

PLANNING INSTRUMENT FOR PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE SANTA MARIA OF OIA'S MONASTERY

Category: Urban Planning|Name of the proposal: Planning instrument for protection,conservation and enhancement of the Santa Mª of Oia's Monastery | Author: rodriguez + pintos arquitectos



Architecture its atmosphere, presence, history, and beauty. Cultural heritage is also people's entitlement and basic part of their identity. Architecture is wonderful, but it only has meaning when it's allowed to be what it was designed to be. Irina Bokova (UNESCO's CEO), advocated (2013) that "protecting cultural heritage is inseparable from protecting the people because cultural heritage gives values and identity to the people"... we agree, and because of it, protecting cultural heritage can't be associated with turning it into an archeological piece.

Architecture turned into archeology stops being real, it eliminates its atmosphere, it becomes something else, it adds decisions that distances us from the history of the Monuments itself. The physical presence -the object- is an essential piece, but a part of something greater: The place, the Architecture and it's identity. This work guarantees the utmost respect for the monastery, without forgetting it's environment and the rest of things that proper Architecture has.