

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Heritage and the Metropolis

Heritage dynamics in the urban peripheries

Paris, Auditorium MSH Paris Nord
Thursday and Friday 23 et 24 April 2026
Post-conference trip: Saturday, April 25

Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University (France), Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain) & University of Edinburgh (UK)



How might we study and understand metropolises and heritage as not just things, but forces for, and processes of, change? How might these two dynamics intersect with and model one another?

Metropolitan cities are well understood to be in the course of constant change: cities expand, and swallow up other ones; new connections are formed; new consciousnesses come into being. The city's edges push ever outward into the suburbs or the hinterland.

Heritage, on the other hand, certainly in the guise of preservation is often constructed as resistance to change; and yet is not static: conceptions of what is heritage (or not) continually shift, producing new campaigns for preservation or destruction.

In no part of the metropolis is this shifting nature of both the city and heritage more evident than on their edges: the part of the city where buildings and places seem to be at their most ephemeral, in which buildings and places are produced and destroyed rapidly, and often seemingly without care, as if there was no heritage there at all.

This conference engages with these edges – of both city and heritage – in order to study them together and to understand the ways in which their dynamic and endless processes of change intersect, asking, most simply: **how does metropolitan development affect heritage, and conversely, how do developing notions of heritage affect metropolitan development ?**

DAY 1, 23 April 2026

9:30-10:00 Opening Session

Introductions

Maria Gravari-Barbas, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Heritage dynamics in the metropolitan peripheries: challenges and perspectives

10:00-10:45 Keynote

Edward Hollis, University of Edinburgh

Heritage on the Edge : multimodal engagements with fleeting pasts

10:45-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-13:00 Parallel Sessions

Session 1:

Collective memory, community activism and Heritage in the urban peripheries

Moderator: Sébastien Jacquot, IREST, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Session 2:

Heritage in the peripheries: governance and planning

Moderator: Ana Yanez

Ingrid Castañé

"A time tunnel into the city" Heritage activism in Catalan urban peripheries. A case study of the Saint Vincenç de Calders "Railway colony"

Suzanna Ramírez, David García Alvarez, Robin Larsimont

Creative Dynamics or Gentrifying Urban Management? Urban Transformation in Carabanchel, Madrid

Aysegul Boyali

Everyday Heritage Production in Istanbul

Maday Romero

Metropolisation at the Margins: Heritage Erasure and Structural Discrimination in the Urban Peripheries of Philadelphia

Bernardo De La Vega, Fabian Frenzel, Camila Moreas, Isabella Rega, Juliana Mainard-Sardon

Edgy heritage as challenge and opportunity in community empowerment

Alix de La Gaignonnière

The heritage of peri-Parisian towns: between differential positioning and segmented anchoring in metropolitan dynamics

Raisha Gamba Segovia

Heritage, Symbolic Colonisation and the Margins of the Metropolis

Beatriz Martínez

Heritagization and Tourism Dynamics in Chinese Peripheral Neighborhoods: Usera (Madrid) as a Model of Change and Resilience

Cécile Doustaly

Olympic games and Heritage dynamics in the urban peripherie

13:00 – 14:00 : Lunch (Buffet)

14:00- 16:00 Parallel Sessions

Session 3:

Collective memory, community activism and Heritage in the urban peripheries (cnd)

Moderator: Maria Garcia Hernandez, Universidad Complutense Madrid

Session 4:

(World)Heritage in/off the urban peripheries: the role of stakeholders and of the local communities

Moderator: Ruxandra Stoica, University of Edinburgh

Hector Alliaga

Heritagisation and local community memory. The value of neighbourhood-building processes: Orcasitas, Madrid

Marie Le Devehat

In the shadow of Liverpool's Metropolization: the role of local stakeholders in promoting the global significance of peripheral heritage

Mesut Dinler

Interacting with the Past Beyond the Centre: An Experimental Approach to Understand the Dynamics of Heritage-making in Aurora, Turin

Armelle Ninnin

The Mae Kha Canal (Chiang Mai, Thailand): A Lens into the Intertwinement of Heritage Making and Urban Production

Celia Lopez Bravo

Supporting community protests against threatened housing heritage by mapping the disappearance: the case of the eastern edge of Malaga, Spain

James White

Cuting-edge: shifting urban World Heritage in an age of polycrisis.'

Marie-Alix Molinié-Andlauer, Panos Mavros, Isabelle Garron, Stéphane Safin

Consider heritage to better inhabit the Paris-Saclay metropolitan project: territorial issues and dynamics

Sofiane Saadia

La patrimonialisation des espaces fluviaux dans la périphérie. Une comparaison Paris- Rome (l'entre-deux-guerres – début du XIXe siècle

16 :00 –16 :30 : Coffee break

16:30-18:00: Round table with stakeholders of the Parisian metropolis

Dominique Dellac, Vice-Chair of the Seine-Saint-Denis Departmental Council
Ivan Fouquet, Association des jardins ouvriers des Vertus
Elefterios Kehagioglou, Director of PPCM, Bagneux
Livia Pareja Del Corso, Chargée de projets patrimoine culturel immatériel, Conseil départemental de la Seine-Saint-Denis
Mikaël Petitjean, Responsable du développement culturel et patrimonial à La Courneuve (tbc)
Hélène Saunon, Responsable du service Patrimoine et Tourisme, Plaine Commune

Round table in French, with simultaneous translation

18:00-18:30 Presentation of the Heritage Observatory in the urban Peripheries (HOPE)

18:30 Vernissage of the exhibition Alt-Her

Based on testimonies from former workers at the Babcock factory in La Courneuve, reinterpreted by graffiti artists - adept of urbex and performance in abandoned places -, Alt-HER explores the relationship between heritagisation, memory and industrial wastelands in metropolis. This research-creation exhibition is funded by MSH Paris Nord.

Artists: **Gris Fluo, Katre Réa**

Curators: **Manon Faucher, Maïa Ghattas, Thomasine Zoler**

Cocktail



DAY 2, 24 April 2026

9:00-10:45 Parallel Sessions

Session 5: Industrial Heritage in the metropolitan peripheries Moderator: Juan Carlos Revila, Universidad Complutense Madrid	Session 6: Exploring the conceptual and territorial margins of heritage Moderator ; Sandra Guinand
Minna-Marjukka Kaikkonen Temporary Use as a Resource for Sustainable Urban Industrial Heritage – Lived Experiences in the Cultural Heritage Process of the Onkiniemi Cultural Factory	Alain Bourdin, Peng leng Edges as Processes: Rethinking Metropolises and Heritage through Paris and Marseille
Shengxi Zeng Reimagining industrial heritage: museums, parks, and creative districts in Chongqing's urban transformation	Javier García Ferragud Dissonant peripheries, forgotten peripheries: women's prisons during the Franco's dictatorship as research cases
Patrice Ballester Steampunk at the Service of Reinvented Heritage and Tourism, La Halle de la Machine & L'Envol des Pionniers – Toulouse Métropole	Adva Matar Tactics of Nature–Culture Integration in the Tel Aviv Metropolis: Sustainable Principles from a Garden City Heritage
Sonia Laloyaux La place du patrimoine industriel dans le processus de métropolisation lillois	Jovana Janinovic Radioactive Peripheries: Nuclear Heritage and the Ethics of Metropolisation

10:45 –11:15: Coffee Break

11:15-12:45 Round Table

COLLECTIVE LANDSCAPE FUTURES BETWEEN MEMORY, MARGINS, AND TERRITORIAL REGENERATION - HERITOPOLIS

Antonella Contin, Heritopolis, the MetroHub, Politecnico di Milano

Heritage and Metropolitan Margins – Reinterpreting heritage as a living process that evolves through the transformations of the contemporary city and its peripheries.

Francesco Bandarin, Heritopolis, Advisor to the Aga Khan Foundation / Michael Turner, Heritopolis – UNESCO Chair

Urban-Rural Interface – the peri-urban fringe as a dynamic field of interaction for spatial sustainability, characterized by tensions, hybridizations, and ecological negotiation.

David Simon, Heritopolis – Royal Holloway, University of London and Olivia Bina, ICS, Universidad de Lisboa

Nature-based Solutions for Metropolitan Heritage Sustainability Integrating Core and Periphery – Exploring the mitigation, adaptation and transformative potential of open spaces, both human and natural, in moderating climate extremes.

Eric Huybrechts, Heritopolis – Paris Region

Metropolis as Heritage

12:45 –14:00: Lunch (Buffet)

14:00 - 15:30 Parallel Sessions

Session 7: Intangible heritage and arts in the urban peripheries Moderator: Juan Martin	Session 8: Popular and social housing. Perspectives from the metropolitan peripheries Moderator: Linda Boukhris
Escobar G. Maria Milagros Remembrance in the Edges of The City: Urban Art Between the Former Panama Canal Zone and the Panama Metropolitan Area	Callens Alexandre, Valérian Rocca The productive intersection of contemporary urban planning and landscape heritage knowledge : The Case of the Villeneuves' urban regeneration in Grenoble and Échirolles (France)
Guillard Séverin Promoting hip-hop heritage in New York's peripheries: Between tourism and urban change	Skapska Hanna Les Bleuets in Créteil, Heritage in the Making
Iandolo Sara Musealising Urban Peripheries: Heritage-making in Two Italian Stigmatised Neighbourhoods	Roby-Brami Agnès, Fanny Beguery, Nicole Picquart, Katherine Fiumani, Françoise Pothier Role of the associations of residents in preserving remarkable social housing architecture at La Maladrerie

15:30-16:00: Coffee break

16:30 – 17:30: BOOK PRESENTATION

TOURISM, HERITAGE AND METROPOLITAN DYNAMICS IN THE URBAN PERIPHERIES

Maria Gravari-Barbas & Sandra Guinand, Handbook on Tourism Gentrification. Concepts, Spaces, Features, Elgar, 2025

Maria Gravari-Barbas, Sébastien Jacquot, Maja Jovic, Johannes Novy, Westminster University, Tourism And the metropolis: Exploring Conceptual and Geographical Frontiers, Westminster Press, 2026

17:30 – 18:00: Concluding remarks

18:00: Closing cocktail

DAY 3, April 25th: Post-conference tour (the detailed program will be defined soon)

The tour will invite participants to discover several iconic towns in Plaine Commune – industrial sites, social housing, allotments and family gardens, as well as expressions of intangible heritage – street art, hip hop, etc. It will also invite participants to sample local specialities.

This symposium forms the culmination of the [JPICH-funded 'Cultural Heritage of the Metropolitan Peripheries' \(CUMET\)](#) which from 2023 to 2026 sought to capture joint developments in Paris, Madrid and Edinburgh. CUMET has produced an observatory of urban and metropolitan heritage, which will be presented during the conference. This conference also continues the work of an Una Europa funded project, CUTE which has produced a [Manifesto for the Heritage of Urban Peripheries](#).



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Heritopolis - a global consortium on metropolitan heritage



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