

Nomination of  
**The GREAT**  
**SPAS** *of Europe*



for inclusion on the  
**World Heritage**  
**List**

Volume I: Executive Summary

# Executive Summary

## State Party

The proposed transnational serial property is composed of 11 component parts located in 7 European countries: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom.

## State, Province or Region

<b>Id-Nr.</b>	<b>Component part</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Province or Region</b>
1.	<i>Baden bei Wien</i>	Austria	Lower Austria
2.	<i>Spa</i>	Belgium	Liège province
3.	<i>Františkovy Lázně</i>	Czech Republic	Karlovy Vary Region
4.	<i>Karlovy Vary</i>	Czech Republic	Karlovy Vary Region
5.	<i>Mariánské Lázně</i>	Czech Republic	Karlovy Vary Region
6.	<i>Vichy</i>	France	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, Allier Department
7.	<i>Bad Ems</i>	Germany	Rhineland-Palatinate
8.	<i>Baden-Baden</i>	Germany	Baden-Württemberg
9.	<i>Bad Kissingen</i>	Germany	Bavaria, Unterfranken Region
10.	<i>Montecatini Terme</i>	Italy	Tuscany, Pistoia Province
11.	<i>City of Bath</i>	United Kingdom	Bath and North East Somerset

## Name of Property

***The Great Spas of Europe***

(in English)

***Les grandes villes d'eaux d'Europe***

(in French)

## Geographical coordinates to the nearest Second

<b>Id-Nr.</b>	<b>Component part</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Province or region</b>	<b>Component part size (ha)</b>	<b>Buffer zone (ha)</b>	<b>Coordinates to the nearest second</b>
1	<i>Baden bei Wien</i>	Austria	Lower Austria	343	555	N 48°00'36" E 16°14'01"
2	<i>Spa</i>	Belgium	Liège Province	772	1,536	N 50°29'32" E 05°52'01"
3	<i>Františkovy Lázně</i>	Czech Republic	Karlovy Vary Region	367	872	N 50°07'02" E 12°21'02"
4	<i>Karlovy Vary</i>	Czech Republic	Karlovy Vary Region	1,123	1,029	N 50°13'23" E 12°53'01"
5	<i>Mariánské Lázně</i>	Czech Republic	Karlovy Vary Region	835	3,677	N 49°58'38" E 12°42'24"
6	<i>Vichy</i>	France	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, Allier Department	60	261	N 46°07'25" E 03°25'13"
7	<i>Bad Ems</i>	Germany	Rhineland-Palatinate	80	155	N 50 19'50" E 07 43'43"
8	<i>Baden-Baden</i>	Germany	Baden-Württemberg	230	2,377	N 48°45'27" E 08°14'33"
9	<i>Bad Kissingen</i>	Germany	Bavaria, Unterfranken Region	212	524	N 50°11'52" E 10°04'30"
10	<i>Montecatini Terme</i>	Italy	Tuscany, Pistoia Province	114	341	N 43°53'19" E 10°46'46"
11	<i>City of Bath</i>	United Kingdom	Bath and North East Somerset	2,870	0	N 51°22'52" E -02°21'32"

## Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property:

*The Great Spas of Europe* is a serial transnational property comprising eleven component towns and cities. The boundaries of each component part have been carefully drawn to include the tangible attributes, and to reflect the intangible attributes, which ensure that each individual spa town makes a substantial contribution to the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the series as a whole. Spa towns share many attributes in common, but the ways in which these attributes are expressed in each of the eleven components varies according to a wide range of factors, for example the particular relationship of the urban form to topography and landscape. There is therefore a significant variation in the size of geographical area that is included within the boundaries of each component part. The rationale for the boundary of each component is evident from the textual boundary descriptions provided in this section and in the maps that follow.

## 1. *Baden bei Wien*

## AUSTRIA

The nominated property contains the most important parts of the spa operation developed from the eighteenth century until the early twentieth century. It is broadly east-west oriented along the river, from the historic spa town in the east to the entrance of the Helenental Valley in the west. In the east, the boundary contains the historic spa-town area with its cluster of springs and baths, the kurparks and spa-related landscape gardens, and spa facilities. The lobe in the north extends to cover the distinctly gradual transition zone between the kurpark and woodland. A significant belt of villas is included which surrounds the town and extends to the west where key historic therapeutic and recreational spa landscapes occupy the picturesque Helenental Valley with its historic trails, landscape parks and 'romantic ruins'.

The buffer zone includes a major part of the urban zone in the east and south that was developed after 1914, where building development control is especially important in order to protect the values of the nominated property. In the north and west, the visual integrity of the nominated property is protected by the inclusion of a substantial setting of green forest areas.

## 2. *Spa*

## BELGIUM

The nominated property contains the major attributes of the spa operation developed since the eighteenth century. The location of the various elements led to an original form comprising two principal parts with different characteristics. Firstly, in the north, the historical centre of the spa town, located in the lowest part of the valley of the River Wayai, together with its extensions outside the residential areas, including hotels and holiday houses built at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century; Secondly, in the south, the famous wooded slopes that contain a number of medicinal springs and a network of historic routes that connected them. The two parts, each also containing extensive therapeutic and recreational spa landscapes, are linked by several key historic promenades.

The buffer zone comprises three types of spaces. In the south, the high plateau of the Fagne de Malchamps (High Fens) plays an important role as a natural filter and as a protector of the quality of the thermal waters. This buffer zone also protects the visual setting of the woodland springs on the slopes below, particularly when seen from the viewpoints around the top of the funicular railway above the town and from various historic therapeutic trails that ascend the cliff. The visual integrity of the already generous nominated property of the woodland springs area is also further protected by buffer zone to the northeast and southwest. In the north, the nominated property is defined by the ridgeline of the steep valley side. A buffer zone is considered unnecessary in the western half, whilst on the eastern half an area of adjacent agricultural land of similar elevation is delineated as buffer zone to protect setting.

## 3. *Františkovy Lázně*

## CZECH REPUBLIC

The nominated property is centred on the square plan of the historic spa town and contains the most important parts of the spa operation, reflecting its gradual development from the end of the eighteenth century until the 1930s. It includes the urban heritage reserve

of *Františkovy Lázně* that consists of the built-up area of the spa centre and the therapeutic and recreational spa landscape that extends in open green space and forest largely to the east and west. This contains all the main spa buildings with springs and other natural mineral resources, spas, colonnades and spring pavilions as well as the spa infrastructure of hotels, guest houses, villas and important social buildings. Besides the inner spa landscape formed by natural landscape parks in the spa centre, there is an outer spa landscape with parks and forest parks surrounding the spa centre. This includes the most precious spa trails called 'Heart trails', which serve, besides touristic purposes, especially as key terrain treatment during spa therapy.

The buffer zone, with existing controls based on the defined protection zone of natural healing resources, is further designated to protect the setting and the visual and spatial relations within the nominated property. Its boundary predominantly follows the cadastral borders of the town and includes other popular spa guest destinations within a wider radius from the spa centre.

#### 4. *Karlovy Vary*

The nominated property reflects the rich development of *Karlovy Vary* from the eighteenth century until the 1930s. The boundary of the property follows the natural features of the landscape and contains the relatively extensive urban area of the spa town that follows the broadly south-north sinuous course of the Teplá River as far as its confluence with the Ohře/Eger River (in the northwest, the boundary encircles another residential area of *Karlovy Vary* with many villas), together with a dense network of therapeutic and recreational spa landscape extending away from the town to the east and particularly the west, containing many elements serving spa guests and visitors. The nominated property includes all the main spa buildings and thermal springs with their colonnades and bathing temples, the spa infrastructure as well as town districts in which hotels and guest houses were located together with important social buildings.

The buffer zone includes the Ohře/Eger River in the north, and key areas of urban setting (where building development control is important) adjacent to the historic spa town. In the south and west, the buffer zone protects forest setting as far as the lower ground and river valleys, whilst in the east the protection of setting extends to the Ohře/Eger River.

#### 5. *Mariánské Lázně*

The nominated property reflects the gradual development of the 'new' spa town of *Mariánské Lázně* from the eighteenth century until the 1930s. It contains the urban heritage reserve area, namely the broadly north-south oriented historic spa town with all of its springs, spring pavilions, main spa buildings and colonnades, as well as the spa infrastructure of hotels, guesthouses and villas and important social buildings. An important part of the area is formed by an expansive surrounding therapeutic and recreational spa landscape that extends to the east, the north, the southeast and the west: the east side includes the Royal Golf Course, one of the oldest golf courses in Central Europe; the north the Max's Valley, the long spa promenade of Smetana's Alley, and Žižka's Hill; the southeast, predominantly a forest park with paths to Hamelika hill; the west, a forest park around Suchý vrch (Dry Hill) with the spa path of Prince Metternich. The natural landscaped park in the spa centre merges with this designed outer spa landscape,

interwoven with walking trails leading to the heights with lookouts, viewing gazebos and rest areas, restaurants and cafés.

The generous buffer zone principally follows the predominant cadastral borders of the town, protecting large areas of forest setting in the north and west, and the more modern urban setting of *Mariánské Lázně* in the south, where building development control is important. Multiple protection already existed in this Protected Landscape Area Slavkovský les, including protection zones of natural healing resources, the inner and outer spa area determined by the spa status of the town and its forests of special purpose.

## 6. *Vichy*

## FRANCE

The nominated property contains the clearly defined and well-preserved spa quarter of *Vichy*, representing its principal development of the nineteenth century, dominated by large hotels and liberally surrounded by and interspersed with parks. All the most important buildings of the spa operation and visitors' accommodation are concentrated in an arrangement whose unity and harmony with the bend of the river can be clearly seen in maps and aerial photographs. It is bounded naturally on the west and south by the River Allier, together with the Allier parks, and on the north and east by *Vichy* Town. To the south, the property includes the Parc des Célestins and is bounded by Avenue des Célestins. To the east, the boundary follows the old road, with a projection to include certain noteworthy buildings (former hotels) and the Church of Saint Louis. To the north, it includes the Grand Etablissement Thermal, and is bounded by roads.

The buffer zone extends over a substantial part of *Vichy* Town to include the key elements of its urban composition, such as the station which constituted the point of departure for the principal streets (“avenues thermales”) laid out under the Second Empire. To the west it includes the River Allier as important setting, with extensive sports facilities (race course and golf course) and the more recent Parc des Bourrins situated on the left bank. To the south it is extended as far as the Parc des Bourrins. To the east, the boundary follows the railway line, with a detour to include the historic entrance of the hospital. To the north, the limit is the River Sichon and part of the Jeanne d'Arc quarter.

## 7. *Bad Ems*

## GERMANY

The nominated property contains the historical spa town, broadly oriented east-west and located both north and south of the deeply cut River Lahn, and its therapeutic and recreational spa landscapes that extend north, south and west along steep valley sides. It represents its principal development from the end of the seventeenth century into the very beginning of the twentieth century. The town is centred on the thermal springs, predominantly in the north, and contains all key spa architecture, the spa park, churches, former hotels in the Römerstraße and the lower Lahnstraße, villas and the station quarter in the south. The direct crossings into the spa landscape were also included, since they are closely linked to the historical spa district and are still well-preserved. These include the Kurberg with the Bismarckturm, the Bäderlei with the Concordiaturm and the slope of the Malberg with Henriettenweg and Malbergbahn. Numerous historic steep therapeutic paths, with their dramatic overlooks and towers, are included.

The buffer zone is heavily guided by topography, and extends up and down the River Lahn and up steep valley sides, containing the dominant relatively narrow river valley setting with its wooded and craggy cliffs. This protects the visual integrity of the component part and its visual connection to and from the Wintersberg with the Limesturm, part of the UNESCO World Heritage Obergermanisch-Rätischer Limes.

## 8. *Baden-Baden*

The nominated property is centred on the historic spa town, within its boundaries from around 1920, and its well-evidenced transition from the town into the surrounding therapeutic and recreational spa landscape. The conservation area of the Gesamtanlagen schutzsatzung covers the entire nominated property. It contains the characteristically different functional quarters representing the particular type of settlement of a nineteenth century spa town in its entirety. These quarters constitute the old town, where the thermal springs, the ruins of ancient Roman baths and the nineteenth century baths are situated, the eighteenth and nineteenth century spa district, parts of the planned nineteenth century urban expansions and the two main villa quarters to the west and to the east of the old town. The northern boundary of the property is formed by the New Castle district, an integral part of the old town, as well as parts of the northern suburbs of the mid-nineteenth century form. The spa district, laid out from the late eighteenth century to the first half of the nineteenth century, is located to the west of the old city walls and includes the main spa buildings of Kurhaus, pump room, boutiques and theatre. The park of the Lichtentaler Allee crosses the property in a north-westerly to south-easterly direction, starting with the spa gardens of the Michaelsberg and ending at the Cistercian monastery of Lichtental at the south-eastern boundary, one of the most popular destinations for spa guests. The backbone and an essential design element of the spa park is the artificially formed stream of the Oos whose east bank is lined by historical palace hotels. To the south of the old town the planned expansion of the Lichtentaler Vorstadt is situated with its striking Patte d'Oie ground plan and the historic sacred buildings of the Russian and Anglican parishes in *Baden-Baden*. The Lichtentaler Vorstadt forms the south-eastern border of the property. The property also includes the two extensive villa quarters, crossing into the open landscape, which developed in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The older villa quarter Beutig/Quettig forms the western boundary of the property and was developed during the first decades of the nineteenth century corresponding to the topography of the area. The villa quarter at Annaberg forms the north-eastern boundary of the property. It was planned and built in the first quarter of the twentieth century and includes the historic town cemetery to the east.

The buffer zone surrounds the nominated property equally in all directions. Besides the settlement areas directly adjacent to the property, it includes the adjoining forest slopes, which border the townscape up to the crest line of the slopes. The eastern boundary of the buffer zone includes the hill of the Battert and the peaks of the Merkur and Kleiner Staufenberg. The western boundary includes the hill of the Fremersberg and others. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century the steep, forested slopes have been systematically developed with paths, viewing points and refuges for spa activities. The surrounding hills form the setting for many prospects and perspectives within and from outside the city. The buffer zone boundaries also result from a view and perspective survey of the surrounding landscape.

This component of the property and its buffer zone are safeguarded by several levels of protection according to the national legal regulations and legal regulations of the federal state of Baden-Württemberg (historic monuments protection, water protection, etc.). The whole area of townscape and landscape is designated as thermal spring protection area. All landscape areas are protected by landscape protection, partly also by nature conservation areas. The western and eastern borders of the buffer zone refer to the landscape protection area and the thermal spring protection area. To the north and to the west the buffer zone also encompasses settlement areas. These are regulated by legally binding land use plans. The villa quarters are also designated by preservation statutes.

## 9. *Bad Kissingen*

The nominated property is linear in form and is oriented north-south along the relatively broad Saale River valley to contain the extension of the essential urban structures and therapeutic and recreational spa landscape of the spa town. It includes all elements constituting the model of the town structure of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In the southern, urban, centre of the property the medieval old town is reflected by an almost square plan which was transformed by the spa function from the late eighteenth- to the early twentieth century. The actual spa quarter extends to the south, and comprises all essential spa buildings, its fringes extending up to the train station. The furthest southern extremity contains important examples of spa infrastructure. In the west, the parks of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are located in the meadows of the Saale River, which merge into the area of the sports facilities in the north and south. On similar latitude to the old town, the property has two smaller lobes towards the east, comprising both the area of the cemetery and the mansion quarter Frühlingstraße/Von-der-Tann-Straße which is protected as an ensemble. The southwest part of the property, around the Altenberg and especially its long northern part together with the western lobe of the Cascade Valley ('Kaskadental'), comprise the central elements of the early therapeutic and recreational spa landscape. The northern spa quarter also includes facilities for salt production. On the basis of an analysis of urban heritage values, the borders of the property were drawn in such a way as to ensure a high degree of authenticity and integrity.

The buffer zone extends to the east and west of the nominated property, with a narrow section to the north and a valley extension to the south. It was drawn in such a way to protect the aesthetic-visual as well as the social-functional and historic-structural integrity of the nominated property. The western buffer zone boundary is higher and wider than in the eastern part where the terrain ascends less. The entire boundary is situated at a sufficient distance to keep potential visual impairments away from the property.

## 10. *Montecatini Terme*

ITALY

The nominated property has the form of a tilted rectangular block broadly oriented south to north, from where a T-shaped section extends to the northeast. The main block contains: the spa town built in a rural environment at the end of the eighteenth century; the southern district with its train station of 1853 and rich in hotel and residential buildings built in the 1870s; the principal spa park with all spa structures and buildings used for thermal related activities, the squares and the main monuments, and the greatest concentration of historical buildings constructed up to the 1930s. The T-shape comprises



a linear connection that follows the funicular railway and its territorial park built in 1897 (and also a key therapeutic and recreational spa path) which linked up the original village of Montecatini Alto, oriented NW and SSE on the mountain top. This not only represents a key recreational itinerary for spa guests and tourists but also a place where spa doctors lived in houses and villas that included medical treatment rooms. In more detail, the northern boundary is determined by the border of the thermal park, as a connective fabric where the various complexes built around the thermal springs and the equipment for drinking therapy and leisure are located. The jagged boundary enclosing the site in the east bounds an area related to the thermal activity where, in the 1920s, many utilities buildings were located by the Technical Department of the Spa (lithographic printing works, bottling plant, salts production, warehouses, the Medical Care Institute, the free drinking spa, and the free bath spa). In the south, the boundary is enclosed by the railway and the old railway station. In the west, the road axis via Baccelli-Bovio-Savi bounds that part of the residential area characterised by a remarkable number of valuable historical buildings, including villas built in the early twentieth century for professionals, almost all working in the thermal business, especially medical doctors.

The boundary of the buffer zone has been drawn to include existing robust protection areas with strong connections to the nominated property within its urban and landscape context. To the north and northeast, the boundary has been guided by the planning controls of the 1958 landscape protection legislation set on the “amphitheatre” hill system. This includes the surroundings of the Montecatini Alto village which acts as a panoramic wing for the thermal area of the lower spa town, and a guarantee of the protection of the main view perspectives. These areas are clearly identified in the city planning as “landscape unity”. To the northeast of this boundary is located the Panteraie park, already popular in the 1930s among the visitors of the spa town as a healthy walk, with landscape value and fascinating views over the surrounding panorama. To the west the boundary is the viales dei Martiri-Simoncini-Bustichini, which corresponds with a part of the perimeter of the landscape protection set in 1969 to protect the park and historical building system. This limit includes in the buffer zone that part of the residential area going back to the 1930s and 1940s which, even if, on the whole, less valuable than that part included in the bounds of the property, keeps important structural and visual relationships with it. To the southwest, the boundary of the buffer zone includes the hippodrome, built in 1914 south of the railway, in an area of sport activities, included for its functional relationships with the site. The southern and southeastern boundary is mapped out on the bounds of viale Leonardo Da Vinci-via Ugo Bassi-via Ugo Foscolo, of the railway and of via Sardegna. In this area is situated the new railway station (that connects to the old railway infrastructure) and some private housing dating back to the 1930s and 1940s which, as in the west side of the buffer zone, is made up with buildings of no special value but with visual, structural and functional relationship with the nominated property.

## 11. *City of Bath*

*City of Bath* is the largest component part in the series, its boundary coinciding with the existing *City of Bath* World Heritage Site that is defined and protected as such in policies in Bath and North-East Somerset’s Development Plan. It is also the area defined in the Avon Act 1982 which within the *City of Bath*, *inter alia*, controls development that protects the water that feeds the Hotsprings. The boundary is also the Parliamentary constituency, Civic and municipal boundary and mayoral constituency. In the centre of the nominated property is the cluster of hot springs and all of the principal spa buildings.

UNITED  
KINGDOM

The City flourished, particularly during the eighteenth century after visits by Royalty, and expanded into a new town that was built with a devotion to the spa, leisure, pleasure and fashion. Extensive architectural ensembles, squares and crescents are all located within the boundary, together with substantial elements that constitute the therapeutic and recreational spa landscape, a number of which extend towards the perimeters of the nominated property.

The introduction around Bath of a boundary of a second, similar but different, World Heritage Site would introduce unacceptable complications and confusion when executing the policies to protect the attributes that contribute to the OUVs of both World Heritage Sites and corresponding actions in their respective Management Plans. For these practical reasons, the boundary of the existing World Heritage Site is retained to serve as the nominated property in *The Great Spas of Europe*.

There is no buffer zone, rather an 'indicative setting'. Bath and Northeast Somerset Council has defined this 'indicative setting' in the area surrounding the City after a thorough historical and visual analysis of the character and features of this countryside. This is protected from harm in policies in Bath and North-East Somerset Council's Development Plan. The countryside surrounding the city is also in a long standing statutory Green Belt, which strictly controls development, and is also at the southern end of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The openness of the former and the character of the latter is protected from harm in policies in the Council's Development Plan.

# Maps

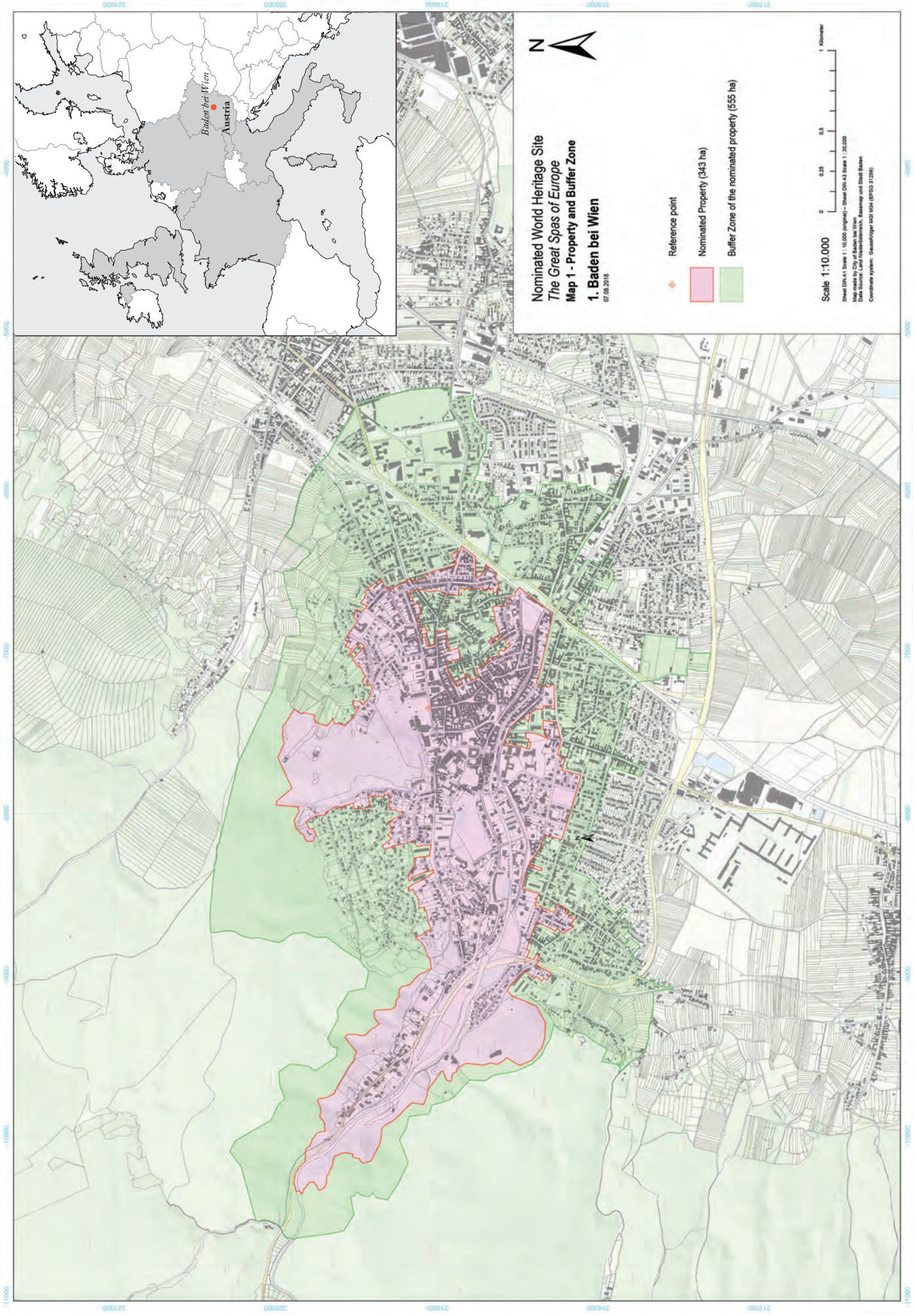
The nominated property *The Great Spas of Europe* is situated in seven European countries: **Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom.**

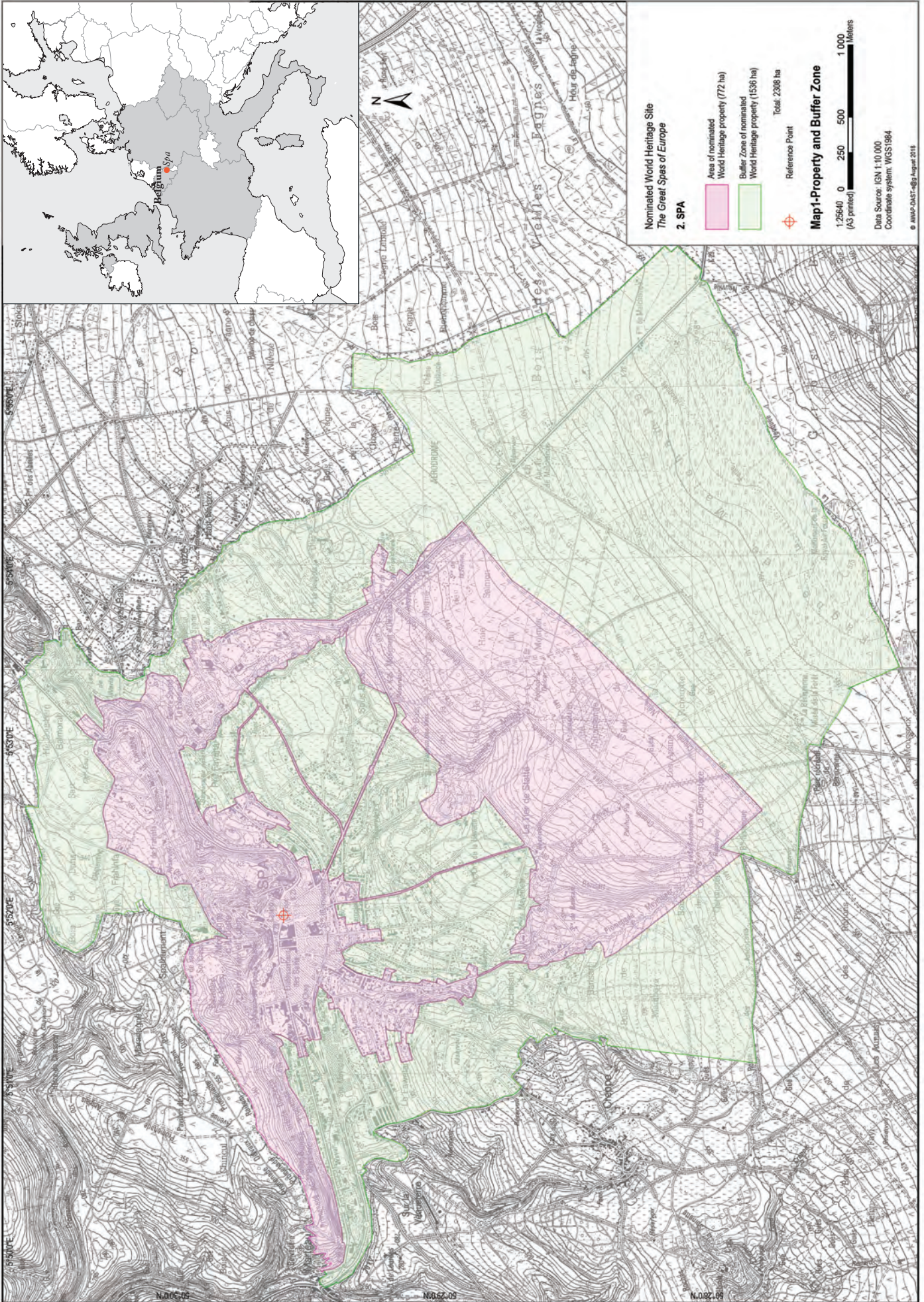


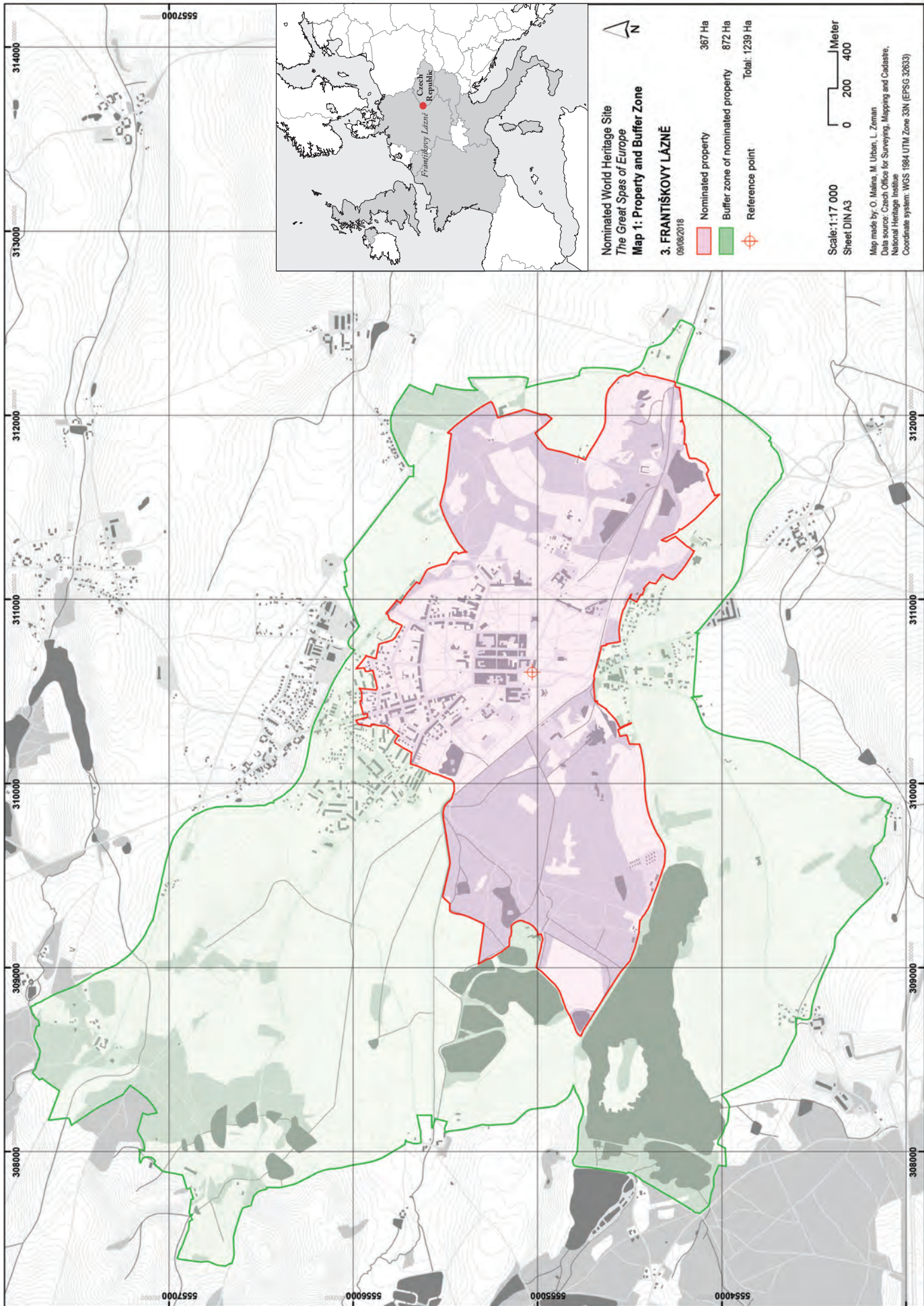
## *The Great Spas of Europe*

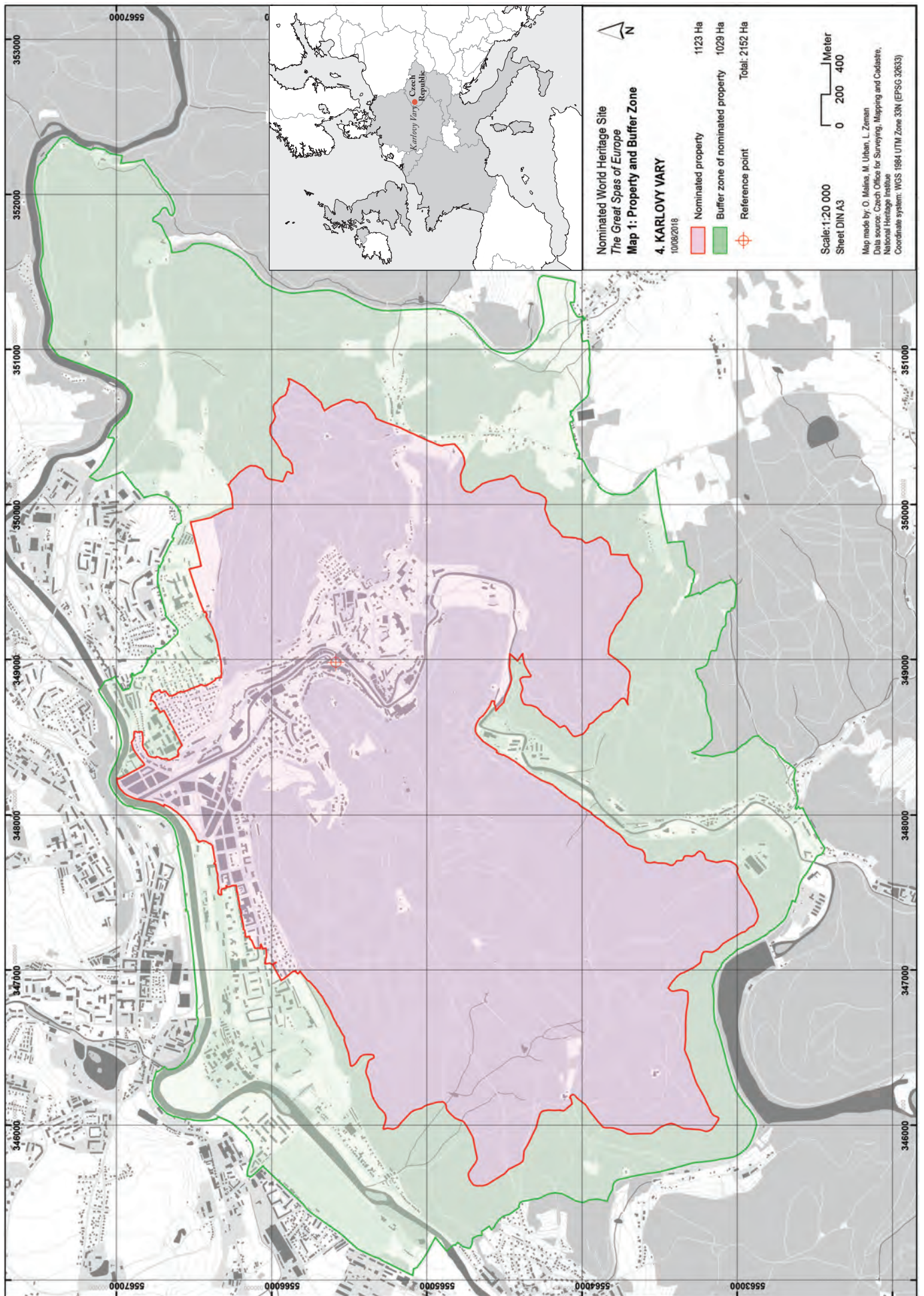
1. AT-01 *Baden bei Wien*
2. BE-01 *Spa*
3. CZ-01 *Františkovy Lázně*
4. CZ-02 *Karlovy Vary*
5. CZ-01 *Mariánské Lázně*
6. FR-01 *Vichy*
7. DE-01 *Bad Ems*
8. DE-02 *Baden Baden*
9. DE-03 *Bad Kissingen*
10. IT-01 *Montecatini Terme*
11. UK-01 *City of Bath*

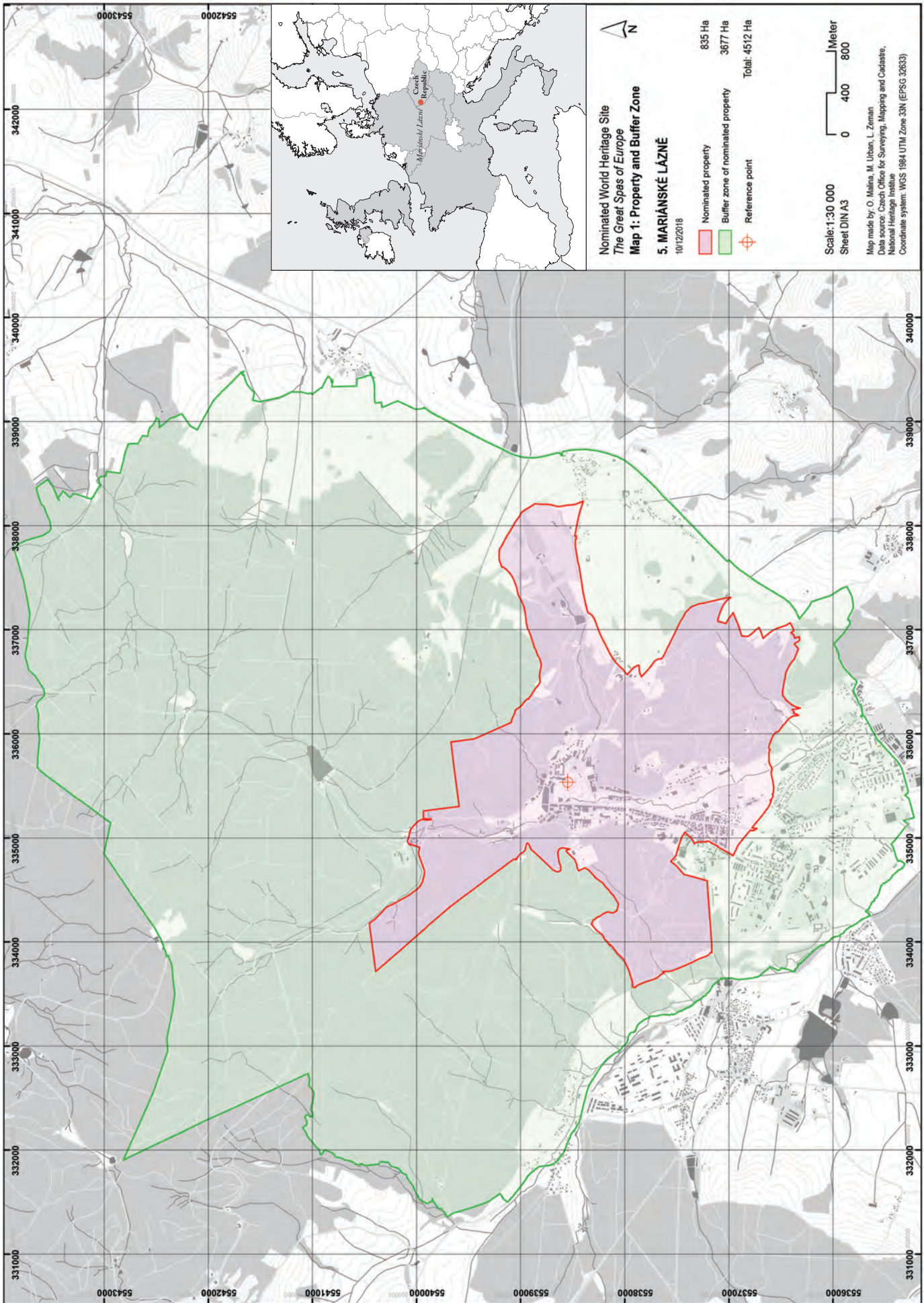
The following maps show the boundaries of all component parts and their buffer zones. For further maps see the Atlas supplied as part of this nomination documentation.



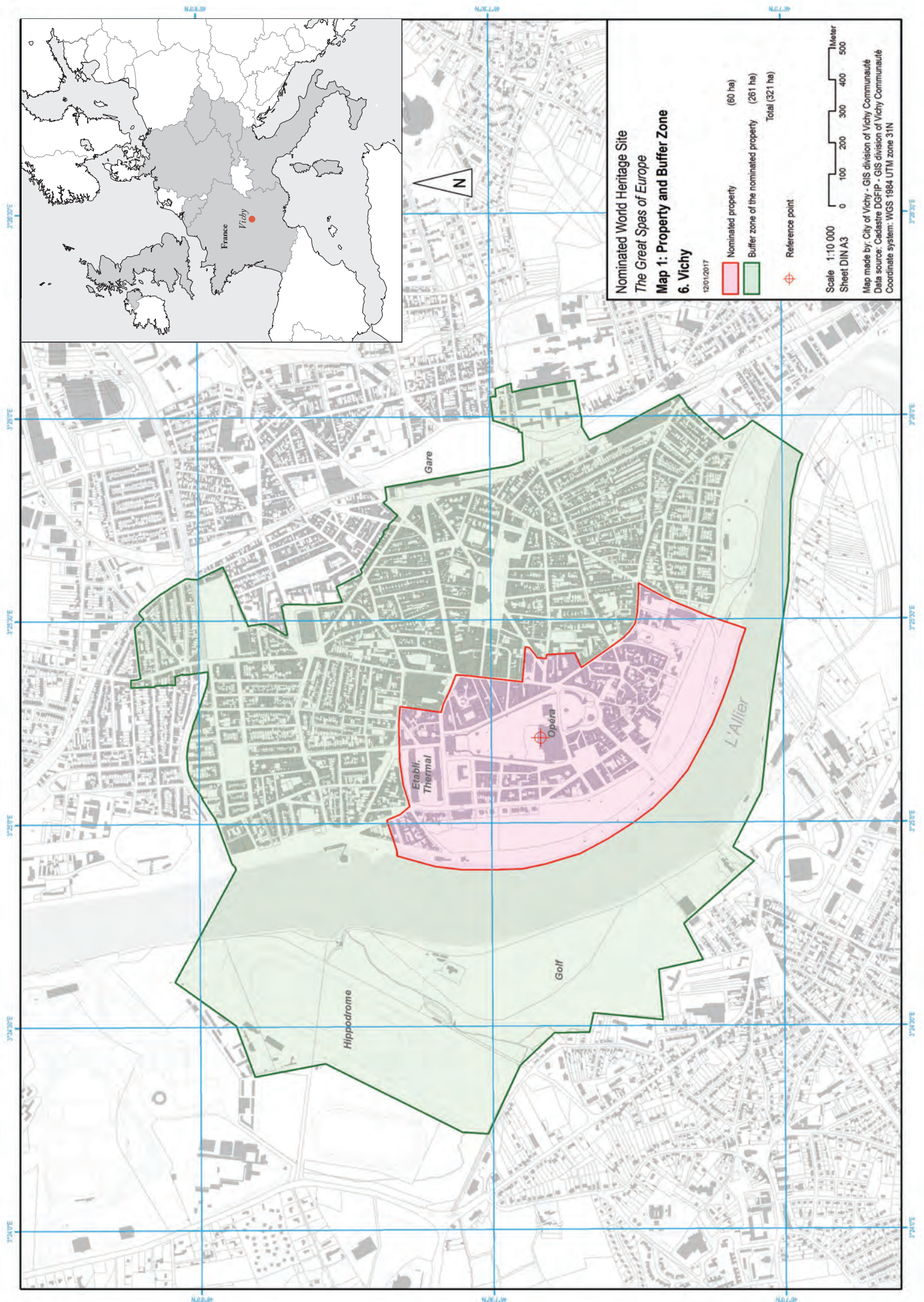




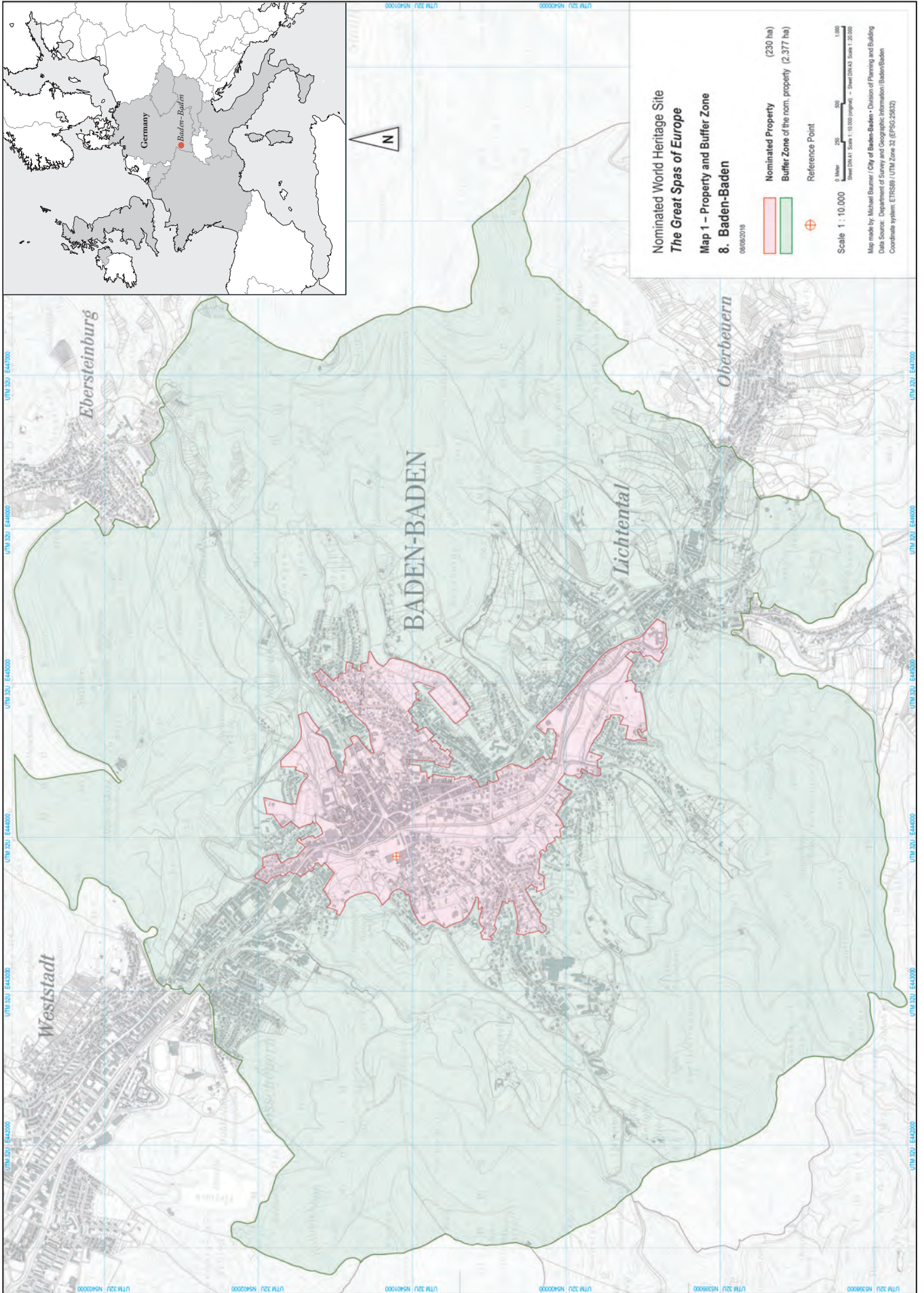


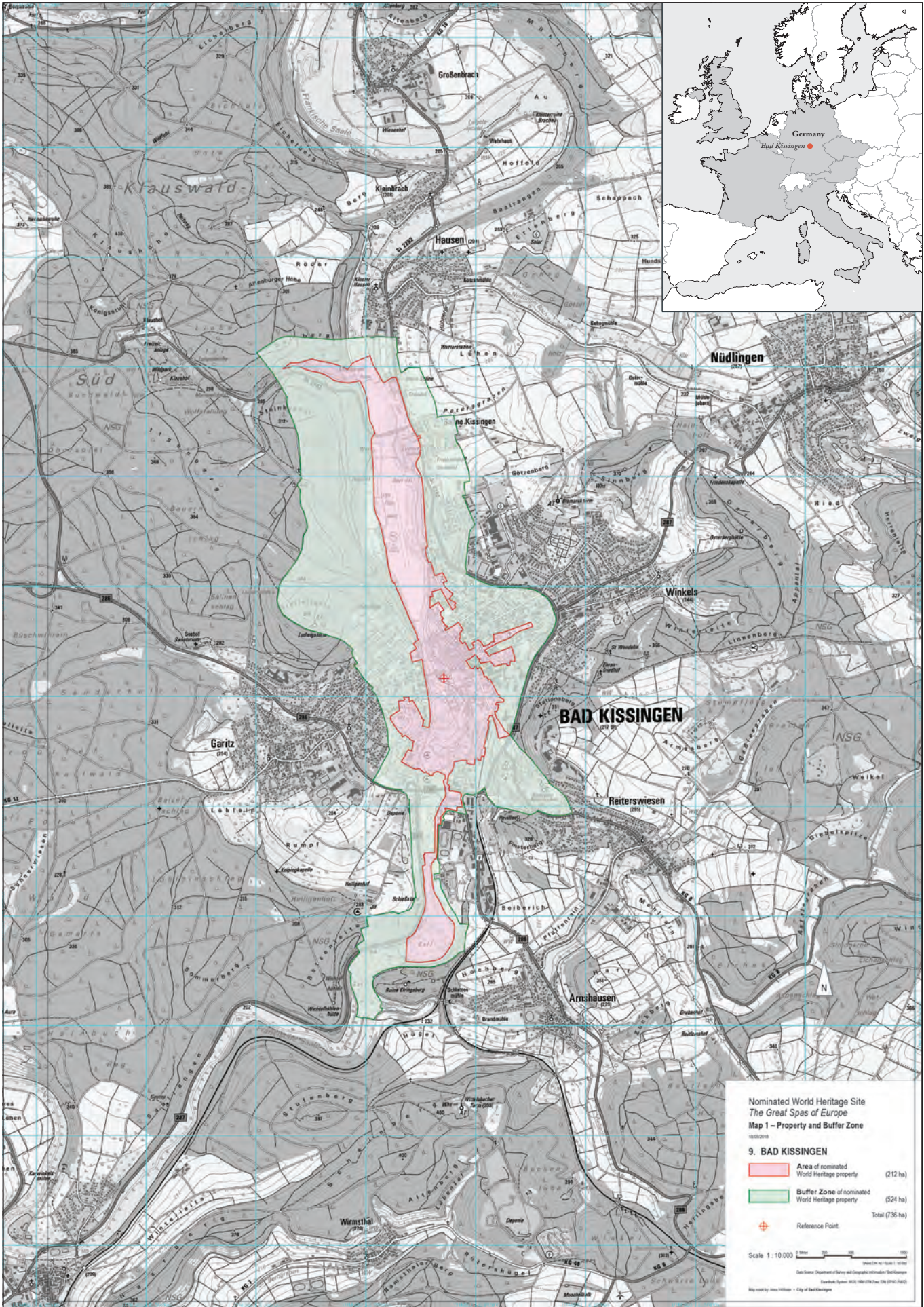


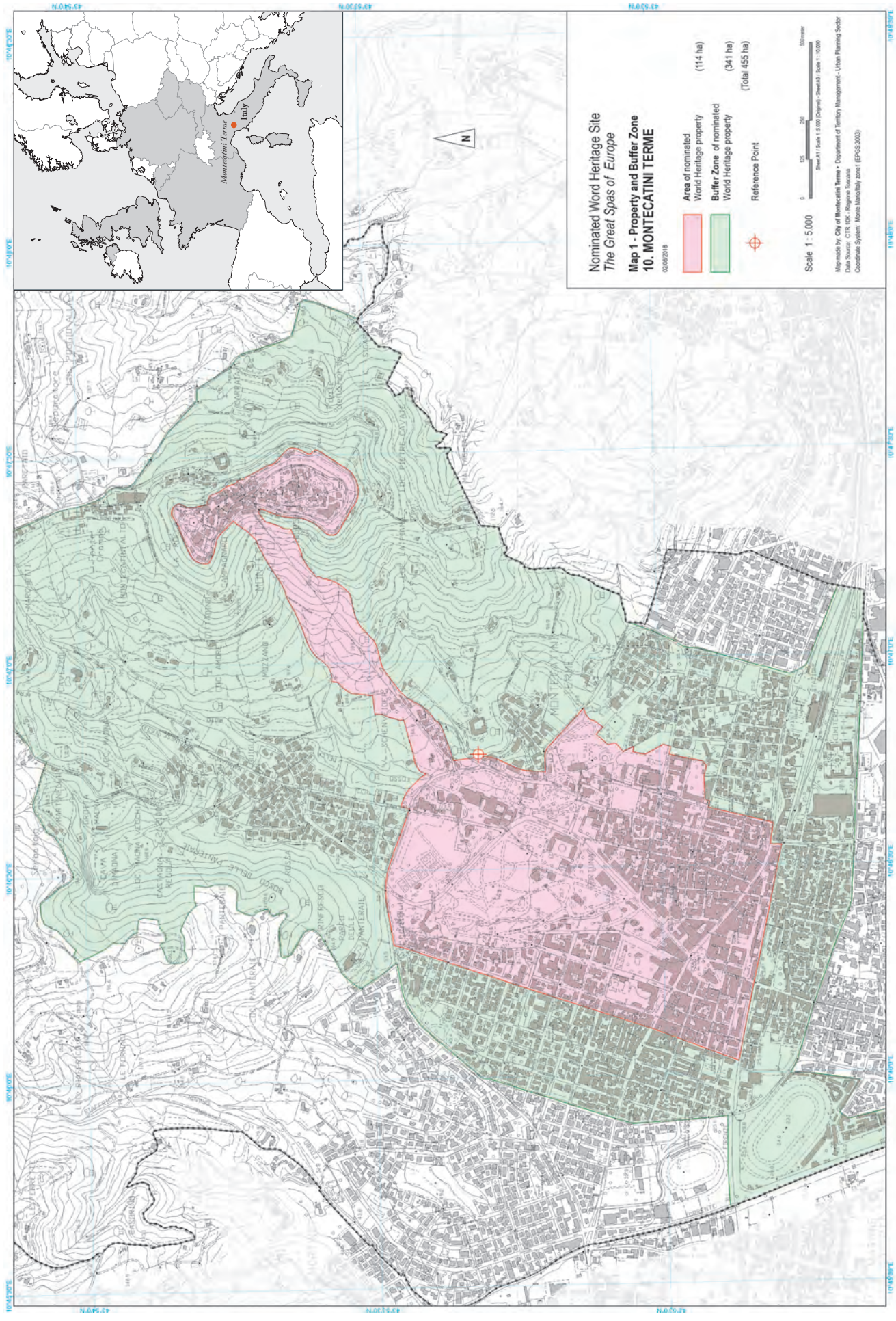


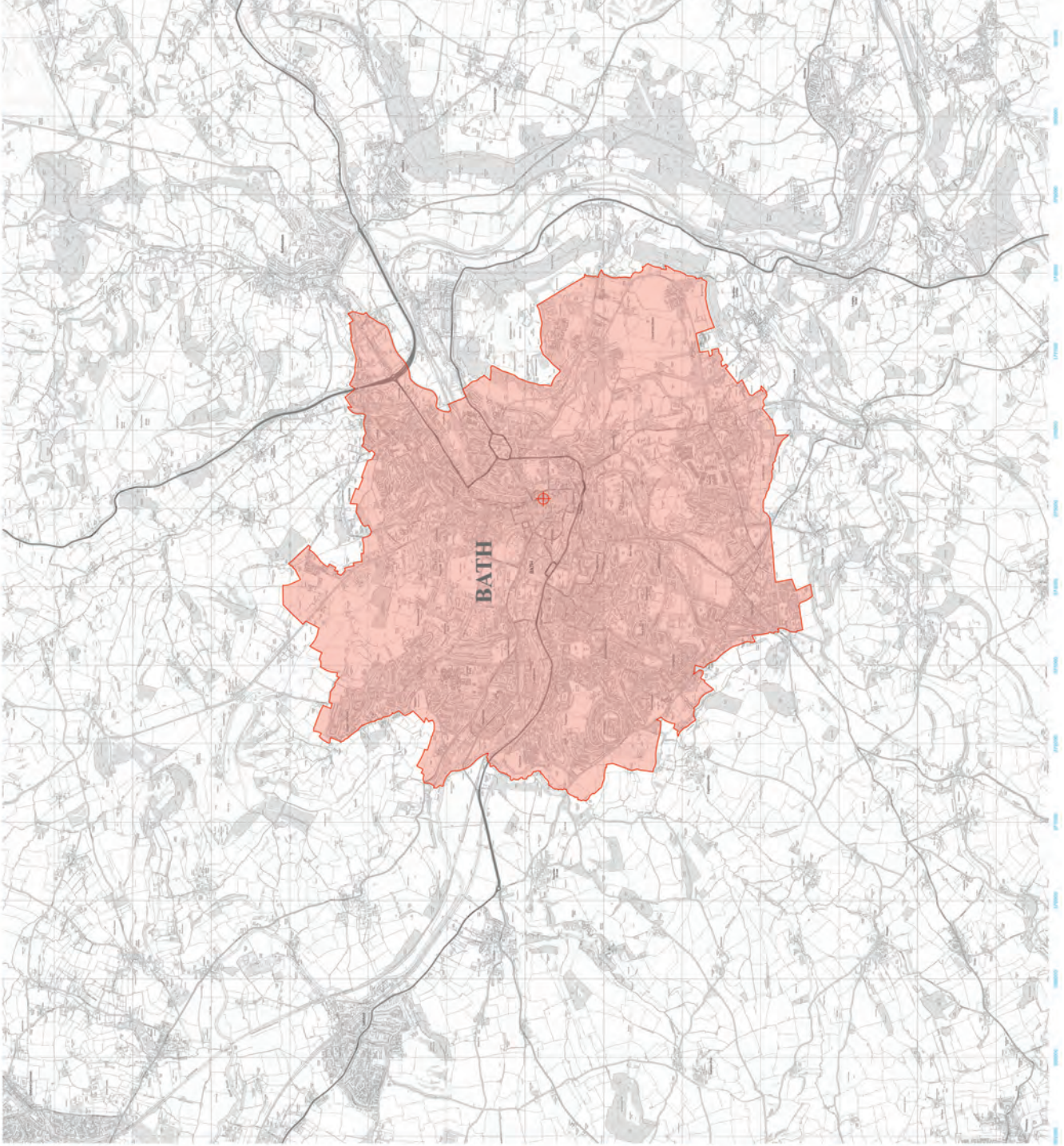
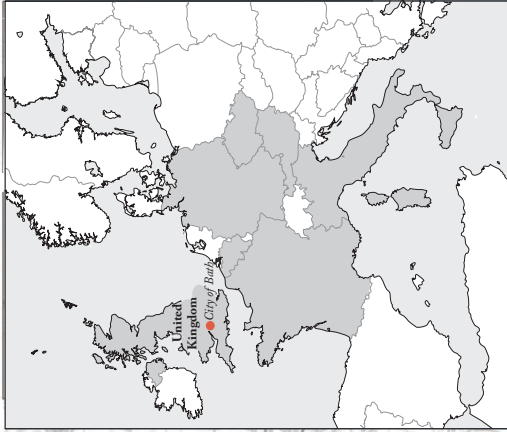












**Nominated World Heritage Site**  
**The Great Spas of Europe**  
**11. City of Bath**

- Area of nominated World Heritage property (2870 ha)
- + Reference Point

**Map 1 - City of Bath nominated World Heritage Property**

Scale: 1:25000  
Paper Size: A3

Map made by  
**Bath and North East Somerset Council**

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From the Ordnance Survey map Vector Map Local. Projected to OSGB 1936 British National Grid EPSG:27700. National Grid lines at 1km intervals.