

SPAIN

Palau de la Música Catalana and Hospital de Sant Pau, Barcelona

Brief description

These are two of the finest contributions to Barcelona's architecture by the Catalan art nouveau architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner. The Palau de la Música Catalana is an exuberant steel-framed structure full of light and space, and decorated by many of the leading designers of the day. The Hospital de Sant Pau is equally bold in its design and decoration, while at the same time perfectly adapted to the needs of the sick.

1. Introduction

Year of Inscription 1997

Agency responsible for site management

- Generalidad de Cataluña

2. Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria C (i), (ii), (iv)

Justification provided by the State Party

En dépit de cette activité continue, il conserve tous ses éléments d'origine pratiquement dans leur intégralité. Depuis sa déclaration comme monument historique et artistique, plusieurs campagnes de consolidation, et exceptionnellement de restauration y ont été menées. L'Hôpital de Saint Pau perpétue toujours fidèlement le projet initial de Domènech y Montaner. Exemple dans son domaine, il relève d'un intérêt exceptionnel pour sa beauté, ses dimensions et sa conception architecturale unique, et donc d'une valeur universelle indiscutable.

As provided in ICOMOS evaluation

Qualities: The claims made for these two buildings in the nomination dossier are not exaggerated. They are two of the finest (and earliest) examples of the Modernist style in architecture and of exceptional importance, both as manifestations of human creative genius and works of art.

Recommendation: That these two properties be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (i), (ii), and (iv)*:

The Palau de la Música Catalana and the Hospital de Sant Pau in Barcelona are masterpieces of the imaginative and exuberant Art Nouveau that flowered in early 20th century in Barcelona. It is the work of one of the acknowledged leaders of this influential architectural movement.

Committee Decision

Bureau (June 1997): After having taken note of the evaluation of ICOMOS, the Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe these two properties on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv), considering that the Palau de la Música Catalana and the Hospital de Sant Pau in Barcelona are outstanding examples of the Art Nouveau style that played so important a role in the evolution of 20th century architecture.

Session (1997): The Committee decided to inscribe these two properties on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv), considering that the Palau de la Música Catalana and the Hospital de Sant Pau in Barcelona are masterpieces of the imaginative and exuberant Art Nouveau that flowered in early 20th century Barcelona.

- Statement of Significance adequately defines the outstanding universal value of the site

Boundaries and Buffer Zone

- Status of boundaries of the site: adequate
- Buffer zone: adequate

Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- World Heritage site values have been maintained

3. Protection

Legislative and Administrative Arrangements

- State legislation: Spanish Historic Heritage Law
- Autonomous community legislation
- Catalan Cultural Heritage: cultural assets of national interest; The Government of Catalonia has established the "cultural one per cent", the creation of the Inventory of Catalan Cultural Heritage aims to encourage awareness of this heritage as a logical consequence of gradually achieving these aims; the Cultural Heritage Advisory Council is set up as a consultative body of the public authorities on matters relating to heritage in order to ensure that the objectives laid down by the Law are achieved
- Municipal level: Metropolitan General Plan on Urban Planning (PGOM); by laws on

Protecting the Historical and Artistic Architectural Heritage of the City of Barcelona; Planning Regulations in the Special Plan on Protecting the Architectural Heritage of the city of Barcelona. Among other things, the Byelaws establish four categories of protection (A, B, C and D)

- Other related legislation; law on Tourism in Catalonia
- The protection arrangements are considered sufficiently effective

4. Management

Use of site/property

- Visitor attraction, other (not specified)

Management /Administrative Body

- Levels of public authority who are primarily involved with the management of the site: national; regional; local
- The Palau de la Música Catalana is owned by a private choral association and is managed by the Palau de la Musica Catalana Consortium with members nominated by the municipal administration, Barcelona City Council. The Government of Catalonia and the Orféo Catalana
- For The Hospital de Sant Pau: The Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau Foundation is the private body responsible for the management. The Board of Trustees is the overall governing body. Its members are in equal number from Barcelona City Council, The Cathedral Chapter and the Government of Catalonia
- Coordinator on a full-time basis
- The current management system is sufficiently effective

5. Management Plan

- For The Palau de la Música Catalana there is no specific management plan
- For The Hospital de Sant Pau a management plan is under preparation

6. Financial Resources

Financial situation

- Funding is sufficient

7. Staffing Levels

Rate of access to adequate professional staff across the following disciplines:

- Good: conservation, management, promotion; education, visitor management

- Number of staff: The Palau de la Música Catalana: no information; The Hospital de Sant Pau: 10

8. Sources of Expertise and Training in Conservation and Management Techniques

- The Palau de la Música Catalana: no information.
- The Hospital de Sant Pau: continuous training for staff

9. Visitor Management

The Palau de la Música Catalana:

- Visitor statistics: 200,000 (guided tours, concerts 129,345). Trend: rising
- Visitor facilities: existing concert hall, tours, publications and leaflets
- Tourism/visitor management plan; organisations include the Barcelona Tourist Office, the Directorate General for Tourism of the Government of Catalonia and Barcelona City Council
- Websites: http://www.gencat.net/turistex_nou/home.htm, and <http://www.rutadelmodernisme.com> on The Modernisme Route
- The Hospital de Sant Pau is still used for the original purpose. It is part of the above Modernism Route and tours and activities are planned for the new Modernism Centre.

10. Scientific Studies

- The Palau de la Música Catalana: Condition surveys, visitor management
- The Hospital de Sant Pau: N/A

11. Education, Information and Awareness Building

- An adequate number of signs referring to World Heritage site
- World Heritage Convention Emblem used on some publications
- Adequate awareness of World Heritage among: visitors, local communities, businesses, local authorities
- Agreed education strategy
- The Hospital de Sant Pau website: <http://www.santpau.es>

12. Factors affecting the Property (State of Conservation)

Reactive monitoring reports

- N/A

Conservation interventions

The Palau de la Música Catalana:

Restoration and conservation works, a new adjoining building, plan for conservation works and inspections, project to restore the facades

The Hospital de Sant Pau:

Restoration, conservation and refurbishment work of facades and pavilions, archaeological excavations, consolidation projects

- Present state of conservation: Good

Threats and Risks to site

- The Palau de la Música Catalana: Visitor/tourism pressure
- The Hospital de Sant Pau: Problems relating to inadequate original construction solutions, environmental problems (pollution, dampness in construction); unsuitable and/or detrimental use of the original interior spaces; inadequate adaptation of the old buildings to modern hospital needs.

Measures proposed:

- The Palau de la Música Catalana: Restoration of facades in 2005
- The Hospital de Sant Pau: regarding environmental and interior use related problems: restoration of the various elements and the elimination of the causes; regarding the needs of modernisation: construction of a new hospital outside the WH area and studies on new uses for the former pavilions. Restoration and refurbishment

13. Monitoring

- Formal monitoring programme
- Measures taken/planned: The monitoring of the state of conservation of cultural assets is laid down in the legislation on cultural heritage. There are also cases as architectural work must be authorised by those in charge of cultural heritage; town and city council responsibility

14. Conclusions and Recommended Actions

- Main benefits of WH status: conservation, social, other (not specified)

- The Palau de la Música Catalana: Strengths: Improvements to the building's general state of conservation. Improved facilities reduced visitor pressure
- The Hospital de Sant Pau: Strengths: The construction of a new hospital gives a possibility to restore and reclaim the original spaces

Future actions:

- The Palau de la Música Catalana: The restoration of facades planned for 2005
- The Hospital de Sant Pau: The restoration and refurbishment of the various historical pavilions