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FELANITX, ES SINDICAT (ES)

Scale
S/L

Can a social emblem reborn
from its own foundations?

SITUATION: Felanitx, Mallorca, Illes Balears

POPULATION: Felanitx 18.357 (2022)

PROJECTION SITE: 148,6 Ha

PROJECT SITE: 89.871 m²

SITE PROPOSED BY: Regional Government of
Balearic Islands (Govern de les Illes Balears).

ACTORS INVOLVED: Govern de les Illes Balears, Consell de
Mallorca, Felanitx City Council.

OWNER OF THE SITE: Consell de Mallorca.

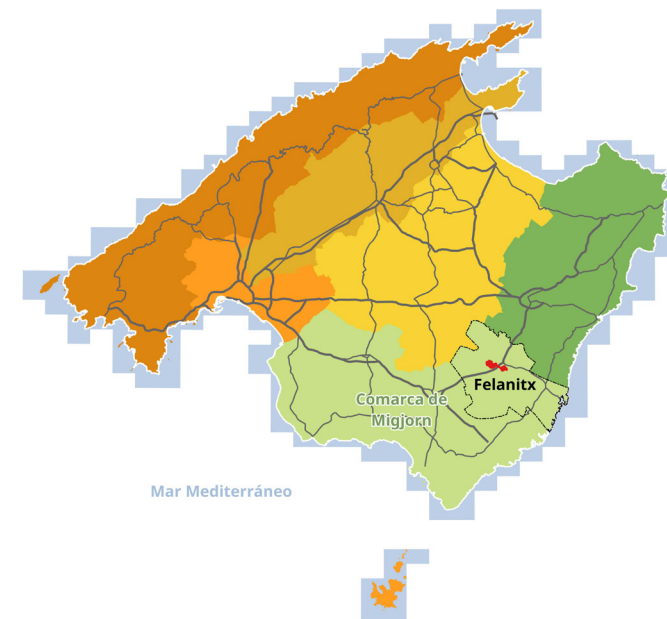
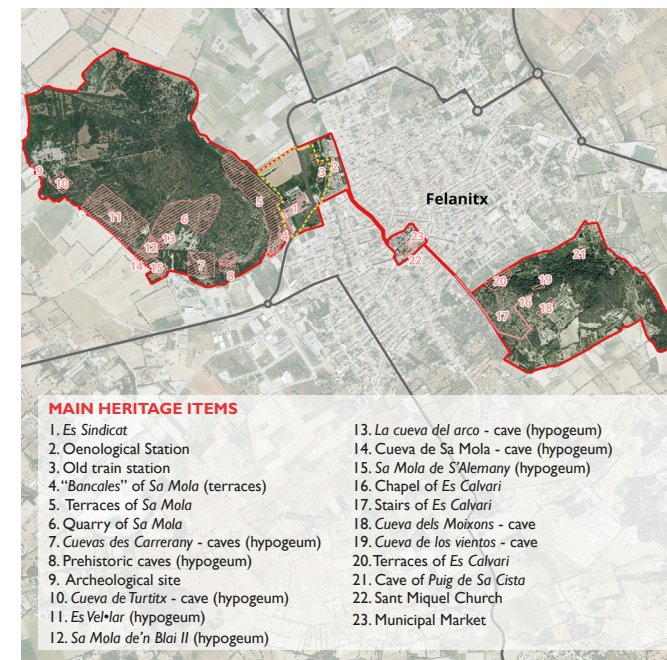
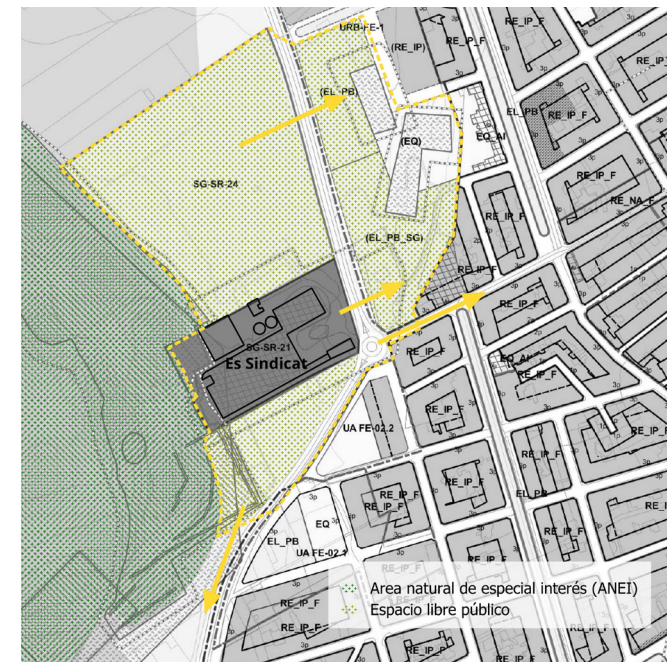
COMISSION AFTER COMPETITION: Master Plan and
intervention project. Phases: Basic and Execution. Building
supervision pending agreement on financing.



Prehistoric caves (hipogeu)

Sant Miquel church

Stairs of Es Calvari



SITE / CONTEXT

The municipality of Felanitx is located in the south-east of the island of Mallorca in the region of Migjorn, between the areas of Pla de Mallorca and Levante, bordering the Mediterranean Sea. The urban nucleus of Felanitx is located 115m above sea level, in the middle of a series of hills, among which the *Puig de Sa Mola* and *Puig de Sant Salvador*, a place of pilgrimage for the inhabitants of the region, stand out. For centuries, the cultivation of vineyard has characterised the rural landscape of the Migjorn region. Historically, Felanitx has been an important wine-growing area in Mallorca, culminating at the beginning of the 20th century (despite phylloxera) with the creation, next to the old train station, of the Oenological Station and the founding of the Cooperative Winery of Felanitx, *Es Sindicat*.

Es Sindicat is a symbol, a reference for its typology, style, authorship and construction. In fact, the winery is included in the list of the 100 elements of Spain's Industrial Heritage and was declared an Asset of Cultural Interest (BIC) with the category of 'monument' in 2001. Built between 1919 and 1922, it is located on *La Sort dels Amaradors*, to the west of the town of Felanitx, sheltered by the hill known as *Sa Mola*. The design and the choice of the site are the result of a topographical adaptation to take advantage of the slope that accompanied the industrial process of wine making.

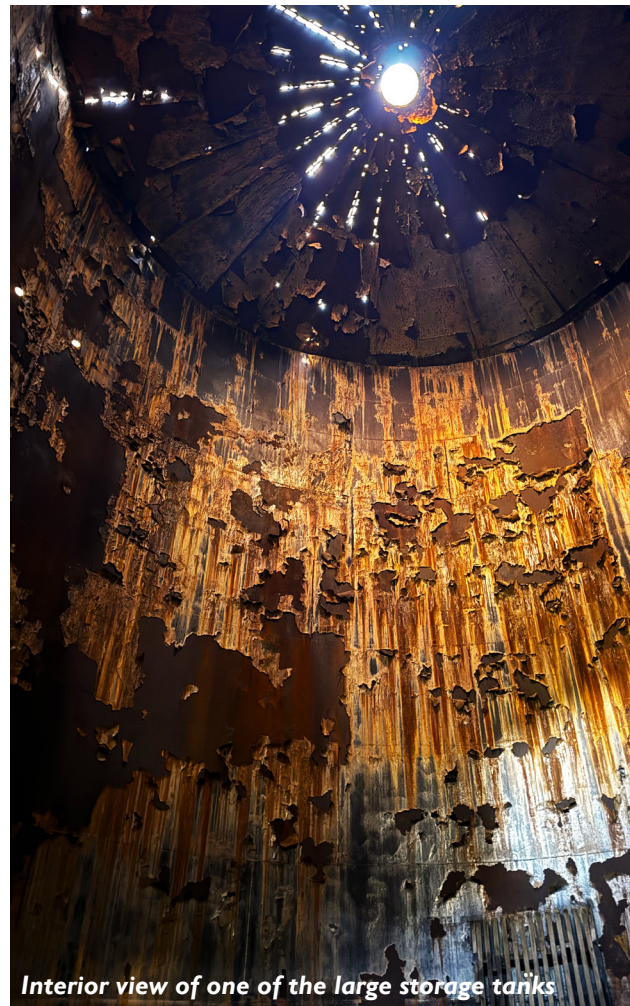
The **Project Site** includes: the public plot on which *Es Sindicat* is located, which the new General Plan will classify as a cultural facility; a large area to the north and east of the site, planned as a future public green space; and the adjoining plot to the south. *Es Sindicat* is the protagonist of a commitment to the re-emergence of a social and environmental ecosystem in a privileged setting of possibilities that can create integral solutions for a return to the land, to shared life, to connection with the environment and to the promotion of the rehabilitation of the built environment through local, sustainable and innovative construction systems.

The **Reflection Site** will lead us to build a global, unitary and multidisciplinary strategy to propose a rebirth of the symbolic and emotional potential that *Es Sindicat* provokes in the town of Felanitx, a municipality that has seen the birth and growth of the international artist Miquel Barceló. Its transformation must dialogue with the two natural landmarks that frame the urban nucleus, *Sa Mola* and *Es Calvari*.

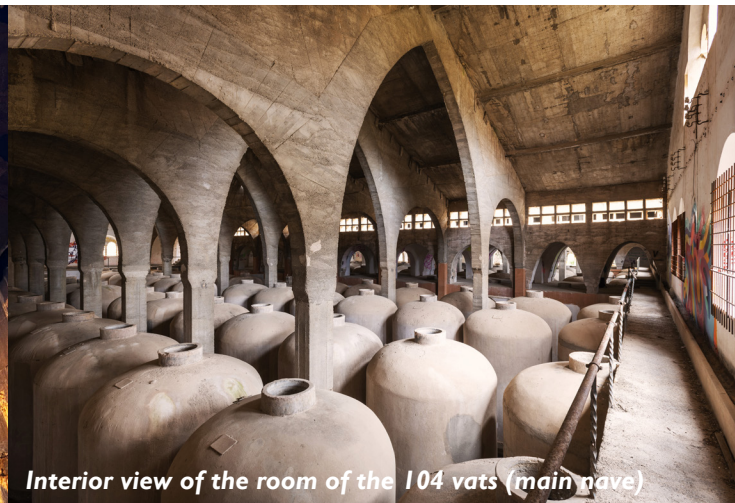
The **Territorial Area** corresponds to a threatened territory, the island of Mallorca, which is suffering the effects of the overexploitation of resources caused by tourist massification. The rebirth of *Es Sindicat*, which succeeded in bringing together a population, has an implicit social and ecological benefit, re-emerging as a cultural reference of the highest level, at a time of social fight for recognition and recovery of the island's own culture.



Longitudinal section of the central naves



Interior view of one of the large storage tanks



Interior view of the room of the 104 vats (main nave)



Interior view of the grape reception hall

How can the symbolic and emotional character of the building be preserved by combining uses, users and projects that can trigger revitalising synergies in *Es Sindicat*?



Interior view of the 'Edifici per cups'.
Wine fermentation tanks room



Aerial view of Es Sindicat from the neighbouring plot of land

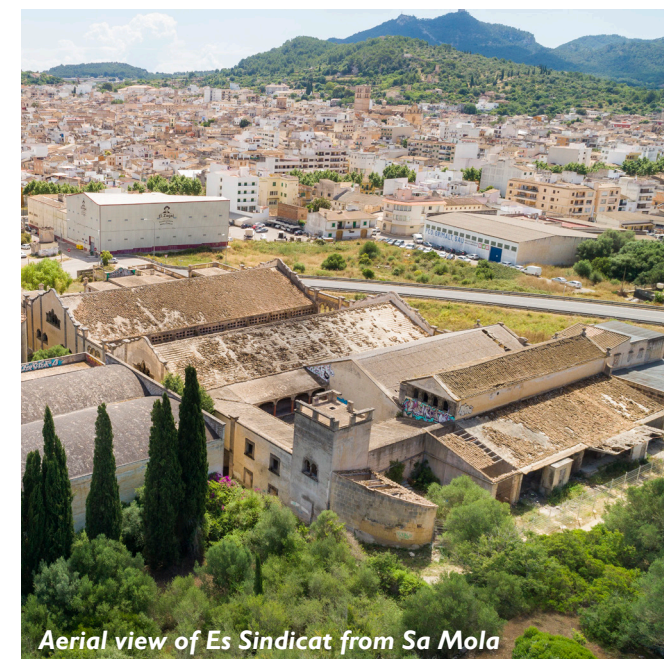
QUESTIONS TO COMPETITORS

Is it possible to give a second life to the monument that has been considered on the island as the 'cathedral of wine'?

Es Sindicat is more than a building, it is a social emblem that awakens and arouses emotions of an intergenerational nature in the local and non-local population. Can this feeling be enhanced through architecture? Can the intervention encourage architectural and cultural dynamisation, not only in the municipality, but also in the rest of the island? Can it be reborn from its own foundations?

In addition, the monument acquires a very broad heritage significance. Is it possible, through rehabilitation, to harmonise elements of such value and, at the same time, ensure that they enhance socio-economic and cultural revitalisation? What will be the principles of the transformation of *Es Sindicat*, a unique historic building with a high level of heritage protection, that will enable its revival?

The building uses materials typical of 20th century industrial architecture, concrete, combined with local materials such as sandstone (*marés*). The use of pioneering construction techniques makes it a reference point, considering its insularity and historical context. How can the forcefulness of these materials be combined with new ways of designing to adapt to climate change?



Aerial view of Es Sindicat from Sa Mola

How, through art and culture, can *Es Sindicat* strengthen bonds with its immediate surroundings while establishing insular and international alliances?