

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
Master of Science in Architecture (Construction)

***Honors theses***

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**A new axis of development for Maranura - Perù**

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The project deals with the interest of both of us in studying materials and discovering new places and their traditions. The occasion of a real project has been given to us by the contacts that our rapporteur has been able to find and thank to some ONLUS. The project, designed for the Municipalidad of Maranura, a small town near Cusco, is going to be physically realized in the next months. The purpose of our work was to design some functions, connected to the community's needs and to the touristic development of the territory.

Our path of study can be divided in three parts: the journey, that allowed us to discover the peruvian reality and to search bibliographic material, the research on the construction materials and on the traditional techniques and, in the end, the project, which has been developed keeping close links with our commission.

Moreover, in our work there is also a part dedicated to our discovering path of earth meant as a construction material and to our participation to a workshop in which we have experienced all the construction steps in order to build a prototype made of Mattone blocks.



*Project masterplan*

A very important part of our experience has been the journey, which can be divided in three parts: Lima, to find the bibliographic material, Cusco, to touch with hand the peruvian touristic reality and Maranura, to listen to the requests of the commission. Originally the program provided the realization of a *balneario*, that is a complex of swimming pools, and one hotel; afterwards, considering the vastity of the area for the project and the proximity to some strategical sites, some of them truly important for the local community, we decided to provide several new functions, such as: a plaza with a covered market, a convention center, an area for the sports and one for the growing of the typical products.

Talking with the commission allowed us to change some of their requests, which concerned the materials and the techniques, so we were able to use their traditional way to build, except the realization of a Landmark, a panoramic tower destined to be the symbol of the entire project.



*From the top, views of the arriving point, of the market plaza during the summer period, of the covered market, of the axis*

Considering the vastity of the project area and the complexity of the requests, we decided to proceed by steps, trying to solve one problem at time. The main themes delt with the safety of the site, the distribution, the development of the natural species, the rainwater harvesting at a territorial scale, the disposition of the functions in all the area, the realization of terraces which have to be the basis for the buildings and, in the end, the distribution of the building along the axis.

The main hallmarks of the project are three interlaced paths: two of them are dedicated to bikers and pedestrians, the third is a water path used for rainwater harvesting. The first two are different according to the people who are going to use them: the first one connects Maranura with the sacred site of Chinche, the second one is developed in all the project area, allowing the tourist to lose himself in the nature and to discover some demonstration areas in which the natural species are shown. The water path, using the natural slope of the site, provides a sequence of minor harvesting channels which are perpendicular to the slope and that converge in a larger channel that, taking advantage of the inclination of the site, throw the water in river Chinche or in river Vilcanota.



*From the top, views of the swimming pools, of the Landmark tower, of the axis, of the bungalows*

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