Mostar, a new houses installation in the west of Boulevard
By Michele Gherra and Monica Gonin
Tutor: Domenico Bagliani.
Co-Tutors: Mauro Berta and Italo Cerea Voglio

(photo by Michele Gherra)

HOW MAKE THE PROJECT

FLUVIAL AREA.
Rodoboja river, (top on the left), shows a very degraded situation. That’s why we decide to make some works to improve the urban and green background. Following the Neretva –Rodoboja crossing bank, new banks will be built using stones, as shown in the pictures. This operation will highlight the beauty and the colours of the water, especially in winter. Wooden protections and new pedestrian routes will be created along the banks. They will be made of river cobbles and lit by suitable light points, that will be put also in the bed of the river, to simulate the presence of water in summer.
FOOD WAY AND URBAN GREEN.
The arrangement of the pedestrian routes will be strongly inspired by the works in Stari Grad, i.e. the muslim area. The reason of this choice is the use of local materials, such as wood and stones, and its biothechnological character. We would like to create suggestive ways with stone wall around, which not only have an aesthetical and structural function, but also delimit green areas. These pictures show some examples and the visual effect is guaranteed. So we will use these techniques also for the entrances to private houses, marked by evergreen trees and ornamental plants to create a serene and equilibrated atmosphere.
ABOUT ILLUMINATION
The illumination will be assured by light points, with the typical arabesque design, integrated in suitable urban fittings, fountains, dustbins, benches, which will assure a pleasant ambiance. These rules will also apply to the rivers on the hill and to the different works concerning the new installation.

STREETS PAVING
Little Boulevard pavement crossing our new installation will be made in beaten earth (about 30 cm thick), with little river stones inside, or in prefabricated plates, with the same features, put on a prepared concrete floor. Another way could be using stones cubes, putted on a sand layer.
For light points and urban fittings, the same ideas explained above will be adopted. Horizontal and vertical signals will show the right directions and way instructions. T’s important to point out that, at the beginning, the boulevard will connect the existing road network of the city through two junctions. The first one will be obtained from a series of curves that will connect the Boulevard to a inner street in front of the Franciscan monastery and will be easy to make because of the natural slope of the hill, without great differences of level. The natural background of the hill start, after a series of curves necessary not to destroy the natural background of the hill, which has already been strongly harmed by the civil war.
Evergreen trees will be planted to camouflage the boulevard and consolidate the ground of the hill after the excavation. The boulevard will have lights, a good system to let the rainwater run off (the rainwater will be recycled using big concrete basins from which the water will reach the fountains) and other elements necessary to make the crossing with the main boulevard safe, even if the traffic is very heavy.

DECORATION FOR EXTERNAL WALLS
Stone materials will also be used for the decoration of external walls of the houses and the towers. The final result will be a different kind of decoration: every user will choose the colour (white, yellow, orange, red-orange), and whether he wants to paint every wall or only the first floor or the second one. The windows and the door will be framed (see the picture) and this will give dynamic image of the walls. Alternating geometrical elements and colour will brighten up everything, giving a new feeling of freedom from the past ghosts of the war, and unfortunately are still present in the streets of the city.

ROOFS
The pictures show the result that we are looking for. The use of stone plates for roof, is a good way to use local materials, also because some types of stones are typical of this area. The laying can be made in two different ways: by putting one stone plate on another or by putting the plates side after making a suitable wooden layer with an isolating material to obtain an homogeneous surface.

Documents: little description of the project: in the ground-plan there are car park, (we excavate the slope of the hill) a commercial area (with a semicircular structure) and also a series of lodging with private garden. If you want go to the first floor, you can use stairs, that will be inside tower structure. The first floor will be characterized by the presence of a commercial area (the same semicircular structure of the ground floor) and some single houses. There is a central road, that will connect the new installation with the big boulevard and the rest of the city.
Thank pedestrians routes with green gardens, will be possible go to the houses build on the slope of the hill. (see the pictures the show better these concepts).

*Prospect and ground floor of the new installation (photo by Michele Gherra)*

For further information, e-mail: migherra@tin.it