

Researchers create an alerts system to prioritise the restoration of monuments in Seville

LOCATION: Seville

DURATION: 1:46

SUMMARY: An alerts map describes the condition of the monuments of Seville's city centre; it is a project of the Pablo de Olavide and Seville's universities. This system permits a more efficient management of the economic resources available for heritage conservation as it allows determining where interventions are more necessary. Seville is the first province in Andalusia that counts on this alerts map, although its creators assure that they intend to spread it to the rest of the provinces.

VTR:

Eight years ago the Saint Catherine church closed its doors in Seville due to its bad condition. These professors of the Pablo de Olavide University are evaluating its situation to include it in an alerts map that they are creating with the collaboration of the University of Seville. Their objective...

PILAR ORTÍZ
Professor at the Pablo de
Olavide University

"It consists on studying the vulnerability of the most important monuments in the historical centre and the risks they have to face."

They evaluate the walls' inclination, look for cracks, erosion signs, damage in ornaments... elements that indicate a bad condition. That's how these monuments are classified depending on how urgent their restoration is. This way there is a more efficient management of economic resources available for heritage conservation.

PILAR ORTÍZ
Professor at the Pablo de
Olavide University

"When the budget is short, as it is today due to crisis, you must prioritise buildings to restore them, which ones will be rehabilitated before and which ones after."

This study, that also counts on the collaboration of the Research Aproca and Ecomímesis companies, also takes into account factors that may have influence on the state of the building: environmental, structural and even human.

PILAR ORTÍZ
Professor at the Pablo de
Olavide University

"For example, the traffic of this street."

ROCÍO ORTÍZ
Professor at the Pablo de
Olavide University

"The most serious are the ones regarding foundation, that we see cracks or even fragmentations...those are the most worrying because it clearly indicates that the building is very sick."

In a few months the historical centre of Seville will be the first one counting on this alerts map, although its developers intend to spread it to the rest of the Andalusian provinces.

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