Built Heritage: Conservation vs. Emergencies

Guest Editors:

Prof. Stefano Brusaporci
Department of Civil, Construction-Architectural and Environmental Engineering, L'Aquila University, 67100 L'Aquila AQ, Italy

Prof. Giuseppe Amoruso
Politecnico di Milano, INTBAU ICTP, Unione Italiana del Disegno, Italy

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Natural disasters (such as earthquakes, seaquakes, floods, etc.), wars, and also abandonment, pollution, or climate changes, put built heritage in danger and cause serious problems in conservation practices, and the well-known issues of memory, identity, integrity, and authenticity take particular evidence.

This Special Issue of *Buildings* aims at focusing on issues growing from the relation/collision between conservation and emergencies, with case studies and examples of best practices: What is the role of knowledge in conservation and of surveying and documentation in emergencies? How conservation practices can prevent disasters or aid in reconstruction? How should we work, reconstruct and involve communities after a disaster?

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Prof. Giuseppe Amoruso
Guest Editors

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Special Issue

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David Arditi
Construction Engineering and Management Program, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology, 3201 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60616, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

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