POLITECNICO DI TORINO SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE Master of Science in Architecture <u>Honors theses</u>

A project for the Raval

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Barcelona is one of the most vivacious and dynamics city in the European panorama, when colossal operations of recovery and expansion are able to find new opportunities of development.

The continuity of good results reached in twenty years of urban planning has made a lot of sensation at international level. Because of this it has begun to speak about a "model Barcelona" exportable in the most European's capitals able to promote a sustainable development.

In the last years the planning of Barcelona has been concentrated in the recovery of vast areas putting in the background what had been the initial winning planning: the recovery and rehabilitation of the heart of the city. All the great operations in action risk to result less effective without a suitable intervention program for the city center and particularly of those less representative areas, mostly degraded and out of the commercial and tourist circuits, that assemble him are concentrated especially in the Raval district.



Morphological analysis of the Raval

The idea of the project is born from the bases of a competition, *Ecobarrios 2006*, promoted by *Consejo Superior de los Colegios de Arquitectura de Espana*. The objective of the competition is a deep architectural and urban reflection about the residential development through works that go from the whole city to the single building.

The analysis of constitutive elements and the different building composing the Raval district is essential to understand the characteristics of the district, the hierarchies of the elements and the composition of the spaces with the purpose to make adapted interventions in those areas that more than others need a planning.

It's important therefore to analyze public spaces, the streets and the pedestrian distances, the accessibility to the public transport and the obstacles to the use of places.



Analysis of the constitutive elements of the area of intervention

Through the analysis we reached the conclusion is that a model of sustainable development necessarily implicates a public intervention with the aim to promote the entry in the district of people coming from different social situations, able to integrate themselves with the population of the district and structures placed in the territory. The student residences system planned has to be read in this way.

Our project is placed in the space left free by the demolition of some residences and it concerns in the development of a college, a residential building and a park beside them.

The university college is a build of four floors composed by a compact volume that occupies the entire area at the ground floor level and grows up crumbling, with the result to have a system of green terraces and roof gardens that make strong contrast between shadows and lights. Around the central patio (a typical element of buildings in the area) are placed the rooms: this patio allows the airing and a good illumination.

The fourth floor is composed of two blocks. Among them there is a big green terrace enjoyable in the warm seasons. The residences destined for students are rebuilding on the area of the three residences pulled down. It is composed by a central patio that divides it in two separate blocks which are connected by two stairways for the distribution. We also propose for this intervention the same idea of a crumbling by the insertion of balconies that don't stick form the line of the façade but on the other hand they withdraw and decompose the compactness of the project. The last floor is composed by two separated blocks and an terrace enjoyable in the summer.



The intervention

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