fact that on p. 42 of the nomination dossier, it is reported that further site facilities are still to be decided and established.

Authenticated maps of the zones of special legal protection are attached (supplementary file 1).

These maps are signed and stamped by:
Head of local Municipality of both sits.
Head of the Municipality of Hail Region.
Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs for City planning.

2. It is noted that the maps attached to the nomination dossier by the State Party use terms not in the language of the 1972 Convention (i.e. core zone, site area and demarcation poles) to refer to the nominated property and its buffer zone. In order to avoid confusion, it would be helpful if the State Party could use the terms provided in the Convention, that is, nominated property and buffer zone on these maps as well.

Maps stating the two terms "nominated property" and "buffer zone" are attached (supplementary file 2).

Development

3. On page 39, it is reported that there is a construction underway (late 2013) for a less obstructive dam designed to drain storm waters.



Could the State Party identify the location of this dam and its distance from the nominated property on a map?

Added to maps in the supplementary file 2.

Integrity

4. On pages 21, there is mention of burial sites, and stone structures and stone implements scattered widely over the sites. It would be helpful if an indication of the location of these burial sites, stone structures and stone implements that are scattered widely over the sites could be identified on a map.

Added to maps in the supplementary file 2.

5. On pages 16 and 26, there is reference to a Comprehensive Archaeological Survey that was done for the Kingdom. Could the State Party provide a copy of this survey if available?

Attached copies of the Journal of Saudi Arabian Archaeology (Atlal) Vol. 1, 2, 6, 9 and 10.

Tourism

6. On page 38, there is mention of a 40 km long road that is under construction to join the village of Shuwaymis to the interpretation centre at the entrance to the buffer zone. It would be helpful if this interpretation centre could be indicated in one of the maps attached as part of the nomination document. Furthermore, copies of architectural drawings of the interpretation centre would be appreciated.

The interpretation centre is added to the pertained maps in the supplementary file 2.

The architectural drawings is supplemented in the supplementary file 3.

7. On page 40, there is reference to a Provincial Tourism Plan for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia completed in 2002 and the Hail Tourism Plan completed in 2004. Could the State Party provide copies of these plans?

The Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities Provincial Tourism Plan for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia completed in 2002, Hail Region chapter is attached.

Hail Tourism Plan completed in 2004 is attached.

7

8. On page 41, reference is made to plans to build a new museum and a hotel of Bedouin-styletents in Jubbah as well as in Shuwaymis to service the nominated property. Though, it is understood that these planned developments would be located outside the nominated property, could the State Party provide the architectural drawings of these planned developments?

This museum and a hotel of Bedouin-tents style are still in the proposal and study stage at the local Municipalities for future developments. These projects are to be located outside the nominated property and the buffer zone.

Attached in the supplementary file 3 a preliminary sketch.

Protection and Management

9. On page 30, there is reference to a plan to put in place a program for monitoring the precise condition of petroglyphs. Could the State Party provide information on when this program will commence and also furnish more details on this program once they are known?

The program for monitoring the precise condition of petroglyphs will commence on 1/4/2015, more details on this program will be furnished by that specified date.

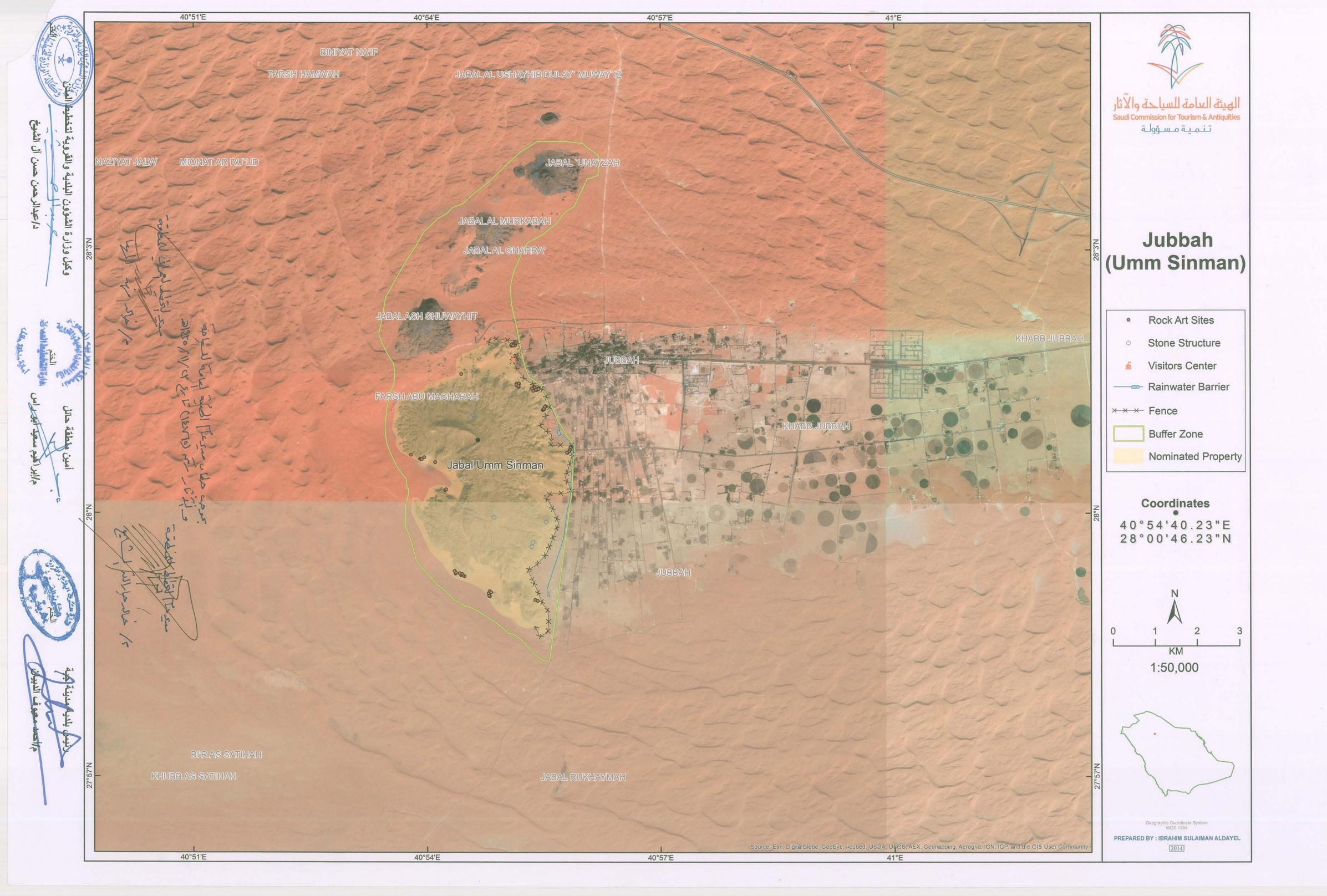


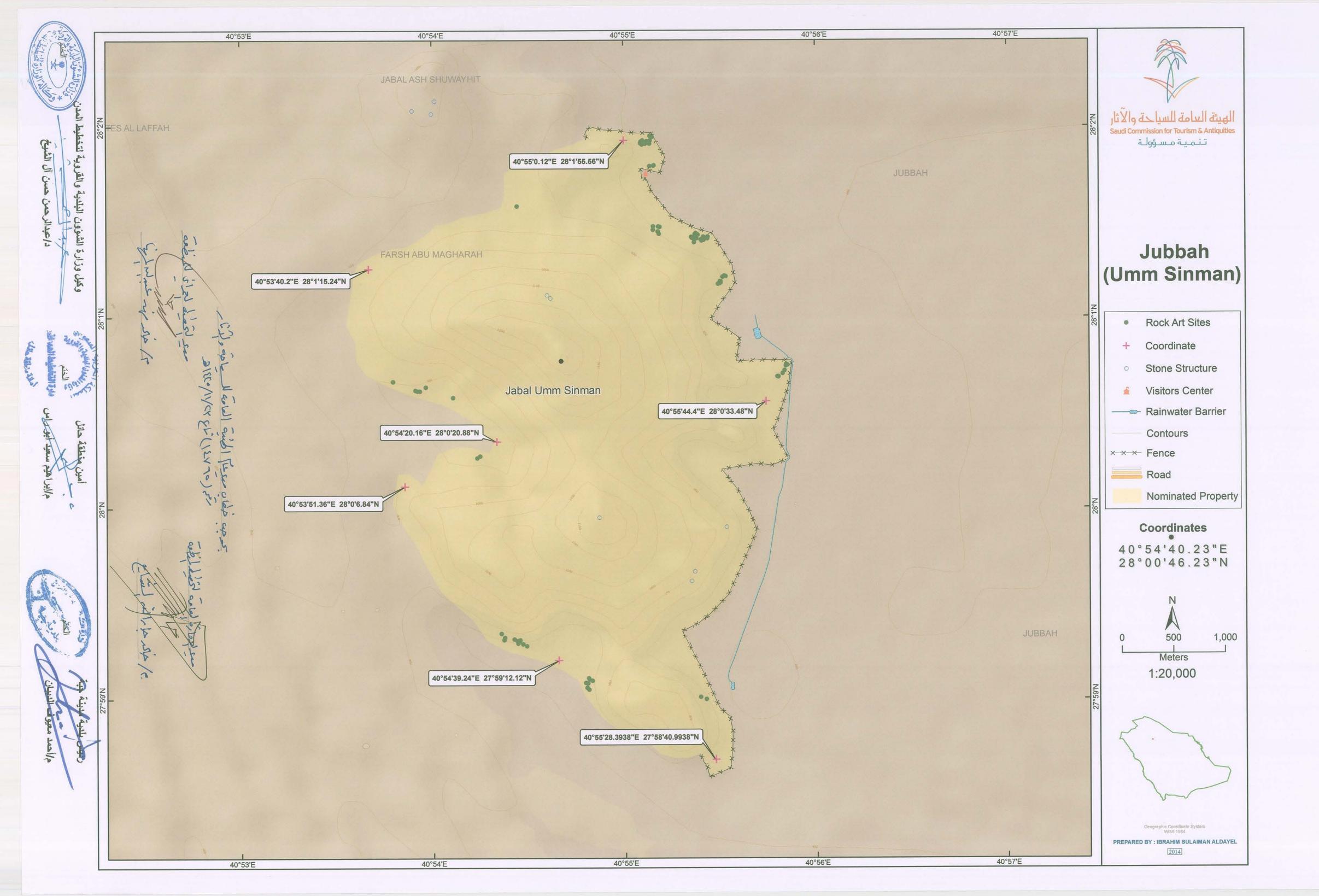
Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia

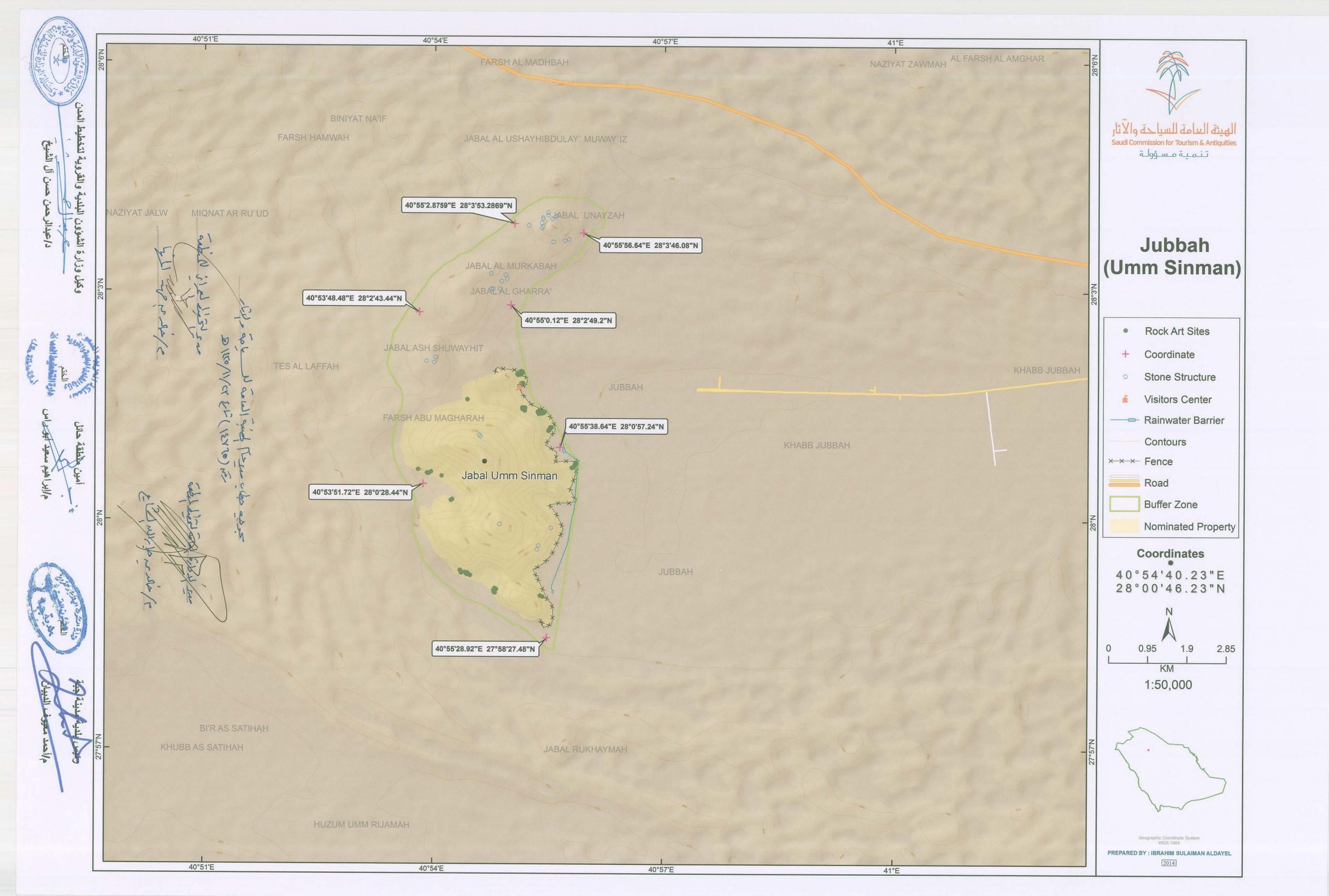
Supplementary File 1

Maps indicate the zones of special legal protection

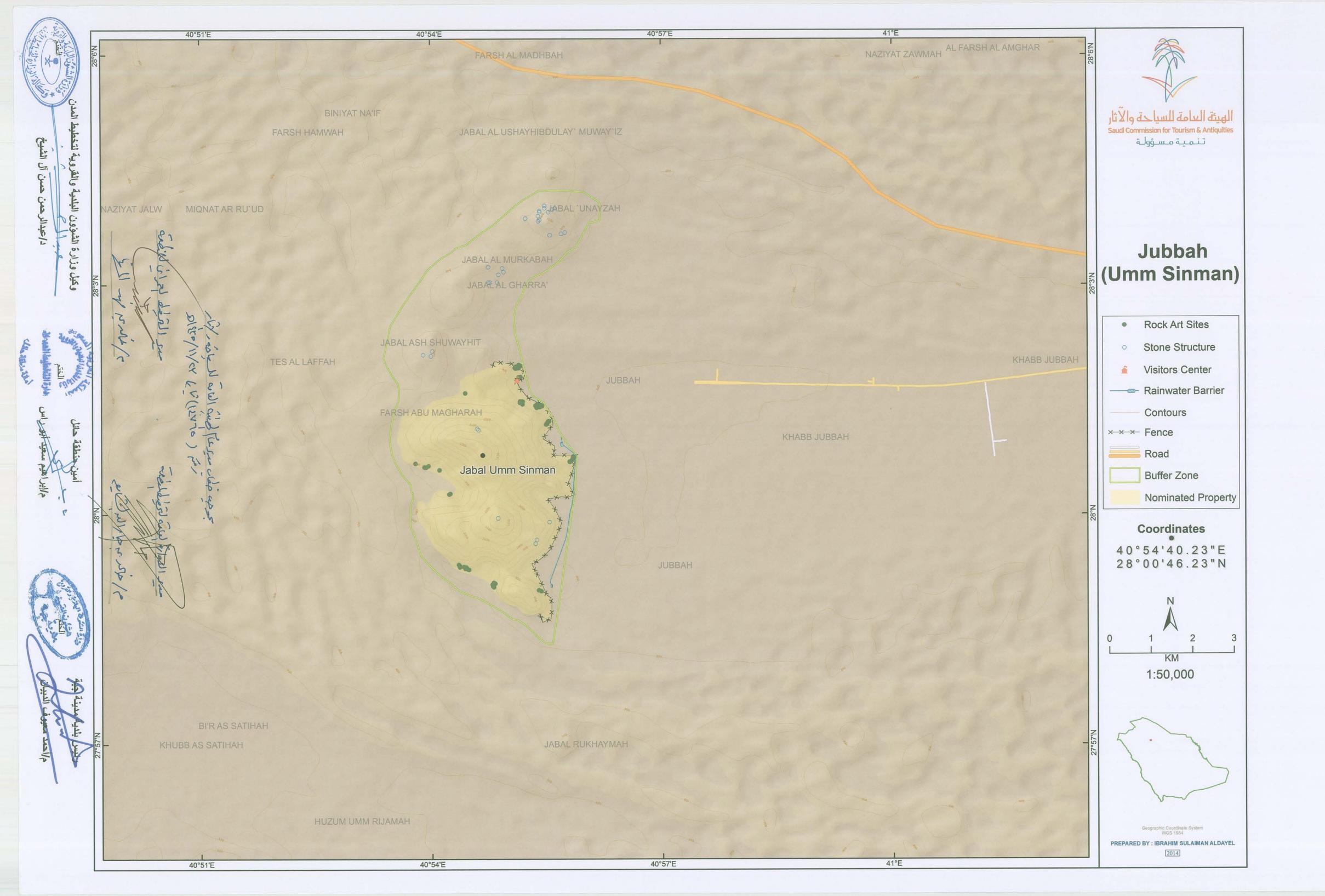
- 1. Satellite map of Jabal Umm Sinman (Jubbah).
- 2. Topographical map of Jabal Umm Sinman (Jubbah).
- 3. Map showing coordinates of buffer zone of Jabal Umm Sinman (Jubbah).
- 4. Map showing nominated property of Jabal Umm Sinman (Jubbah).
- 5. Map showing rock art locations in nominated property of Jabal Umm Sinman (Jubbah).
- 6. Satellite map of Jabal al-Manjor and Jabal Raat (Shuwaymis).
- 7. Topographical map of Jabal al-Manjor and Jabal Raat (Shuwaymis).
- 8. Coordinates of the buffer zone of Jabal al-Manjor and Jabal Raat (Shuwaymis).
- 9. Coordinates of the nominated property of Jabal al-Manjor and Jabal Raat (Shuwaymis).
- 10. Map showing the rock art locations of Jabal al-Manjor and Jabal Raat (Shuwaymis).

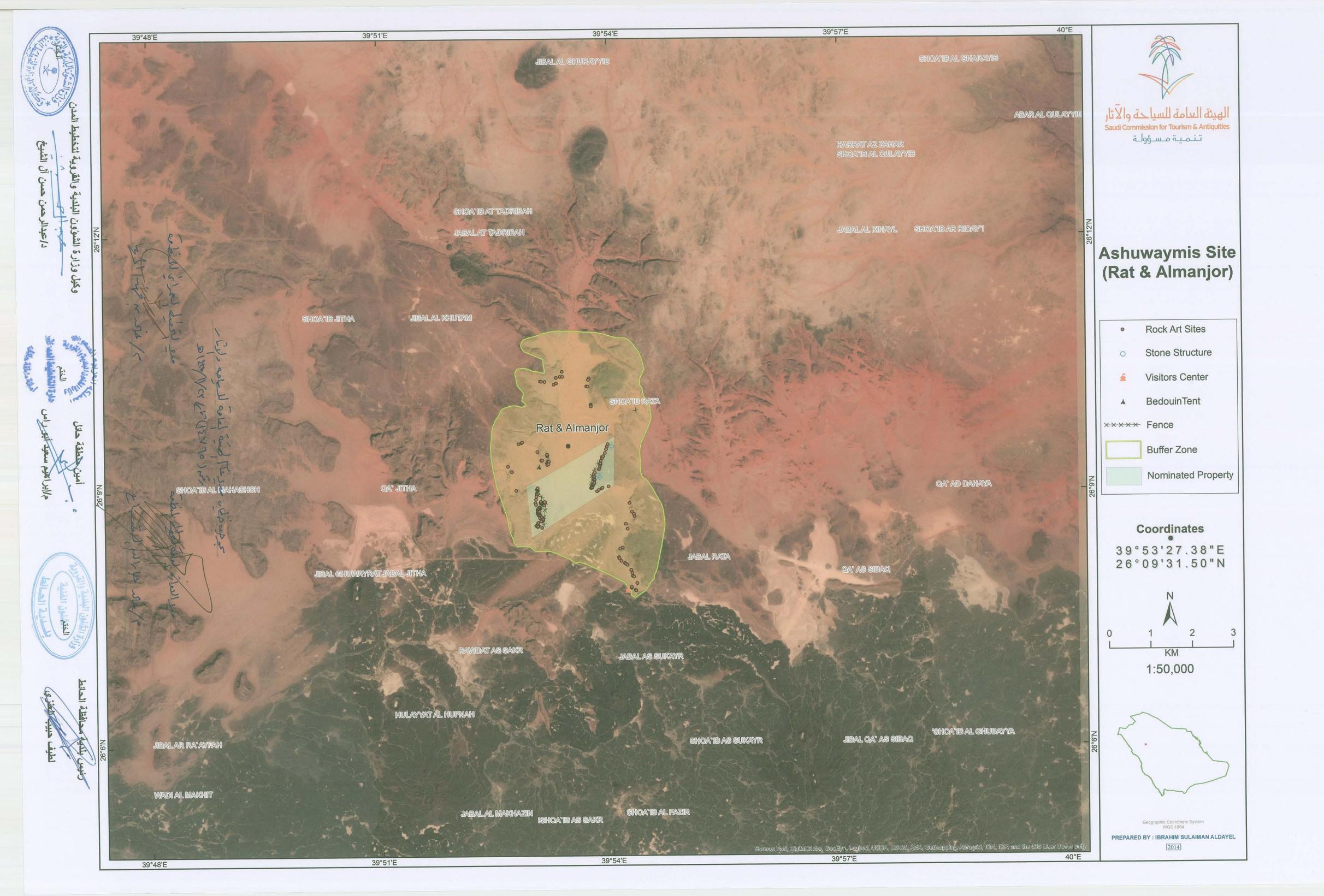


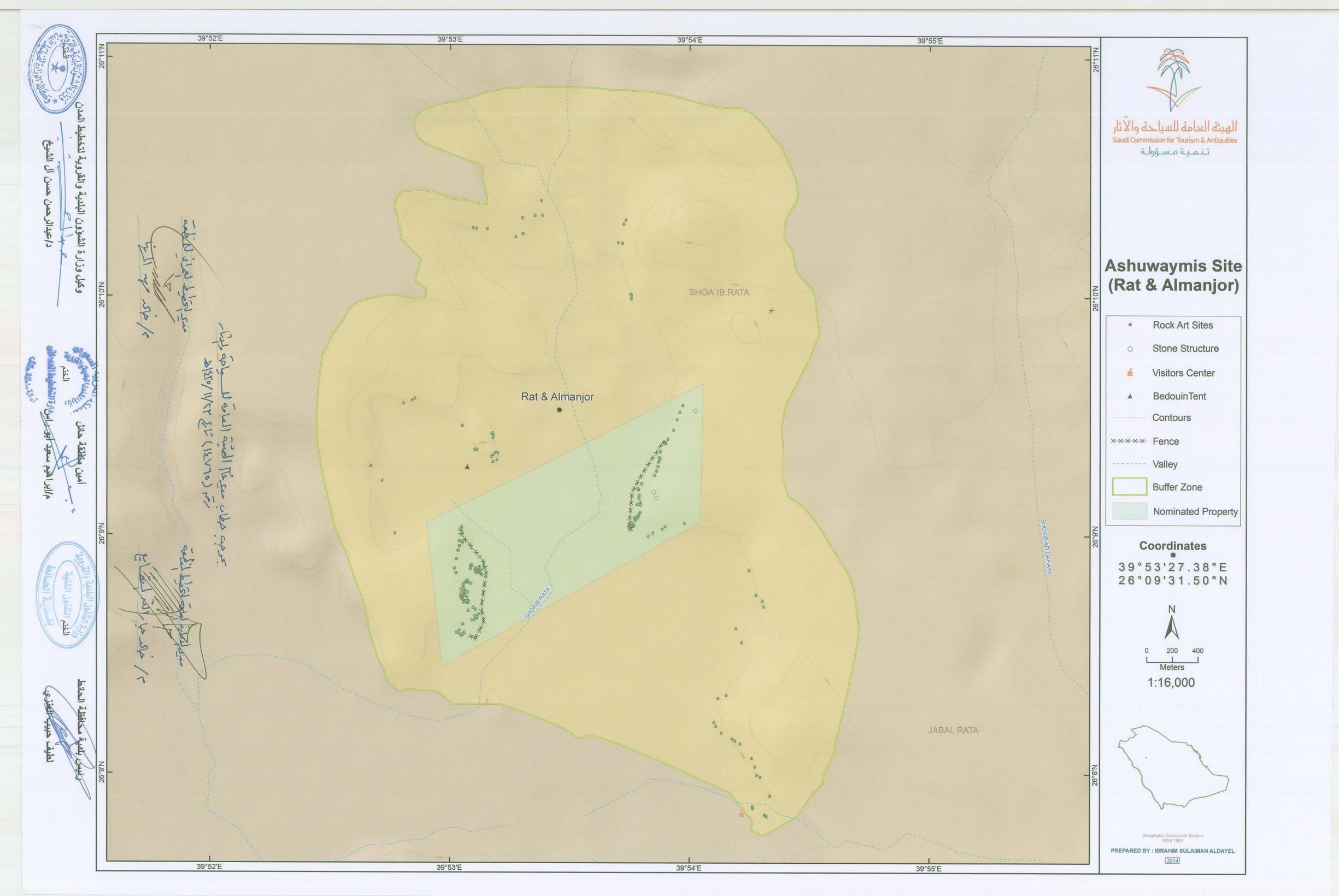


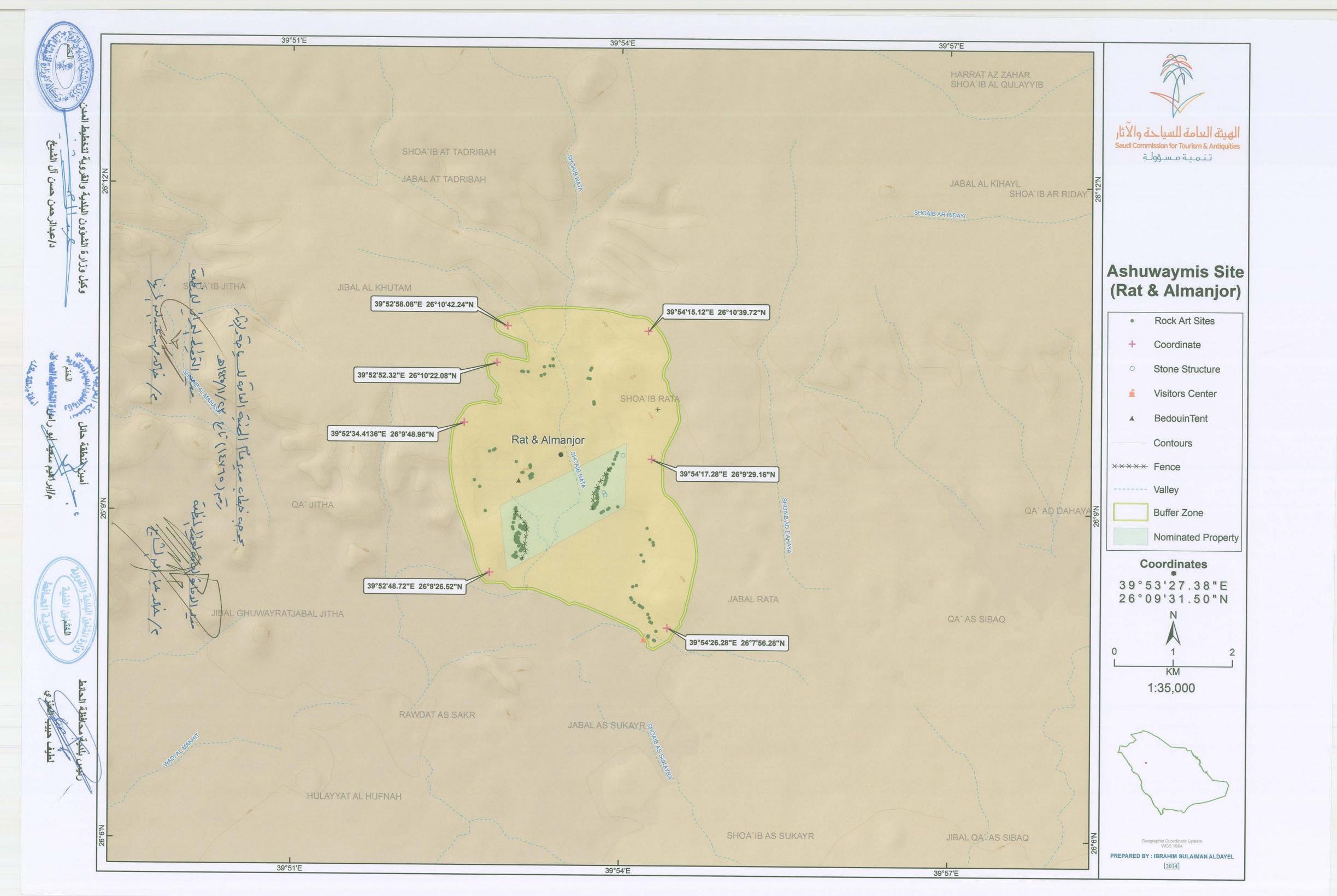


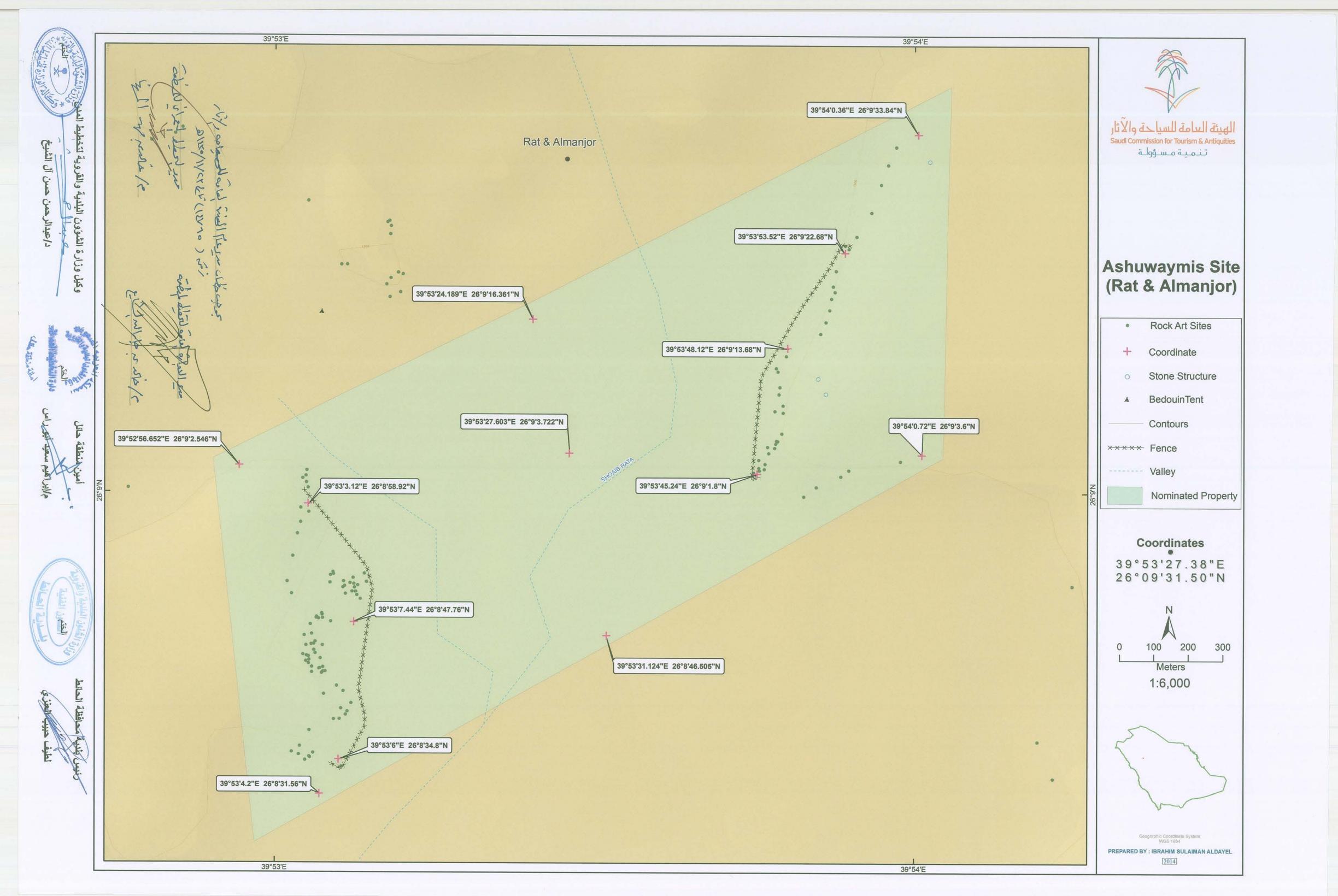


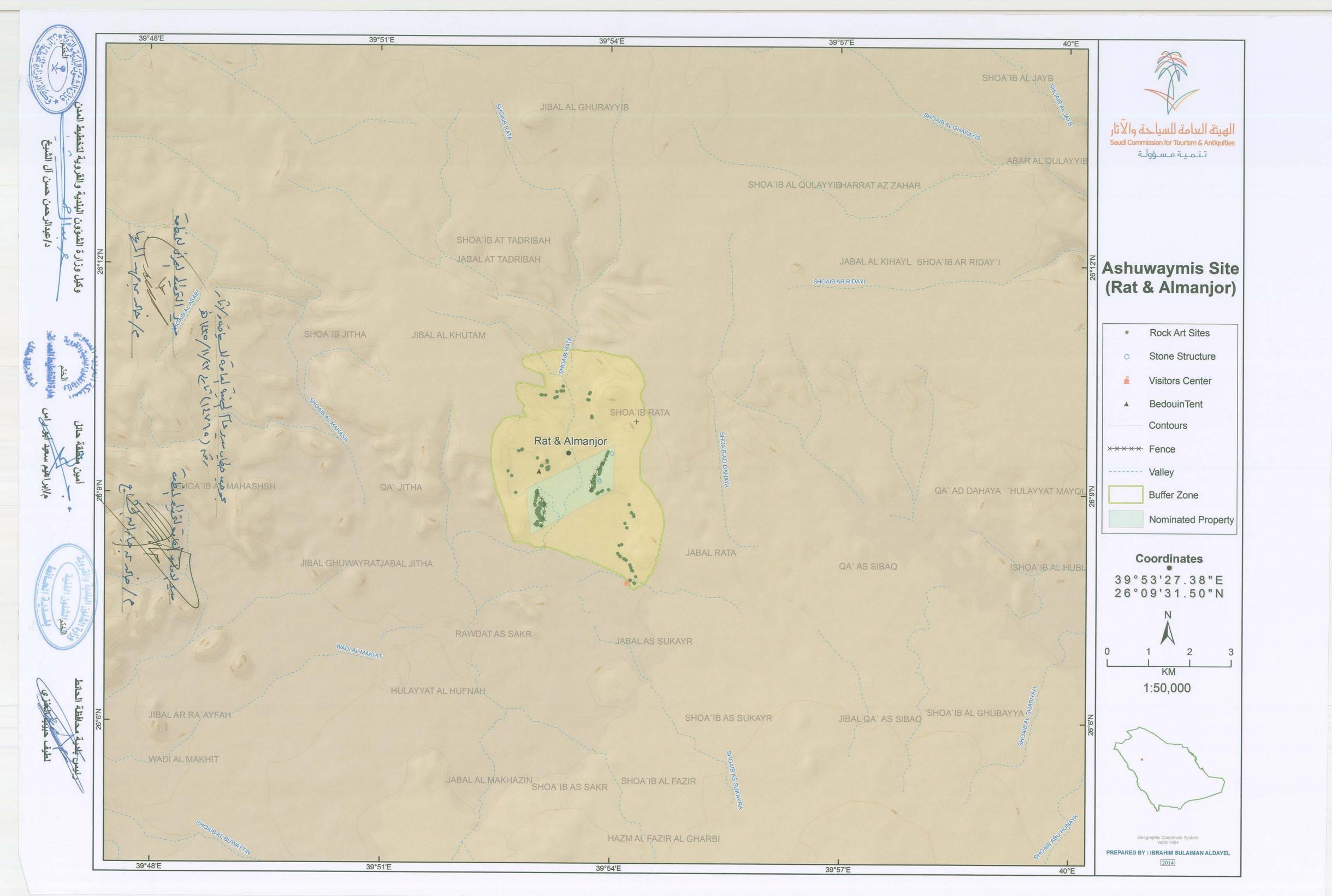














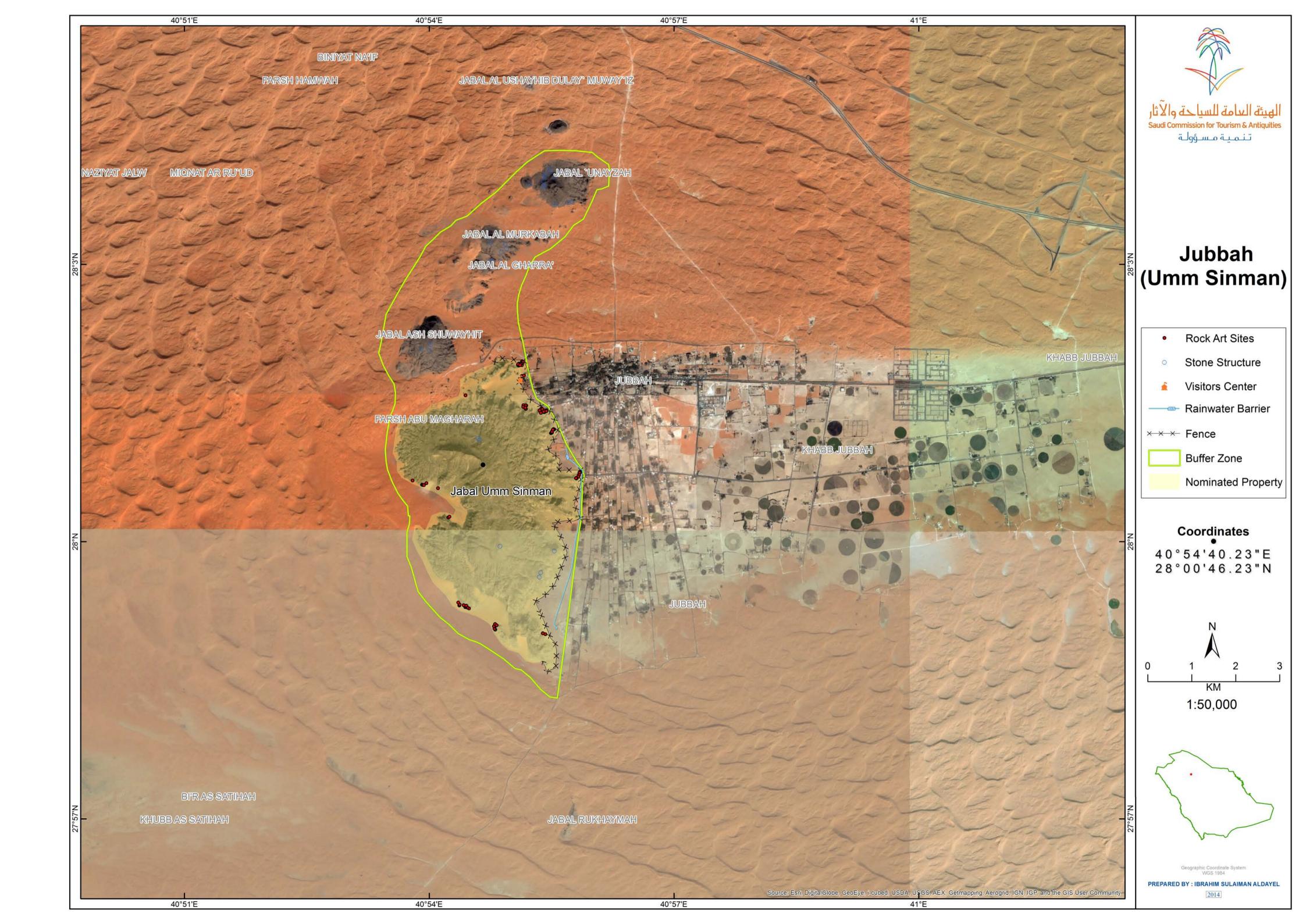
Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia

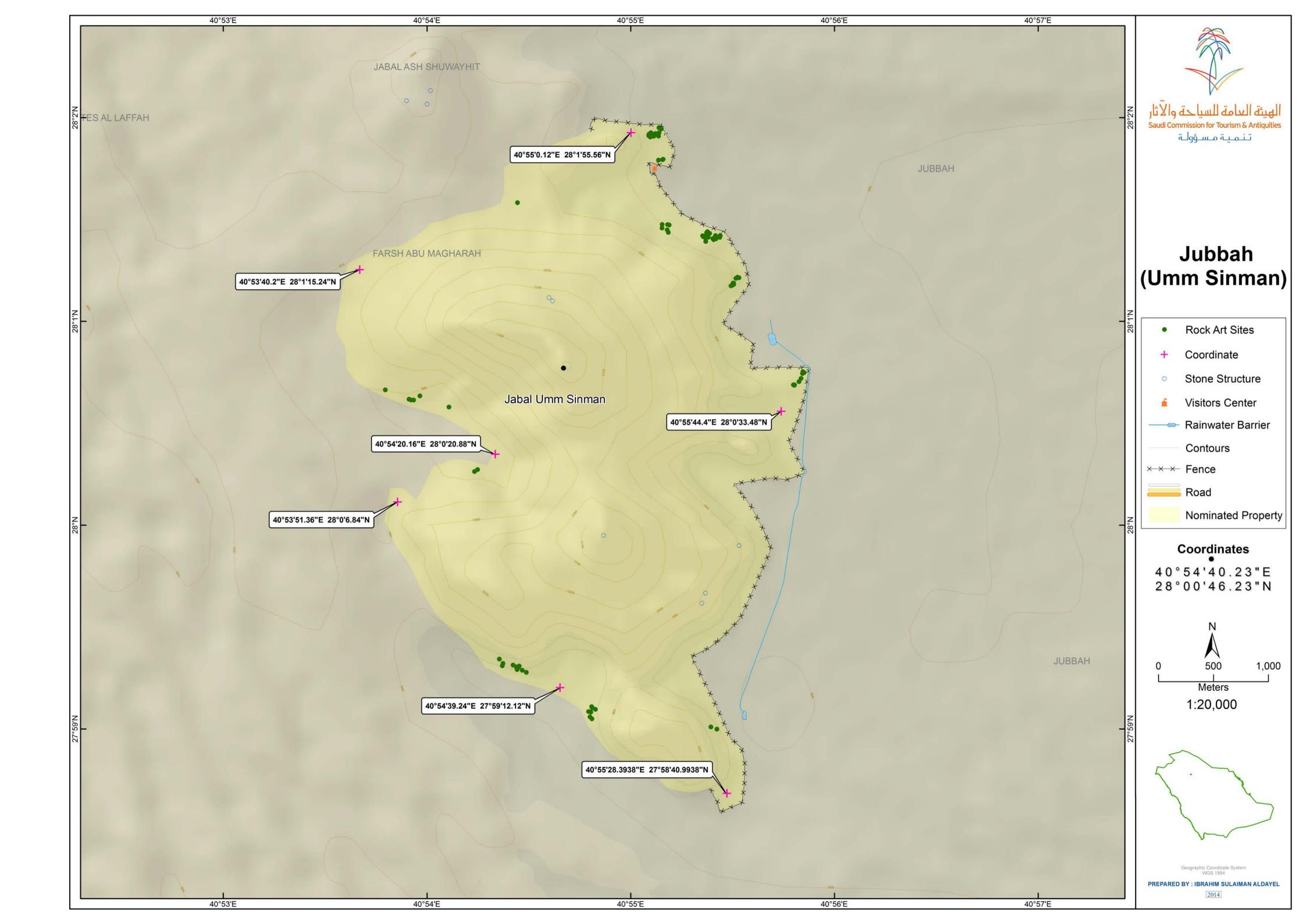
Supplementary File 2

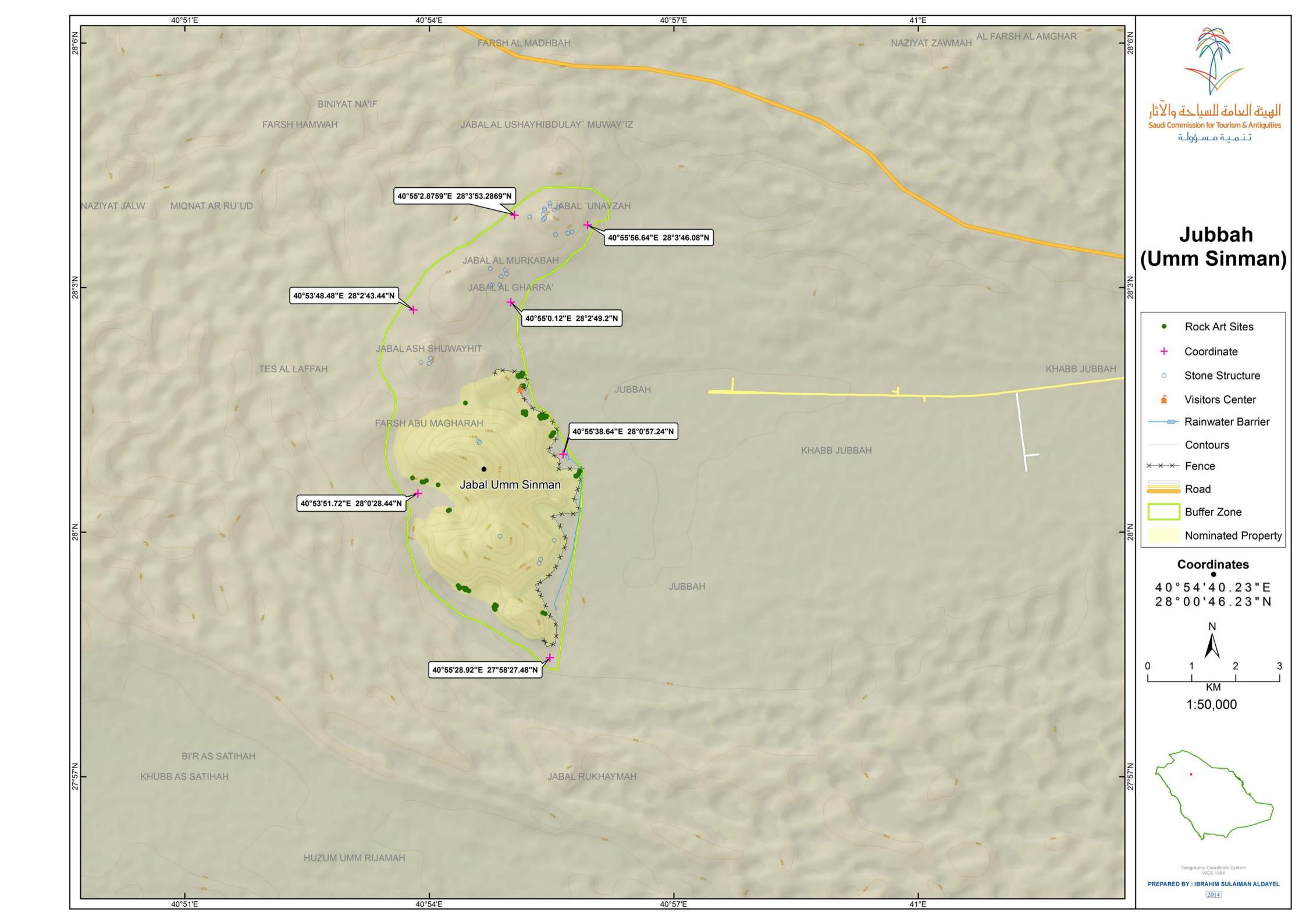
Maps

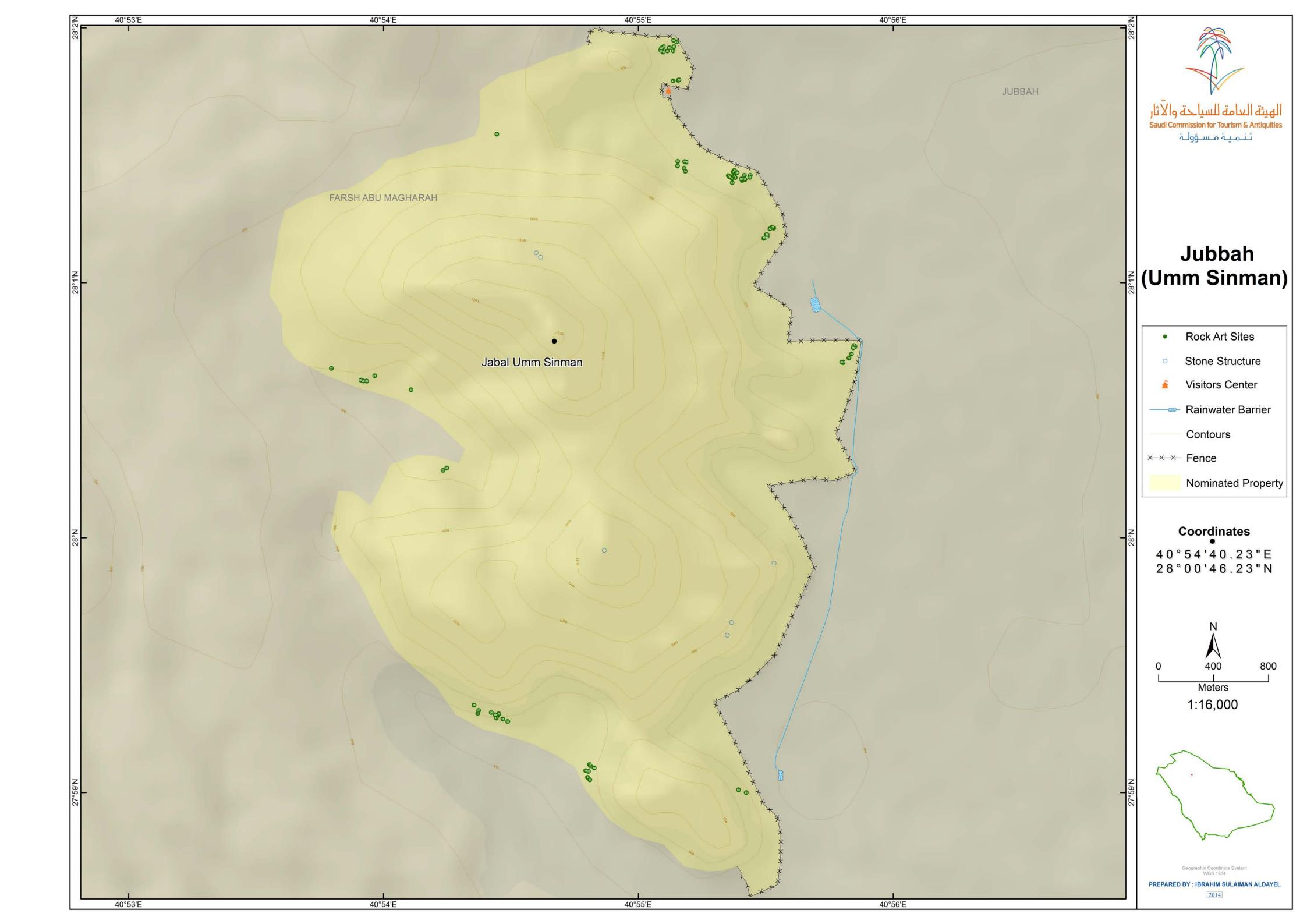
stating the two terms "nominated property" and "buffer zone" and containing additional requested features

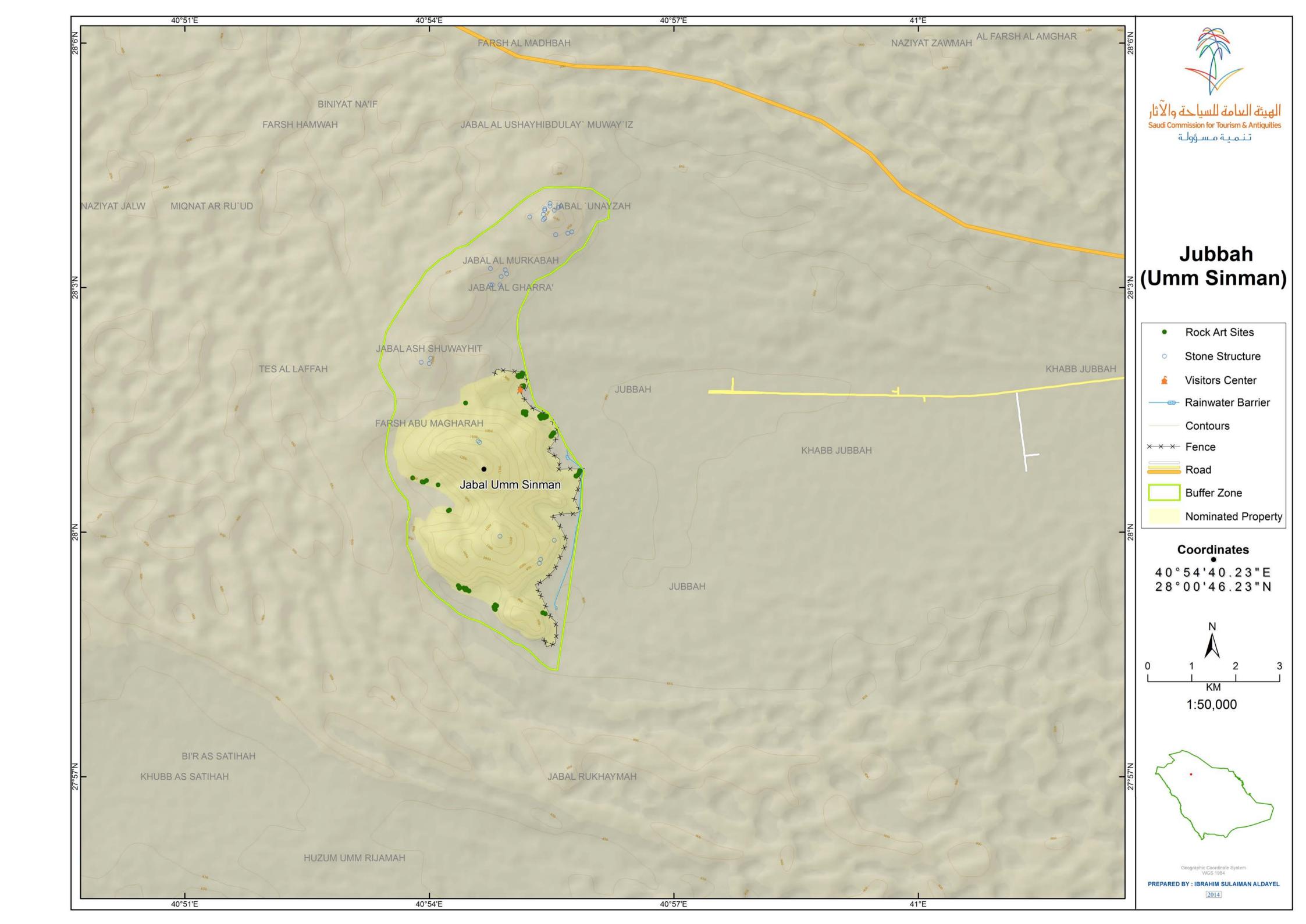
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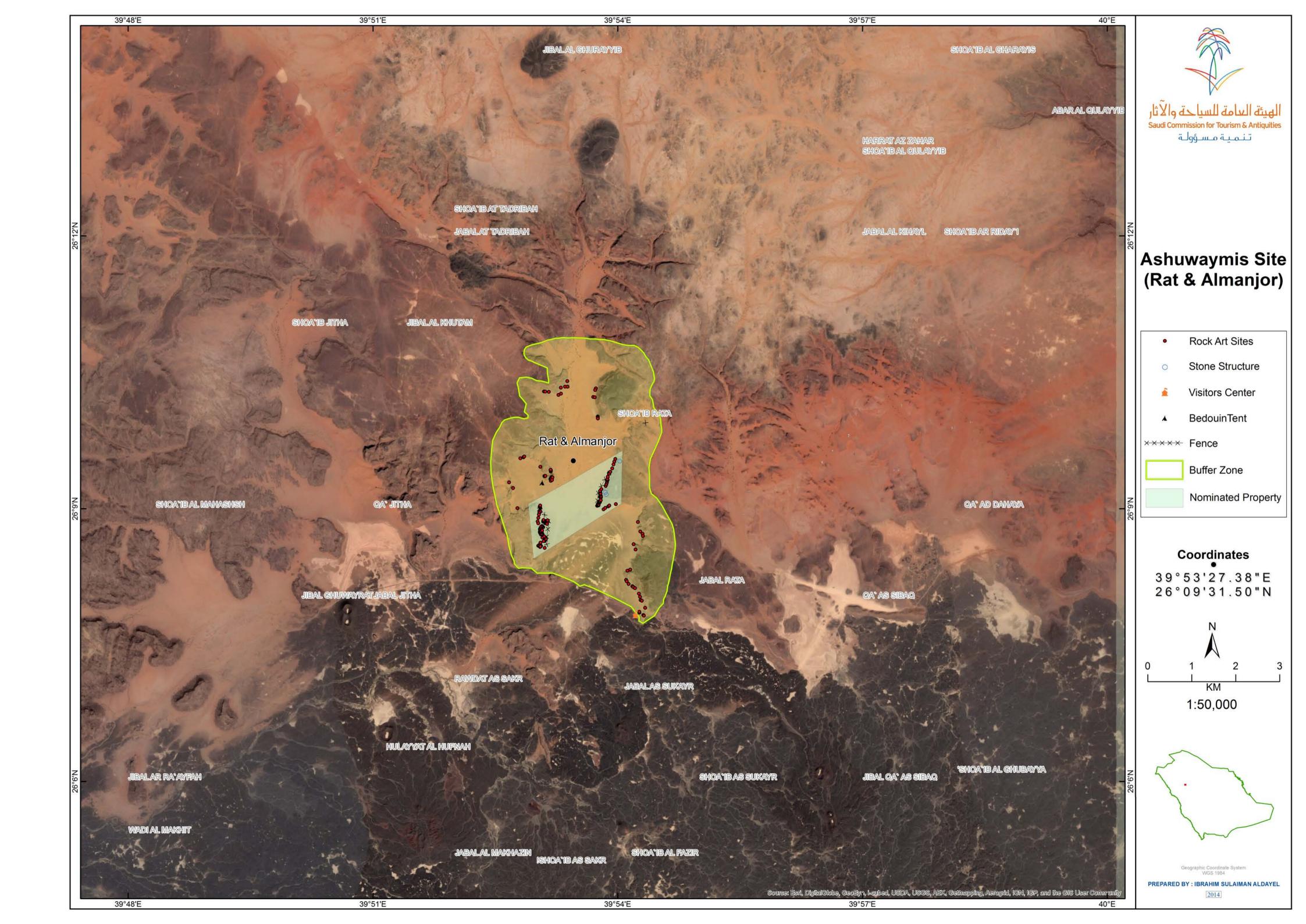


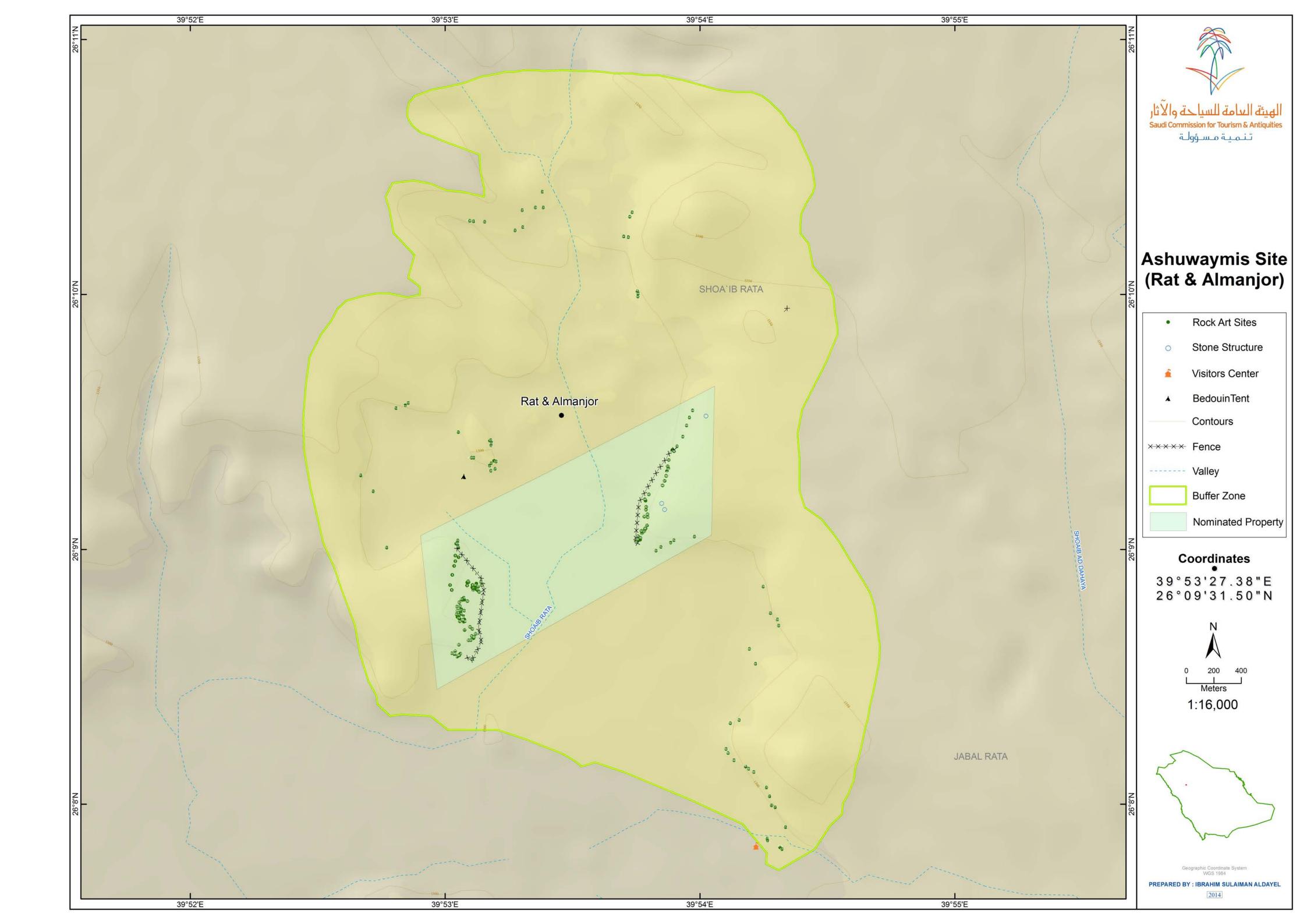


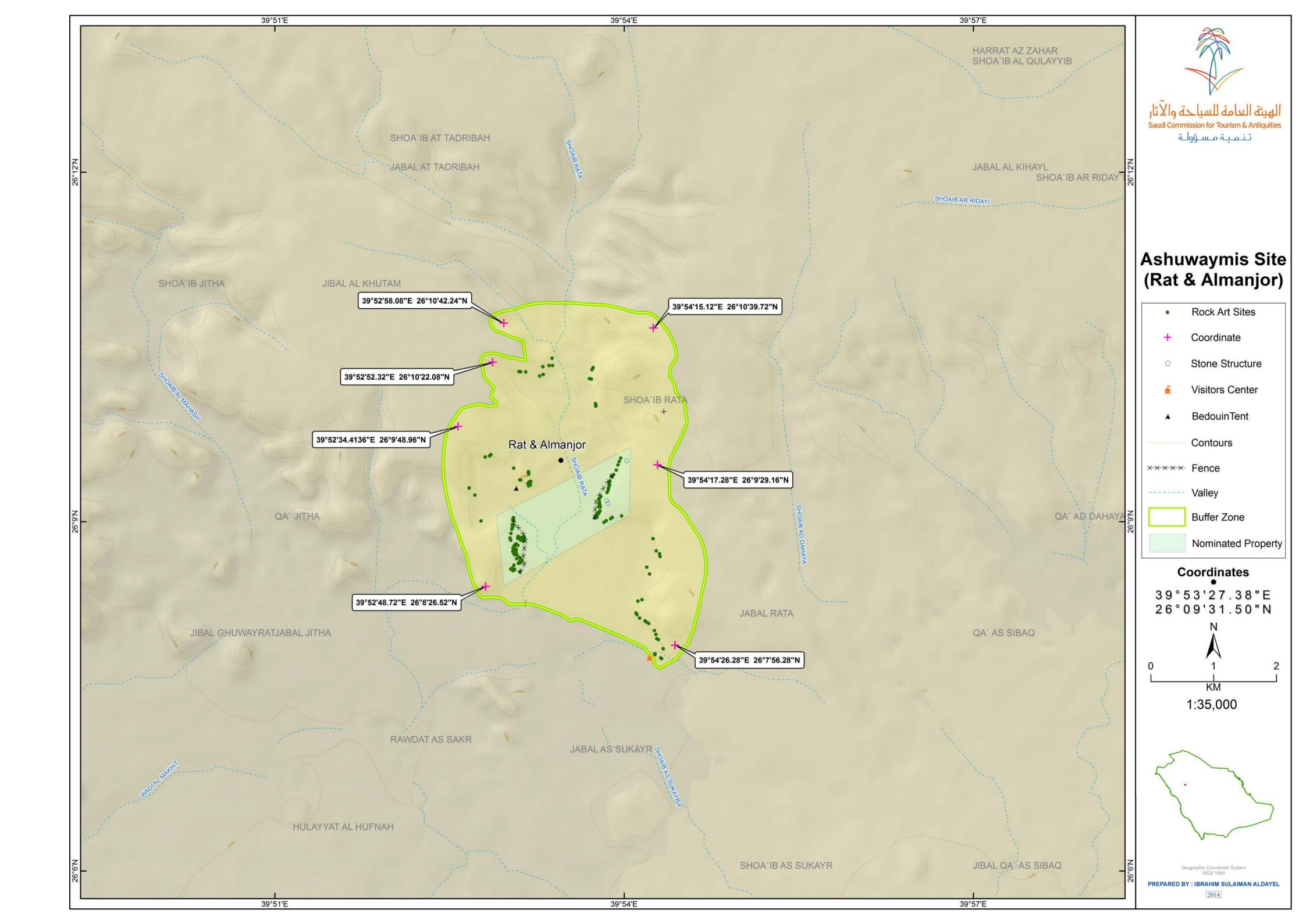


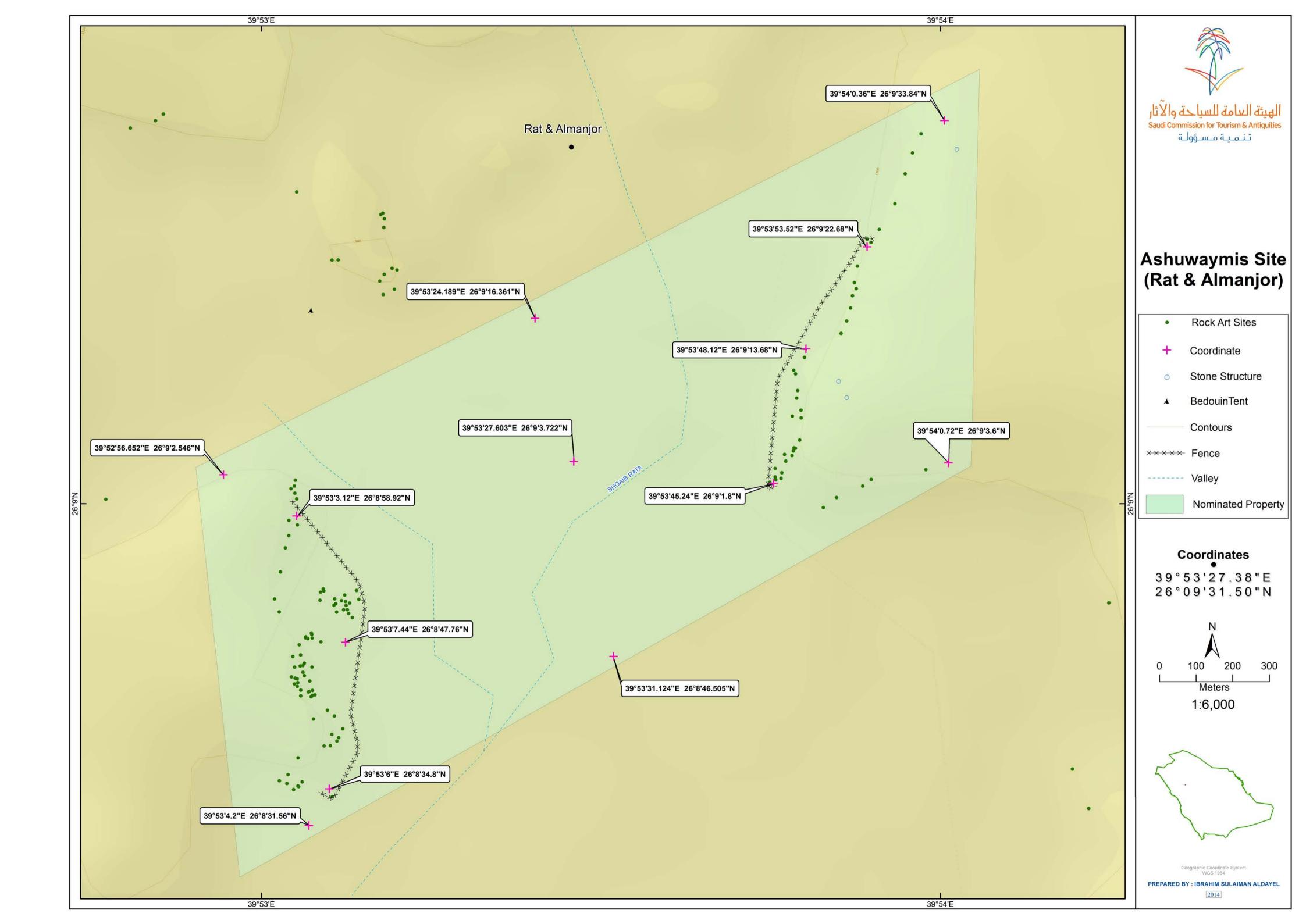


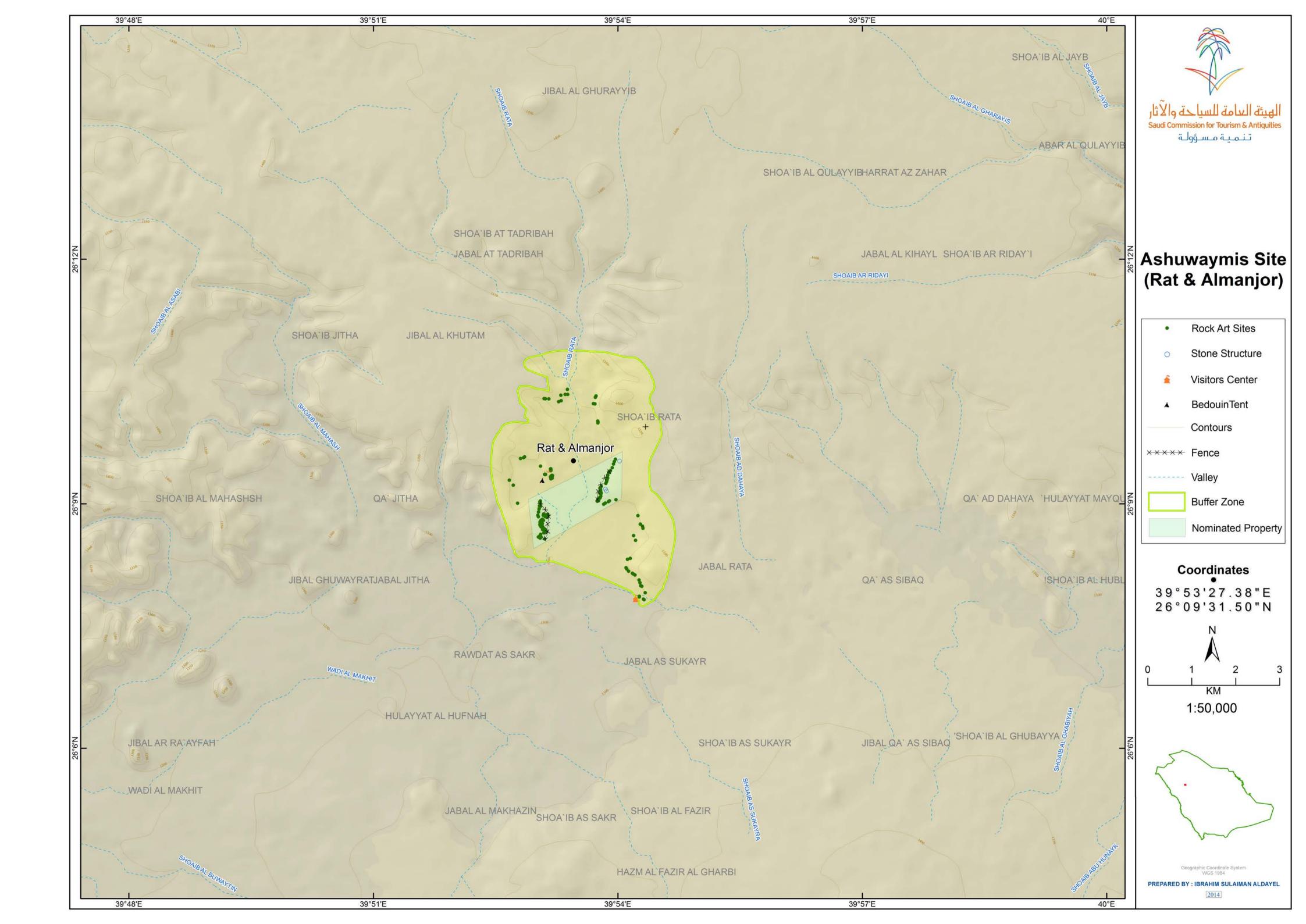








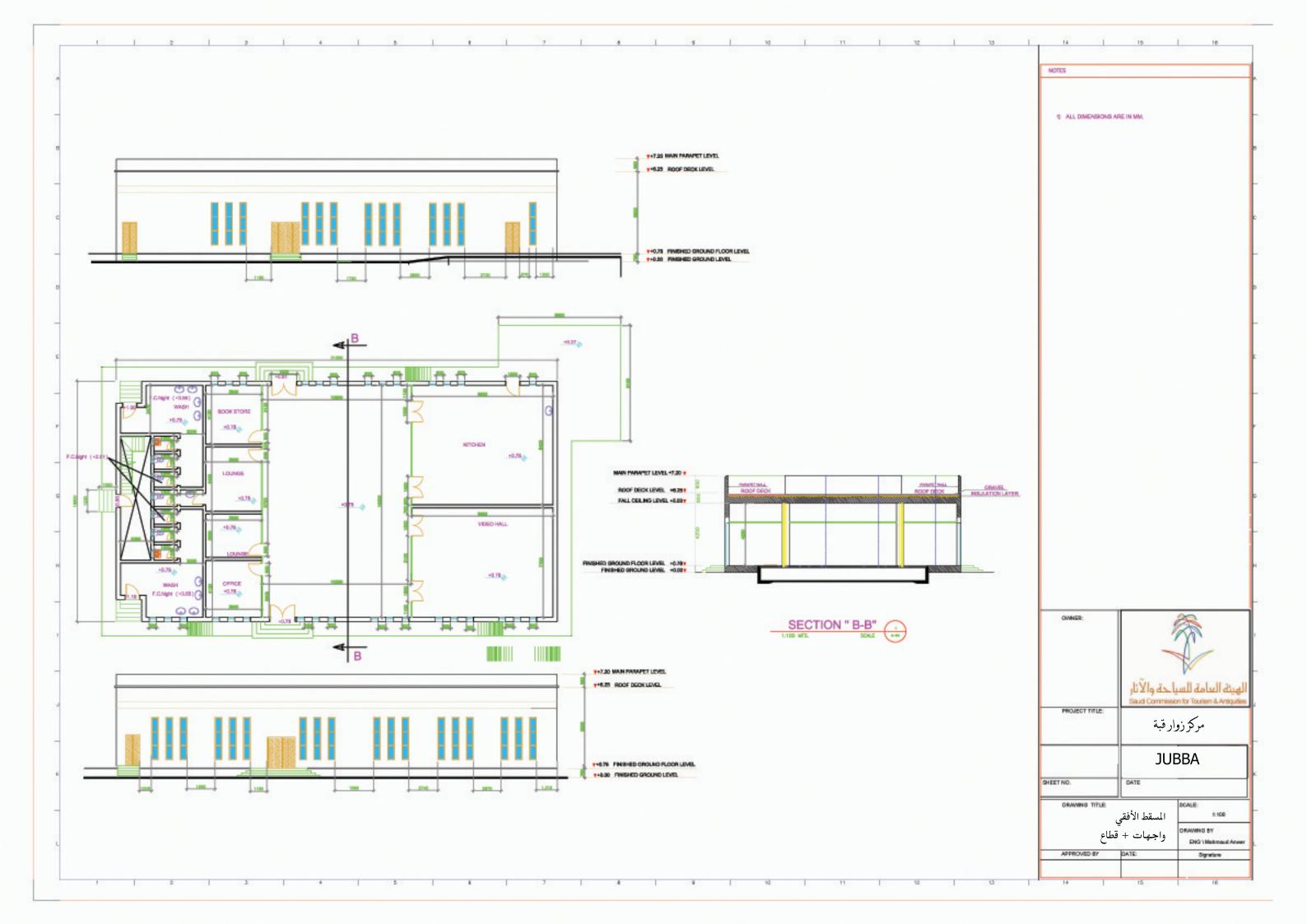


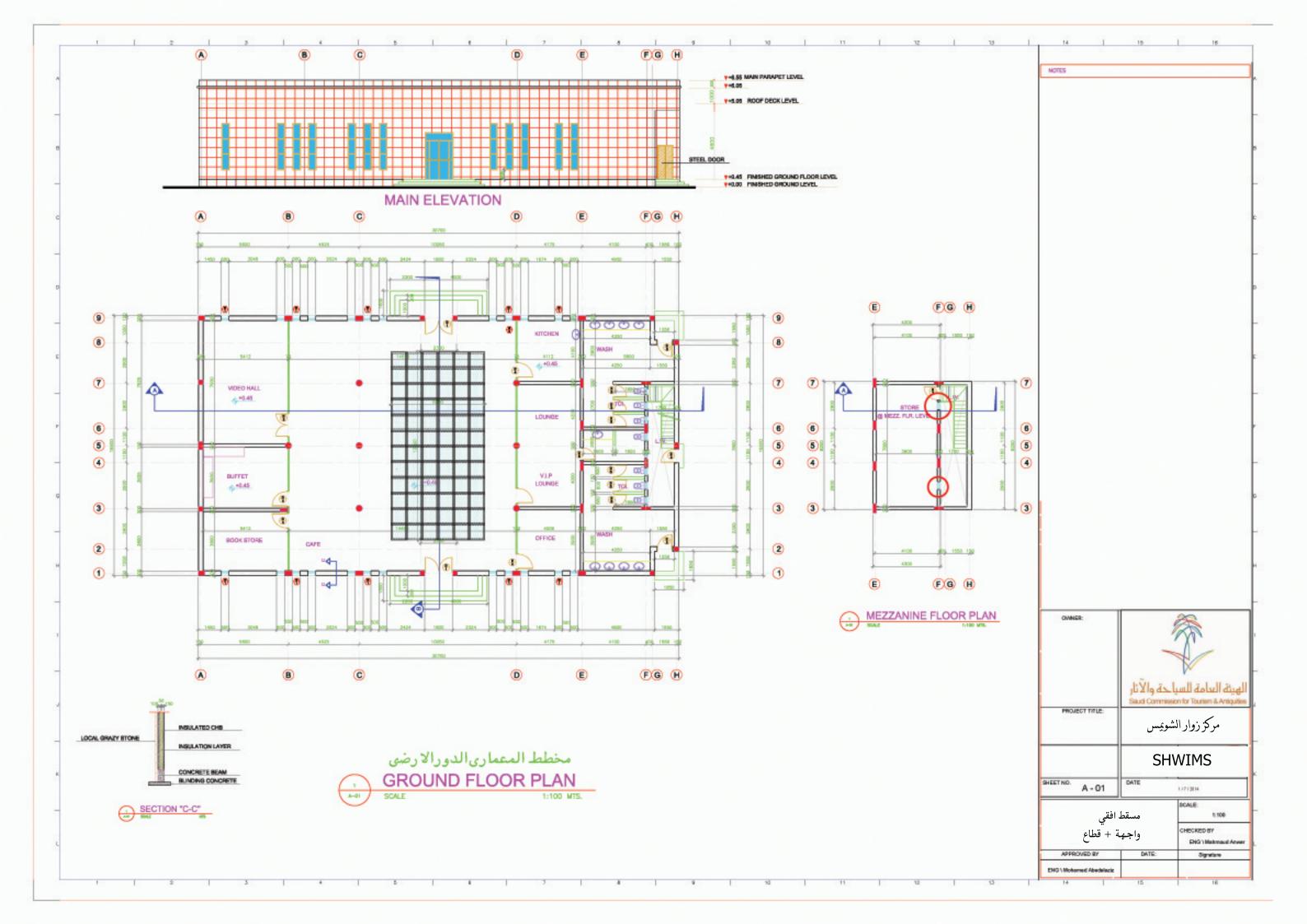




Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia Supplementary File 3

- 1. Architectural drawings of the interpretation centre at Jubbah.
- 2. Architectural drawings of the interpretation centre at Shuwaymis.
- 3. A preliminary sketch of a proposed new museum and a hotel of Bedouin- tents style.









Regina Durighello Director World Heritage Programme

8 February 2015

Dear Sir,

In reference to your letter dated 23 December 2014, ref. GB/MA 1472.

I will address the needed information in sequential order as presented in your letter;

	Addressed points as stated in your letter	Actions to be taken	Start date	Date of completion	Comments				
1	Boundaries of the nominated propert	Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone							
	ICOMOS is concerned that in the western part of the nominated property, where Rock Art clusters 8-14 are situated, there is no fence and apparently cluster 8 has been badly vandalized with graffiti. Here the property is clearly inadequately protected and it is advisable that the State Party improve protection on this area which is used as a pienic area.	The protection fence will be extended to protect the Rock Art clusters 8-14, furthermore it will extend to protect Rock Art clusters 15-24.	1 April 2015	30 April 2015	A map showing the extension of protection fence can be provided 30/4/2015.				
1,2	Furthermore, in light of the fact that the views from the west and especially the south towards Jabal Umm Sinman are considered key views in the Management Plan and also contribute highly to the visual appeal of the property, it would be helpful if the State Party could extend the buffer zone of the Jabal Umm Sinman component towards the west and the south in order to conserve the long-term visual integrity of the property that encompasses clusters of petroglyphs on all sides. Developments	The buffer zone in this particular area will be extended to an extra 50 to 100 meters; the variation in distance is dependent on the general topography.	1 April 2015	30 April 2015	An agreement with the Municipality is reached; demarcation poles will mark the newly designated buffer zone. A map showing the extended buffer zone can be provided 30/4/2015.				
21	ICOMOC notable Con D . 1								
	ICOMOS noted the State Party's effort to contain rain water flow from the mountain slopes of Jabal Umm Sinman into the town through a diversionary dam or water barrier of several kilometres length that is constructed inside the buffer zone's eastern border. ICOMOS further noted that this dam is clearly visible from the westernmost north-south road	The dam barrier will be enframed and masked with typical low desert vegetation (shrubs and scattered tamarisk trees).	Started	30 April 2015	An agreement with the Municipality is reached.				

	of Jubbah, which bounds the buffer zone on the east, and thus somehow spoils the visual integrity from there towards Jabal Umm Sinman. However, in view of the necessity of the structure and the substantial investment already made in its construction, it would be helpful if the State Party could enframe and mask this dam barrier with typical low desert vegetation (shrubs and scattered tamarisk trees).				
2.2	ICOMOS also noted the construction of a huge water tower near the existing fresh water reservoir which is visible from within the nominated property on the eastern side of Jabal Umm Sinman. ICOMOS would therefore appreciate if the State Party could consider ways of reducing the visual impact of these water tower as well.	The visual impact of the water tower will be reduced by repainting the tower with a matching color and texture to the surrounding environment.	Started	30 April 2015	An agreement with the water department is reached.
3 1	Visitor Management ICOMOS noted that the nominated property does not yet have visitor infrastructure and it would therefore be appreciated if the State Party could set up visitor infrastructure that will include marked routes, raised walkways and viewing platforms that will prevent visitors from making physical contact with the rock art panels.	Infrastructure that will include marked routes, raised walkways and viewing platforms will be set up.	1 June 2015	31 October 2015	Work on the infrastructure will commence as soon as the specifications are outlined by the tourism management strategy and the interpretation strategy
	Furthermore, ICOMOS is of the view that the current construction of a 40 km long road joining the village of Shuwaymis to the interpretation centre at the entrance of the buffer zone, will facilitate the transportation of visitors to the property and thus likely increase the number of visitation. In light of this, it would be appreciated if a tourism management strategy that will address the increase in visitation and also include an interpretation strategy as part of the management plan could be developed and once this work is initiated keep ICOMOS abreast of progress.	The tourism management strategy that will address the increase in visitation and also include an interpretation strategy is being developed.	Started	30 June 2015	(mentioned in the following point). A first framework for a tourism management strategy can be submitted by the end of March; a draft report can be submitted by the end of May, while the final version will be submitted by the end of June 2015.
	Name of the Property ICOMOS noted that the inclusion of	The State Party			

the name of the State Party in the current name of the nominated property does not appear appropriate and thus recommends that the State Party consider changing it to "Rock Art in the Hail Region".	accepts the suggested change to the name of the nominated property to be "Rock Art in the Hail Region".		
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Yours sincerely,

Vice President and General Supervisor of King Abdullah Cultural Heritage Care Project

Prof. Ali Ibrahim Al-Ghabban