

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
Master of Science in Architecture  
**Honors theses**

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**PESCARADERIVAURBANA**

**Redevelopment of the manufacturing storage facilities in the area of Pescara harbour**

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Fragments of the city, that have been underestimated for a long time, can suddenly turn into cruxes and be used to recreate entire neighborhoods, finding new focuses and creating integration. The meaning of deriva urbana (urban drift), was the input to the project and wants to stimulate the citizens to get closer and enjoy the public areas, through spontaneous explorations, creating events and opportunities.

Pescaraderivaurbana was born from the need to develop a project of social housing and other services for the city of Pescara. This is a way to regenerate an highly-potential area of the city thanks to its good location and its bond with the genius loci. The area interested by the intervention is that of the harbour which is mostly tourist, but is where typical sea activities take place; this is where it is possible to find the genuine and traditional Pescara.

To obtain a good regeneration of an area, we must always bear in mind the liveableness of the public space. This is not simply a project of social housing, is a deep understanding, focused on trying to meet the need of the city, in terms of housing, services and leisure time activities.

In this project the public space is structured in two different, but well-integrated, ways: the waterfront and the residential estate.



In the residential estate the public space is composed by the empty spaces among the buildings, it is developed all over the neighborhood and offers different kinds of opportunities.

The ground floor of the buildings hosts shops and consulting offices looking out onto little raised squares; a system of height differences is distributed in the whole area. The idea was to create spaces made for the people. Green areas of the city are well-merged in the neighborhood, not as a single park because there is a pinewood nearby, but as green lungs of multiple varieties and different uses; as far as the elevation is concerned the residential buildings are designed in order to give highly-homogeneity to the build with no differentiation between social housing and residential buildings. These two are very similar except for the apartments' design and the structure of the ground floor; the residential buildings have little and private courtyards at the ground floor.



The buildings are built using hardwooden-partition, made of different layers of pre-assembled, wooden panels glued together. This is an earthquake-proof system and is also financially sustainable, which is a very important aspect for a project of social housing.

The most important part of the neighborhood is the main square in which there are the school, a government building and a civic centre. This square is the focus of the neighborhood and is the place where internal, cycle and pedestrian paths join up.



There is a structure of ramps starting from this square, that allows them to cross the very last part of the motorway that separates the waterfront from the neighborhood. Along the river, the public area develops in a park where people can enjoy their leisure time (with shows and funny activities). The park stretches itself also on the other bank of the river, where there is an area dedicated to a spontaneous fish market.

This project is an analysis based on territorial and social studies, where the opinions of the citizens are taken into consideration.

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