

CONSERVATION / ABANDONMENT

Conservation as a means of combating neglect



Valencia

EAAE Conservation Network – X Workshop

30th October – 1st November 2026

Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura – Universitat Politècnica de València

Conservation / Abandonment | Conservation as a means of combating neglect

As cities grow and transform, situations arise in which heritage sites are left neglected. The reasons for this can be varied: difficulties in property management, the complexity of intervening in the monument, political disinterest, very strict regulations, etc. Considering this situation, the theme of this 10th edition of the EAAE Conservation Network seeks to reflect on how conservation impacts the processes of abandonment and regeneration of architectural heritage.

The city chosen to host this workshop is Valencia. A medium-sized city (with a population of around 800,000), boasting a history stretching back over 2,000 years, it has left behind a diverse heritage spread across a complex urban layout, the result of its adaptation to geographical conditions and the incorporation of various surrounding settlements. A recent press article stated that “Valencia is the city with the highest number of abandoned heritage sites” to have been included on Hispania Nostra’s Red List, a list created by the heritage conservation association to raise awareness, educate the public and take action regarding sites at risk of disappearing. More than half of these properties are alquerías, farmhouses with agricultural land typical of the Valencia huerta, whose location on the outskirts of the city makes them more vulnerable to the climate-related disasters currently affecting the area. Furthermore, there are also properties in key locations within the city with great potential that have been abandoned for years.

The selection of case studies for the workshop aims to highlight heritage sites that illustrate the various causes of neglect across different parts of the city. The commercial dock building at the port is a case of neglect resulting from a lack of proposals for a new use that would be appropriate for both the building and the city. The monastery of San José and Santa Teresa, on the edge of the historic city, is a case of incompatibility between the use proposed by the private entity that manages it and the requirements of the heritage commission. The case of the Alquería de Serra is an example of neglect due to a lack of political interest in investing in a domestic architectural type.

The aim of the workshop will be, based on these case studies, to generate debate on the following topics:

1. Conservation: between paralysis and destruction. Find a balance between restrictions and opportunities through conservation, adaptation, reuse...
2. Managing properties and owners in heritage sites. Private vs public.
3. Original function and new uses: characteristics and potential compatibility underpinning the interest in conservation or abandonment



Views of the historic centre of Valencia



Views of the commercial docks at the port of Valencia



Views of the monastery of San José and Santa Teresa



Views of the Alquería de Serra

ABSTRACT INSTRUCTIONS

Authors are invited to submit a short abstract by June 30th, 2026. The abstract should contain:

- Name of the author(s)
- Title
- Institution
- Country
- The specification if EAAE member/non-member
- Topic (1, 2 or 3)
- Text (about 2000 characters spaces included).

Abstracts should be uploaded to the conference platform (link coming soon)

The template is available for download at the bottom of this webpage (File section).

IMPORTANT DATES

- Submission of abstracts: **30th June 2026**
- Acceptance of abstracts and start of registration: **31st July 2026**
- Contribution payment: **31st August 2026**
- **EAAE Conservation Network Workshop: 30th October - 1st November 2026**
- Deadline for full papers: **28th February 2027**
- Submission of the review notes: **31st March 2027**
- Deadline for full papers Corrections: **30th May 2027**
- Acceptance of full papers notification: **30th June 2027**

As in any previous EAAE Conservation Network Workshop, the final contributions will be prepared and published only after the workshop is held in Valencia.

The EAAE 2026 Conservation Network X Workshop is organised by:

- **EAAE-Conservation Network**
- **Universitat Politècnica de València**
- **Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura ETSA**

Host Institution Scientific Coordinator

- Luis Bosch Roig (Polytechnic University of Valencia)

Scientific Committee

- Loughlin Kealy (Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University College Dublin, Co-coordinator of EAAE Conservation Network)
- Stefano Francesco Musso (Co-coordinator of the EAAE Conservation Network, University of Genoa)
- Rodica Crisan (Ion Mincu University, Bucharest)
- Donatella Fiorani (University Sapienza, Rome)
- Giovanna Franco (University of Genoa)

Organizing Committee (ETSA - Polytechnic University of Valencia)

- Luis Bosch Roig (Polytechnic University of Valencia)
- Lidia García Soriano (Polytechnic University of Valencia)
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- Alicia Llorca Ponce (Polytechnic University of Valencia)

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME | 30th October - 1st November 2026

First day – October 30th, 2026 | Registration and Plenary Session (Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura ETSA - Polytechnic University of Valencia)

12:00 Visit to the City Centre of Valencia (meeting point in Plaza de la Reina)

14:30 VIBRArch Farewell Lunch (ETSA-UPV Loggia)

15:00 Registration

16:00 Plenary session

Institutional welcome:

Prof. Ernesto Fenollosa Fornes, Dean of the School of Architecture

Introduction to the workshop:

Loughlin Kealy (EAAE Conservation Network, Emeritus UCD University College of Dublin)

16:30 Introduction to the Historic Centre of Valencia

17:15 Hispania Nostra Red List of abandoned heritage in Spain

18:00 Introduction to the study cases. Management of heritage in Valencia

Free evening

Second day – October 31st, 2026

09:30 Study visits to the study cases (meeting point in UPV)

13:00 Lunch at UPV

15:00 Plenary session - organisation of the workgroups

15:30 Workgroups (in the UPV)

17:00 Coffee break

17:30 Workgroups (in the UPV)

20.00 Social dinner

Third day – November 1st, 2026 | Workgroups Discussion (Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura ETSA - Polytechnic University of Valencia)

09:30 Final Workgroups Discussion

11:00 Plenary Session: Presentation of the work developed by the groups.

13:00 Conclusions

REGISTRATION FEES (by 24th July 2026, upon acceptance of the submitted abstract)

- For participants belonging to Schools member of EAAE (workshop contribution without accommodation – 370 EUR)
- For participants belonging to Schools not members of EAAE (workshop contribution without accommodation – 390 EUR)
- PhD students (workshop contribution without accommodation – 250 EUR)

The fee covers: workshop materials, coffee breaks and lunch, a social dinner, and costs related to the editing and publishing of the final book.

PAYMENT DETAILS

Payment details will be communicated after the acceptance of the abstract.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Arriving at the Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura (ETSA)

The ETSA is located in Camino de Vera, Edificio 2F, Algirós, 46022 València.

The easiest way to get to the venue is by public transport or taxi:

- **By Public Transport**
 - Bus: Valencia has bus connections to the university, from the city centre with lines 40 and 71 from other areas with lines 93 and 98
 - Underground Metro and Tram: Lines 4 and 6

