

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
Master of Science in Architecture (Urban and Territorial Design)  
**Honors theses**

---

**Living devices**

***Houses for Fiat workers between industrial development and urban growth  
(1949 – 1979)***

by Umberto Allocca

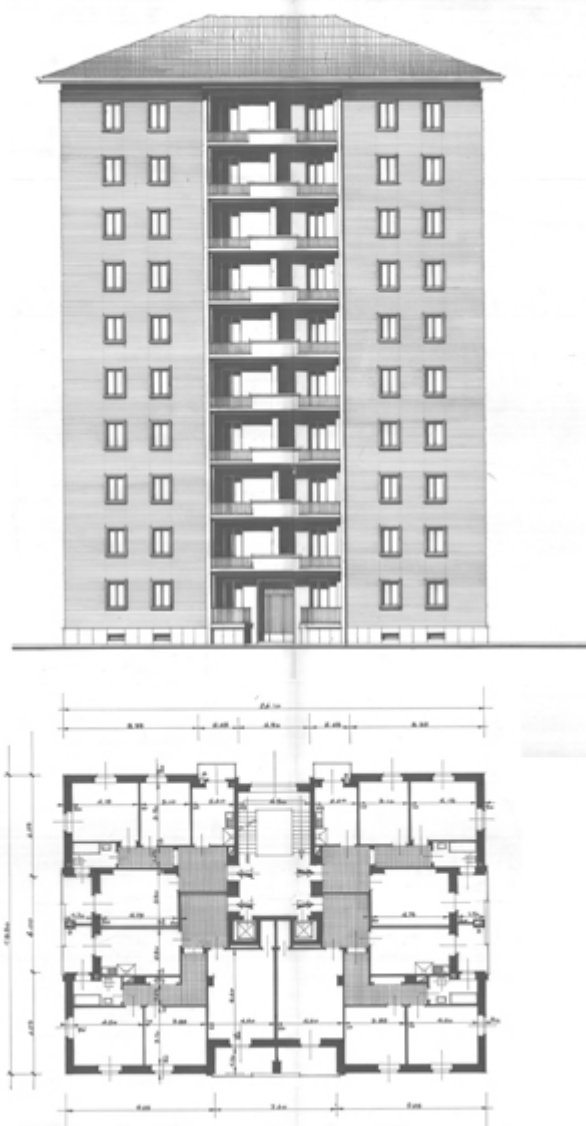
Tutor: Sergio Pace

Co-tutor: Michela Comba

This work is based on sources belonging to a specific firm branch, that is distinguishable for its numerous projects. Among these, housing ones are developed to shape urban context in Italy and abroad.

The search is carried on during the collaboration for the former Fiat Engineering Spa Archives in Bruino (Turin), stage leading to analysis and disclosure of several projects and themes.

For all of these is easy to return the designing approach based on revisions and controls the whole branch destined to all the phases of the creative process. This work is, then, the result of document search and analysis in different archives – Atc, Studio Passarelli, private archives of Architect Adriano Vanara – to collect informations from other professional figures involved in housing projects.



Ex Fiat Engineering – Maire Tecnimont Archives, bombochetto 145, plan and front, 1956

It is easy to define the timeline starting from the first co-operation with Ina-Casa and the IACP of the Province of Turin in order to let the workers living condition get better. Like other important Italian firms, Fiat took part in the National residential planning. The firm completed housing plans in many Italian regions, and Vittorio Bonadé Bottino had a relevant role in most of the projects.



In Italy, the Progetto Case Sud is a relevant case concluded in the industrial zones surrounding the cities of Cassino, Sulmona and Termoli. The entire process included the collaboration of Karrer, Passarelli, Quaroni and Prefim and Siteco in order to develop the architectural, technological and urban aspects. Eight residential areas are completed according to a previous agreement with the Cassa del Mezzogiorno, creating 744 lodgings.

The design is preceded by an inquiry to learn local customs and expectations of the possible assignees.

### III° FASE

COMPLETAMENTO CON MODULI DI SERVIZI E COPERTURE  
DELLE SCALE E DEGLI AMBIENTI COLLETTIVI



Maire Tecnimont Archives, tombolotto T115, Piano Case Sud, Type settlement,  
Project concept, November 1975

The same patterns and schemes regulated the projects and thanks to prefabrication systems the eight building sites are completed and, by the end of the decade, the allotments began.

The criticism against the model let easy to understand that the program was not meant to be successful. Guided tours took place to show finished and furnished lodgings with Fiat Engineering technicians to appeal and increase the applications. Even architects defended the choices, made to grant confort and according the modern design theories, always considering the inquiry's results.

Ex Fiat Engineering Spa Archives, now Maire Tecnimont, le the scientific management behind every project come out. This source makes understandable the role of this specific branch in consense making between the workers and the firm and its National and International success.

For further information, e-mail:

Umberto Allocca: [umberto\\_allocca@hotmail.it](mailto:umberto_allocca@hotmail.it)