

The high court of the Balearic Islands has confirmed the designation of es Campament as a site of exceptional cultural value. In so doing, the court rejected a suit brought by the owners of es Campament appealing the Formentera Council's decision to characterise it as such.

On November 29, 2013, the plenary assembly of the Formentera Council voted to begin the process of ascribing the status of “Asset of Cultural Interest” or BIC (*Bé d'Interès Cultural*) to la Savina's erstwhile prison. The designation also included special mention of the site's historical value.

The measure cited a text adopted in plenary by the Eivissa-Formentera island council in 2002. Dated September 30, that text held that “the former prison of la Savina (es Campament) was declared historical BIC”.

Responding the 2013 declaration, es Campament's owners undertook the contentious litigation rejected earlier today by the court when it upheld the publication of the BIC designation in the official gazette of the Balearic Islands and its inclusion in Formentera's catalogue of historical interest sites.

Culture and patrimony secretary Susana Labrador welcomed the court's ruling, noting it would “help ensure this treasured historical heritage monument receives the recognition proposed by the Council”. “Today's climate is favourable to efforts to recuperate historical memory”, she asserted, and called es Campament “particularly important in that sense”.

Formentera Council's commitment to historical memory

The ruling reaffirms the Council's commitment to recovering historical memory on Formentera. On March 1, celebrated as Dia de les Illes Balears, administration officials unveiled a plaque commemorating the five Formentera residents that were killed by supporters of Francisco Franco in 1937. The plaque is the first of its kind in our community.