

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Rehabilitation and Revaluation)
Honors theses

VI sense: plan of ri-qualification for the old Galvani paper-mill in Vittorio Veneto
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The construction of the old Galvani paper-mill in Vittorio Veneto (Treviso) began in 1633- 1640, and it grew until 1927, year in which the production of paper terminated. The building is part of a system of mills scattered along the river Meschio, passing through the city of Vittorio Veneto. The river helps to give the place its charm: the water flows through the complex of mills dividing the different outlets. Inside the various buildings, there are still some elements that show the original working function of the place: there are gear-wheels, basins for fermentation of paper and particular large wooden cases to contain the raw materials, unique example in all the Venetian paper-mills.



The project giving the place its new function starts from a fundamental question: which new purpose could we give to the pre-existing complex? The entire plan is led by the idea that the original identity of the paper-mill shouldn't be lost, despite the new plan of a flexible, open and diversified function. The connection with the environment is fundamental, therefore the enological and gastronomic sectors are considered as local traditions able to bring folklore within the new complex.



“The VI sense” is the logo we chose which encapsulates all our ideas for the project:

- “The VI sense” like the ability of giving a new meaning to a stratified space, that evolved from the paper mill without losing its original identity.
- “The VI sense”, in the light of its new use, represents the ability of experiment new innovative ways of exploring the eno-gastronomic tourism and a new opening toward the melange of different cultural spheres (taste and art, taste and music, taste and cinema etc.)
- “The VI sense” also recalls the number six, like the faces of a dice, a geometrical figure taken as a project module to reinterpret the presence of the characteristic wooden cases.



The connection with the environment is reinforced thanks to the adjacent cycle path which helps bringing life and a dynamic touch into the new complex, going in, out, and through it; together with the river Meschio, as we have described earlier.

The new functions of the paper mill complex are six, all connected with taste and well-being culture, but with differences in the location and use:

Tasting activities

- Cooking workshops for professional, beginners or tourists
- Restaurants and cafés
- Well-being and fitness area
- Trading activities (a shop selling local products)
- Guestrooms

In order to emphasize the link between the new project and the historical tradition, we chose to preserve the original fragments of the old mill.

The Cafeteria is characterized by the original pulleys machines and fixed furniture; gear-wheels adorn the café's walls; in the shop, the basins originally used for the fermentation are covered with glass-floor; and the wooden cases become "taste and culture" points.

The exploitation of the original building, the lightness and transparency of the material also led the technological choices. The main areas of exploration were three: the guestroom spaces (using the innovative Jupit'air system for the creation of wooden partition), the new light structure ('tensostruttura') covering the space between the eastern outlets, and the new aerial gangways connecting the various spaces.

In a constant dialogue between reminiscence and the new project, the new function we propose for the paper mill offers the possibility of enjoying a place rich of charm, still maintaining the cultural ambition of a stratified place that can be brought back to life and enjoyed.

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