

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture
Honors theses

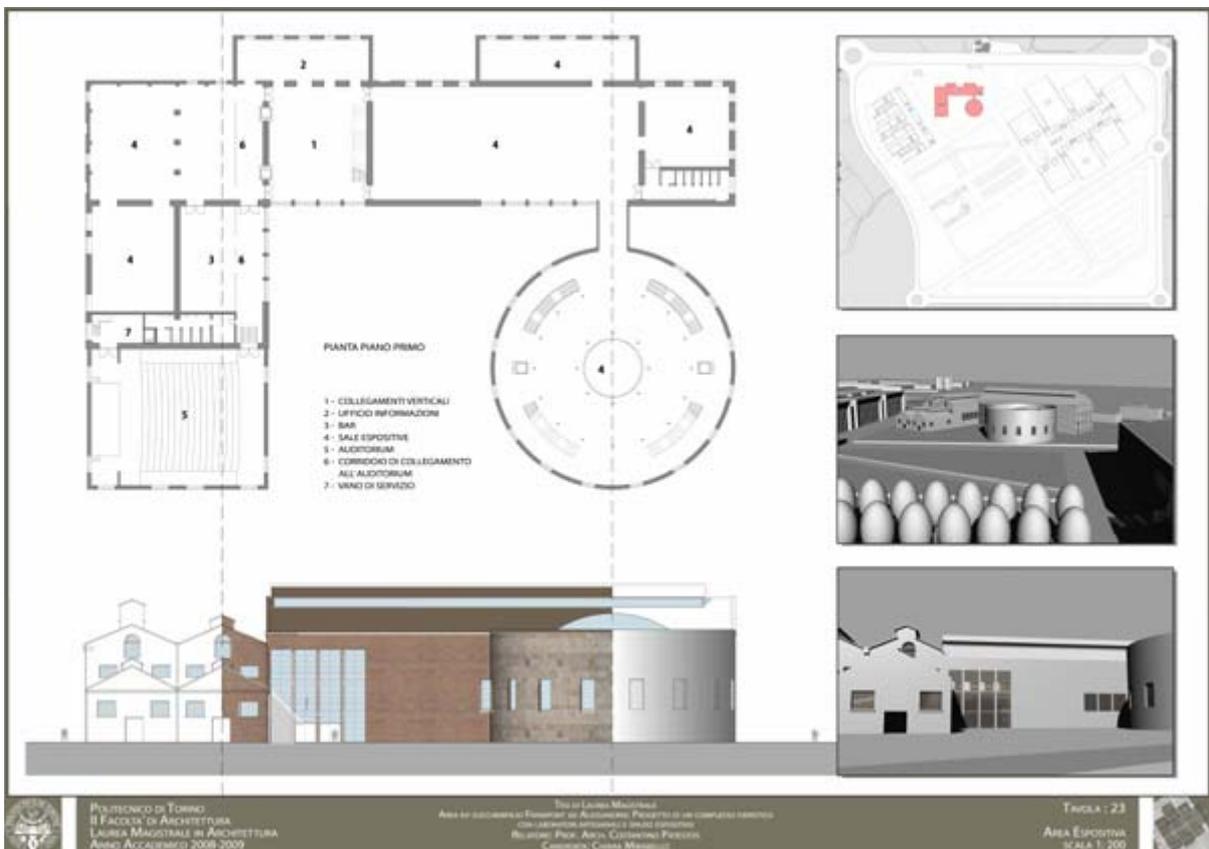
**Frainpont former sugar factory, Alessandria, Italy – project of trade fair,
exhibition centre and craft workshops**

by Chiara Mirabello

Tutor: Costantino Patestos

The choice of work on a disused former industrial structure stems from the desire to exploit and use this know very widespread in the country. The former factory object of study is between the cities of Alexandria and the suburb of Spinetta Marengo. This suburb of Alexandria was established as a geographical reference to the Alexandrians, enjoying a high profile as set up along the route ex-statale 10, which is one of the main entrances to the city. Near the area of intervention there are other points of historical and cultural interest that enhance the detectability of the place. The project involves the construction from scratch of two structures and the recovery of the main building of the original complex.

The first step requires the maintenance of the primitive historical building, with the construction of a new volume connected to it. The new use is of such exhibition, and the interior space, large and without structural breaks, it fits perfectly.



The main entrance is developed in height for all three plans, emphasizing the distribution function of flows of visitors. The internal structure allows the creation of two distinct pathways exhibition developed on three floors in order to accommodate more than one event simultaneously.

Adjacent to the old part of the intervention you place a new building that houses the ground floor as well as a restaurant, an area dedicated to the exhibition and sale of products of small craft workshops which are situated in two floors above. Workshops are planned adjacent to the classrooms in order to create a cultural trail, here too, and enhancement of local handicrafts. The structure provides for the division into six blocks connected in pairs by internal corridors that accommodate the vertical links and the three corridors are connected by a long passage perpendicular to them that identifies the three blocks that enter into the geometry of the structure.

The building that most influence the geometry of the project is the fair building.

The massing of the pavilions are developing along a main corridor that connects them all together and hosting services for both visitors and exhibitors.

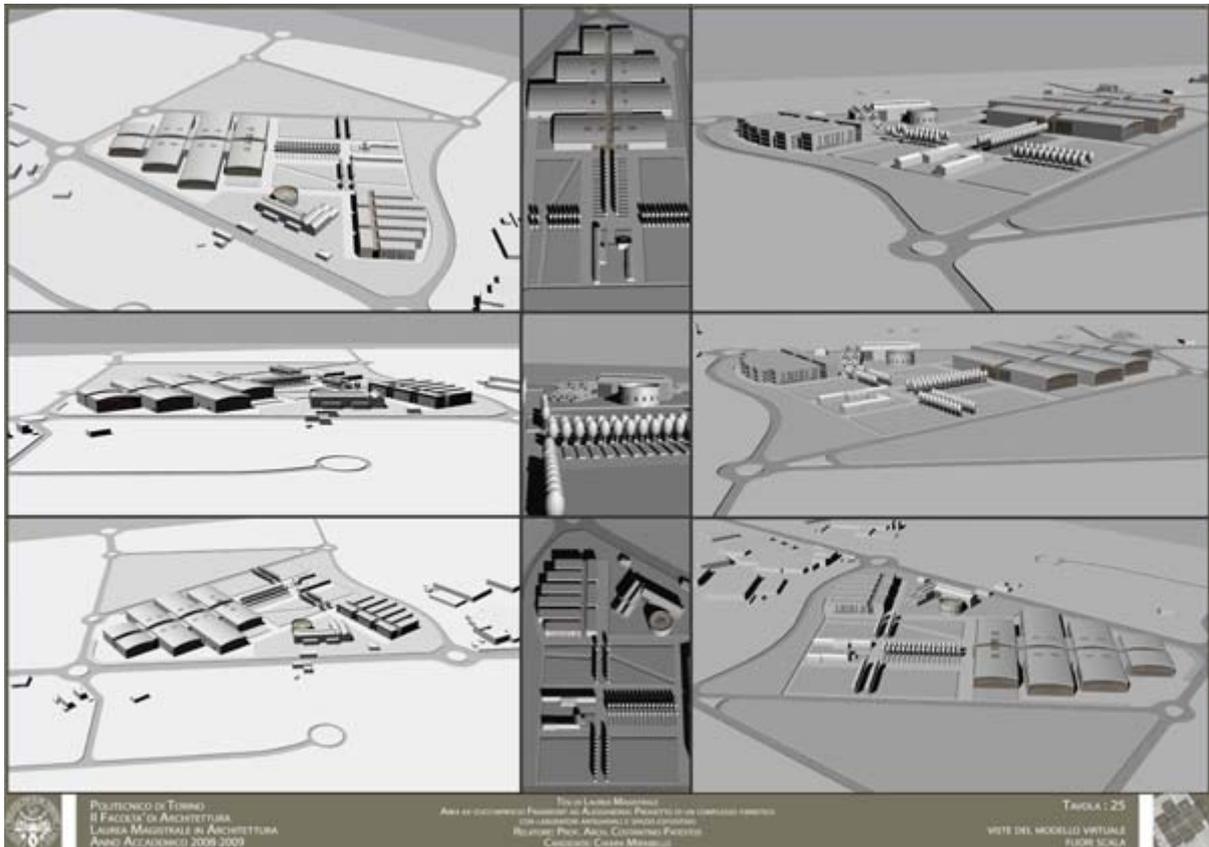
In the hall, as identified in the face by a large glass area, the routes for visitors and exhibitors are separated to facilitate the use of the site.



The central route is also developed internal upstairs in a balcony which is accessed through two blocks wide by escalators and elevators, positioned at the ends of the central location. The upper floor are situated various services including executive offices, the convention center with attached complementary services.

The pavilions allow the construction of the stands without structural impediments to encourage different types of events.

The element linking the three structures in the project is the central square, created from the intersection of two major elements that give rise to the geometry of composition of the entire project. To emphasize these two lines combine the longitudinal corridors of the exhibition and the building of workshops that go on inside the square with boulevards lined up to cross an illustrious seniority, the farmhouse was the birthplace of the Blessed Mother Teresa Michel.



This research stems from the desire of composition to rediscover the old fabric of these areas, created by the mesh of the farmhouse, which emphasize the agricultural vocation of the territory, and the presence of historical finds as the ancient village of Marengo Lombard and the Cavallarotta farmstead that have been main points of this historic rediscovery of the mesh.

For further information, e-mail:

Chiara Mirabello: chiara.mirabello@hotmail.com