

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
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Honors theses

Necessary restoration - Analysis of the interventions of restoration after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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With this thesis I wanted to describe the current situation, relationship to cultural and historical resources of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a special focus on the city of Sarajevo. Of course, in this country and in other countries around the world, different historical periods have left their mark in architecture and town planning. I tried to describe all periods starting from Illyrians to the present day, the most important features and traces of which remain to this day. The first thing that is noticed is inappropriate relationship in the conservation of cultural and historic resources.



Anastylosis and reconstruction of missing parts of the mihrab in the mosque "Ferhadija" in Banja Luka

Besides the lack of conservation of the heritage there is a problem of relations between "old and new", it is, relationship between new buildings and existing ones. Bearing in mind the period after World War II, the second half of the twentieth century. and especially the period after the last war until today, you can find numerous examples of the difficulties of dialogue with tradition and heritage. After the year of 1945 is going strong expansion, particularly in Sarajevo, was not taking care of the old town, and cultural heritage, but also required the prompt settlement and was not built with quality materials.



Reconstruction of missing parts of the plaster decoration in the library of "Vijecnica" in Sarajevo

The old part of the city was considered like a part that retard the development of Sarajevo, and it turned out to be 20-th of April 1945 when the City Council decided to destroy Sarajevo old town. The vandalism was fortunately stopped by the year 1950, but in five years, they destroyed 246 shops and other buildings that made up the old part of town. For me this decision is the destruction of the old part of the city clean vandalism that is no different from the vandalism that occurred in the last war. It could be brought by someone who does not understand the culture, architecture, someone who does not care about the cultural heritage, someone who does not want good for this country. Unfortunately, we never managed to get most of which consists of the educated people, people of culture among decision-makers, and those positions are still people who do not care about the architectural heritage and culture in general.

After the war, the war profiteers begin to build objects incongruent with existing facilities and environment, thus inflicting damage to cultural and historical remnants of a people and a country. If we lose everything that had been built for centuries, we will become a plant without roots, everything will be destroyed what has invested enormous effort to be created. Not to mention a number of victims who have fallen to preserve as much as possible this country and the people of this country, and everything that is related to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although much of what has been destroyed than others, as with ourselves, we would need to give greater force to fight for what is left.

The cause of all wrong and inappropriate interventions lies in the fact of absence of regulatory plan that determines the exact limits of the old city, the lack of a plan that specifies the objects to be protected, the influence of political parties on the conservation of certain monuments and the choice of monuments for conservation, restoration, or any another intervention.

As a solution of these problems it's necessary to do:

1. analyzed in detail a territory to determine a limitations of the old city
2. execute the valuation space (territorial, economic, social analysis, etc..) in order to select the best purpose in the process of refunctionalization . This analysis also collected satellite images, maps, charts, plans, etc..
3. selection of objects for a protection (estimate if object has a value, which are important for his protection)
4. do complex analysis of each object (analyzing the period in which the object is built, and its modifications, the analysis of style and layers where they are respected in the intervention and the possible remains of all periods, construction techniques, materials, etc.)
 - a. description of the current state of object
 - b. drawings
 - c. historical analysis

This analysis requires finding out as much as possible the documents relating to the property or territory in which the intervention is (books, archives, satellite maps, travel books, drawings, etc..), In order to better understand the period in which the facility is built.

d. analysis of material degradation and structural damage

Analysis of degradation: causes of degradation (natural disasters, war, age etc.). Study it hard materials, where the material was taken, the type of facility in which the period incurred. Make even deeper analysis of the causes of degradation (moisture, vegetation, weather and pollutants, anthropological degradation, salt, etc..). Do mapping of degradations in relation to the type of degradation designate interventions should be done (cleaning, protection, restoration)

5. refunctionality

After the analyzes and interventions to have an "healthy" structure without degradation, it is choosing the best refunctionality purpose (if it is a group of similar objects is necessary to do an analysis of the complex and on that basis determine the proper use and adapt structures to new functions) .

6. functional adaptation of the building for fire and anti-seismic norms

Vitruvio in his book *De Architectura*, written around 25 BC, says that architecture must satisfy three categories:

- ♣ firmitas (stability)
- ♣ utilitas (function)
- ♣ venustas (aesthetics)

First of all, during the renovation works, if it is disturbed his stability, the object must be restored in this regard, and then remove the other degradations. After this, it is necessary to make all the necessary analysis to reach the best use of the building in a particular environment, and all must eventually satisfy the aesthetic criterions. As for the aesthetic part, especially in the old parts of the city, there is a lot of controversy between the conservators whether color is again applied to the facade must be original and should choose a shade that is similar to the original color, which fits better in the area where the facility is located.

The authorities' sights, as I mentioned, is pretty bad. From time ti time, they are works of restoration or conservation of an important building, but it's still not enough. One drawback is the weak link of certain facilities to the towns and main roads. Since a certain monuments, such as medieval fortresses, castles, tombstones etc. et on a hill outside the city of today, they are often poorly connected by road and I visit to these facilities is therefore considerably more difficult, and this is the basic premise for tourist visits them.

Accept road links there are rare cases of well-defined contents that does not infringe a protected monument and space around it, and these are the approaches that should be considered in the places like this: book shop's, souvenir shops, modern installations (lighting, benches, trash cans and other types of furniture), access for disabled persons, and the installation folder for the blind and visually impaired people, etc.).



Part of the rebuilt facade of the library "Vijecnica" in Sarajevo

In addition to the weak connection inadequately prepared sites and facilities and the surrounding area for their visit, they also often do the wrong methods of intervention, and above all there is a problem with the representative office who lack respect for the cultural and historical monuments, so we are often witness vandalism in particular younger population.

In the times of economic crisis, unemployment, a times when there are problems of existential nature, those who care about the monuments must work harder to succeed safe what's left.

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