



CAH 20thC

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE INTERVENTION APPROACHES
FOR THE 20TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE
CRITERIOS DE INTERVENCIÓN EN EL PATRIMONIO ARQUITECTÓNICO DEL S20

madrid · june 14·15·16 · 2011



CONFERENCES CAH20thC



Madrid, June 2011

The ISC20C - International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage of ICOMOS International Campus of Excellence Moncloa - Heritage Cluster, with the collaboration of the School of Architecture of Madrid (ETSAM) have organized the first **International Scientific Conference** held in Spain about the **Criteria for Intervention in the 20th Century Architectural Heritage**.

The Conference took place on the **14th, 15th and 16th** of June, 2011, with over 250 people registered from more than 30 countries, attended by architects and professionals of great international importance. It was held at the ETSAM of Madrid (School of Architecture of Madrid), at the *Residencia de Estudiantes*, at the *CaixaForum* and the *Círculo de Bellas Artes*, closed with an official ceremony at the Auditorium *Caja de Música* at the *Palacio de Cibeles* in Madrid.

The objectives of the conference were to draw attention to the growing recognition of the 20th century heritage, and consider the aspects of identification, preservation, protection, intervention and management related to this important heritage.

The lack of recognition and specific expertise, and public disaffection which it suffers, largely the 20th century architectural heritage, and the situation of continuous change and growth in today's living societies, make it particularly vulnerable and in a state of constant threat, embodied in the disappearance of many of its most significant examples in recent decades.

Is now largely a heritage at risk, which makes it especially urgent to consider a possible extension of the criteria and existing management processes to suit the needs of the 20th Century heritage, especially those relating to the intervention.

The consideration of these aspects has been to initiate a series of meetings and discussions to reflect on the experiences in this field internationally. While the 20th Century heritage includes diverse elements such as buildings, parks, gardens, industrial and technological elements, the conference at Madrid focused on the architectural heritage.

The ISC20C ICOMOS presented the draft of the Document of Madrid which was distributed before the Conference for discussion and debate. The final reading of the Document of

Madrid, closed the CAH20thC in the event held at the *Palacio de Cibeles* in Madrid. The document is a significant contribution to establish the criteria for identification, protection and intervention in the 20th Century architectural heritage.

The conference was structured around three main themes on the criteria, Identification, Preservation and Intervention in the 20th Century architectural heritage, [T1](#), [T2](#) y [T3](#).

T1 IDENTITY OF THE 20th CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

The relevance of the architectural heritage of the 20th Century is still subject of debate and controversy, due to its recent, the experimental materials and technologies used, and the fact that in many cases their use is still the original, its consideration as susceptible heritage is widespread public recognition and discussed. The historical context and comparative analysis are needed to identify the various types of styles and historical themes that characterize this century. Thus, the opening day of the conference was devoted to discuss the scope of the concept of 20th century architectural heritage, which involved a review of the history, impact and values of different social and architectural trends and methods identification and recognition of important buildings, with the following interventions.

T1 _ Morning_ETSAM

Fulvio Irace

Known curator and architecture critic and professor at the Polytechnic of Milan, Fulvio Irace reflected on the architectural heritage in general, raising the question of the life of the monument, often doomed to become a museum of itself, and stressed the relativity of concept of heritage, which is transformed with time. Used the case of Le Vele di Scampia to apply these insights to a possible heritage of the 20th Century, concluding that "heritage conservation begins with the writing of history."

Felipe Hernández

Professor at the University of Cambridge and a specialist in the study of Latin American heritage, Felipe Hernandez denounced the marginalization of the architecture of the less developed countries in the handbooks of conventional architecture, highlighting the persistence of a "colonial vision" of the estate. According to him, within the range that the architectural heritage has spontaneous adaptations that users perform on it are included, as shown by the example of Brasilia with its myriad contradictions of form and use. For Hernandez, however, heritage is a much more extensive than recognized specialists, so that even the slums can be counted as such.

T1 _ Evening _ Residencia de Estudiantes

The professor and specialist in heritage ETSAM [Antón Capitel](#) highlighted the problems caused by the lack of a unified law of historical heritage for all of Spain, said that Docomomo moves in an area of ambiguity with regard to his concept of modernism as core architecture of the 20th Century in terms of performance criteria for the protection of modern

architecture.

Professor at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and Vice-Chairman of ICOMOS 20th Century, **Enrique de Anda** addressed the problem of historical evaluation of architecture, from which emerges a possible economic nature, but also highlighted the inability to avoid interpreting heritage from the point of view of this.

Professor of the School of Architecture of Granada and historian of modern architecture, **Juan Calatrava** reflected on the cultural invention of heritage protection and discussed examples of restoration as the Théâtre des Champs Elysées and the Villa Noailles, and established the existence of several families of 20th Century heritage, by type, raised three pressing issues: to undertake a historiography of the discourse on heritage, review the history associated with the life of the buildings and discuss the relevance and quality of museum architecture.

Committee member of ICOMOS 20th Century and leading representative of the Russian preservationism, **Natalia Dushkina** reviewed the plight of the 20th Century Russian heritage, with emphasis on the state of the buildings of Constructivism, and referred to the major conference of Heritage at Risk 2006.

Architects and architectural historian of Morocco, **Mohammed Métalsi**, meanwhile, addressed the issue of the appreciation of the architectural heritage "colonial" sub country and the way it is restored, put this in perspective when analyzing the restoring traditional way in Morocco, rather than defining a disciplinary approach commonly used technical means of each period.

T2 CRITERIA FOR CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF THE 20th CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

The documentation and protection of buildings considered as the 20th Century heritage is still incomplete, erratic, and is subject to continuous disputes. Therefore, the second day of the conference was dedicated to the identification and review of international standards for the conservation, protection and management of the architectural heritage of the 20th Century with the following interventions.

T2 _ Morning_ETSAM

Ron van Oers

Trained as a planner at the University of Delft, Ron van Oers develops projects for the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO. During his presentation he developed a speech about the need to individualize the intervention case by case on the architectural heritage of the 20th Century turned to concrete examples, such as the Sydney Opera House by Jorn Utzon and the Ennis-Brown House by Frank Lloyd Wright, to show how the material issues, philosophical and economic changes to the criteria of late intervention. The paper is partially

based from the institutional perspective of UNESCO, focusing on the problems posed by the preservation of the buildings or the maintenance of values elusive as the "authenticity".

Gunny Harboe

Practicing architect in Chicago, specializing in restoration of architectural heritage of the 20th Century, and founding member of DOCOMOMO U.S., Gunny Harboe explained in detail the dilemmas and philosophical subtleties purely constructive inevitably facing the restorer of modern heritage. Through analysis of interventions in a number of highly significant work in Chicago built by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Harboe raised various controversies in which the restoration team became engrossed from the beginning of each of the interventions. Both the Crown Hall and in the apartments in the 860-880 Lake Shore Drive, as in the case of the chapel of IIT, the preservation of Mies and the idea of historical forms and images "iconic" of the building went through an intense work of reinterpretation and replacement was guided by the desire to be faithful to the formal and architectural values of buildings, where the preservation of original material elements was not possible.

T2 _ Evening _ Caixaforum

Brenne Architekten's member and expert in restoring the architectural heritage of the 20th Century, **Franz Jaschke** explained the development of actions taken to study and restore the rationalists of the Berlin housing estates of the twenty's protected by UNESCO, noting in this picture the figure of Bruno Taut. The recovery of the colors (to which Bruno Taut attached special importance) and the environment emerged as the top priority in this long and complicated task.

Pamela Jerome, an architect of WASA Studio, responsible for restoration of important buildings of the 20th Century, and member of the ICOMOS 20th Century, discussed the problem created by the youth of the 20th Century architectural heritage and undertook a careful reflection on the dilemmas which raises the inevitable replacement of the original curtain walls in buildings of corporate International Style.

Aldo Aymonino, architect and professor at the Venice UIAV said the special relationship with the changes and additions that exists in the Italian architectural culture of the 20th Century, and illustrated with case studies the issue of recovery and intervention in twentieth-century buildings, assessing the relative importance of each building as a measure proportional to expand the scope offered to the new project.

Javier García-Gutiérrez Mosteiro, director of the Restoration's Master degree at ETSAM (UPM) and a professor at the same institution, reviewed the conceptual problems generated by the recent nature of modern architectural heritage and emphasized the importance of explanation and dissemination to the broad audience, whose acquiescence is ultimately salvation and protection of many of his examples.

T3 CRITERIA FOR INTERVENTION IN THE 20th CENTURY HERITAGE

The timing of the intervention is preceded by the identification, historical research and establishment of guidelines for the treatment of the architectural heritage of the 20th Century, moreover, must be compatible with contemporary architectural language of its extensions. Although there are examples of interventions of all kinds and of varying success, there is no general agreement about the validity of the criteria used in a different heritage and its own distinctive character. The third day of the Conference discussed the situation in this regard, the following interventions.

T3 _ Morning_ETSAM

Fernando Espinosa de los Monteros

Architect specialist in heritage's intervention and Vice-Chairman of ICOMOS 20th Century, Fernando Espinosa de los Monteros exposed a comparative series of recent experiences of building extensions of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, offering formal and structural criteria for distinguishing between friendly interventions and invasive. Through a brief analysis of the most representative buildings increases made in recent decades (and other less known but worthy of study), the attendees were offered a consistent picture of the situation, as a basis for the establishment of general rules.

Juan Miguel Hernández León

Architect and architectural theorist, and responsible for the reconstruction of the Pavilion of the Spanish Republic in Paris in 1937, Juan Miguel Hernández León made an essentially philosophical reflection and even narrowing linguistic about the problems posed by the phenomenon of architectural and heritage replication rebuilt, not only in the 20th Century but in a general sense. He supported his speech with a reference number nourished and cultural criticism drawn from more diverse sources, from ancient times until today.

Álvaro Siza Vieira

Internationally renowned architect and Pritzker Prize 1992, Alvaro Siza has specialized in the integration of new architectures friendly environments and historic buildings. His lecture dealt with the dilemmas and reflections which raised the intervention in two concrete buildings: the old Pontevedra Modern Café and Restaurant in Boa Nova Leca da Palmeira. The most notable concern was that Siza himself was the original architect of a building that had become by his own right in the 20th Century architectural heritage. Through the intervention of recovery and rehabilitation of the building, Siza was clearly becoming aware that the original architect of the building "was another person" and developed a method very similar to the restorers of the architectural heritage of the 20th Century to preserve the characteristics own original design, complicated compositional system, which demonstrated a close interdependence between the parts of the building.

T3 _ Evening _ Círculo de Bellas Artes

The afternoon session on the final day by Juan Miguel Hernández León, was dedicated to the Document of Madrid. The institutions: ICOMOS, DoCoMoMo, UIA, ETSAM and TCCIH presented their views and the convenience of the Document.

Sheridan Burke (ISC20C-ICOMOS)

Ana Tostões (DoCoMoMo Internacional)

Kyle Normandin (UIA)

Stuart Tappin (TCCIH)

Luis Maldonado (Director ETSAM/Comité Científico CAH20thC))

Juan Miguel Hernández León, as president of CAH20thC, closed the conference invitation to move to the Music Hall Box of the Palacio de Cibeles, where, in an official ceremony, he read the Document of Madrid.

Madrid 16 Julio 2011

