

Proposal for an economic and socially integrated habitat

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The objective of our thesis is the fruit of a series of reflections originated from a simple curiosity: how to make houses at low cost keeping a good quality standard?

The self help house building in the Italian set up, made of different realities, appeared to us, to be the best solution as it allows an economically disadvantaged sector of population, to have access to house and also capable of creating a strong social cohesion among the peoples who take part in this project.

Another curiosity of ours, is this: will it be possible to concretize a self help building project in a construction reality close to us, like the one of Grugliasco?

Starting off these ideas in mind, we went on with some specific social questions: looking at the reality around us it emerged a number of problems related to today's dwelling facilities which are even more significant than the simple economic problem.

We went on with our researches about the quality of dwelling and about the capability of the traditional housing space, to meet the needs of today's living.

The first step was to analyse the most recent sociological researches and statistics of family life, in which we discovered some "emergencies". Subsequently we found out some inspiring project.

Having completed the first session of our analysis, we now wish to give our personal answer to the problems which have emerged from it.

As we have already said, we thought that the part to follow was that of self help construction.

We have analysed some Italian example of self help building in order to make use of the knowledge already there and introduce something new.

As for type of buildings our project does not follow the typical scheme of houses to formation in order to allow for a greater personalization.

From the point of view of a formal research we have tried to create a space, clearly distinguishable, inside the construction frame in which it establishes and, at the same time, capable of communicating the style of life of its users.

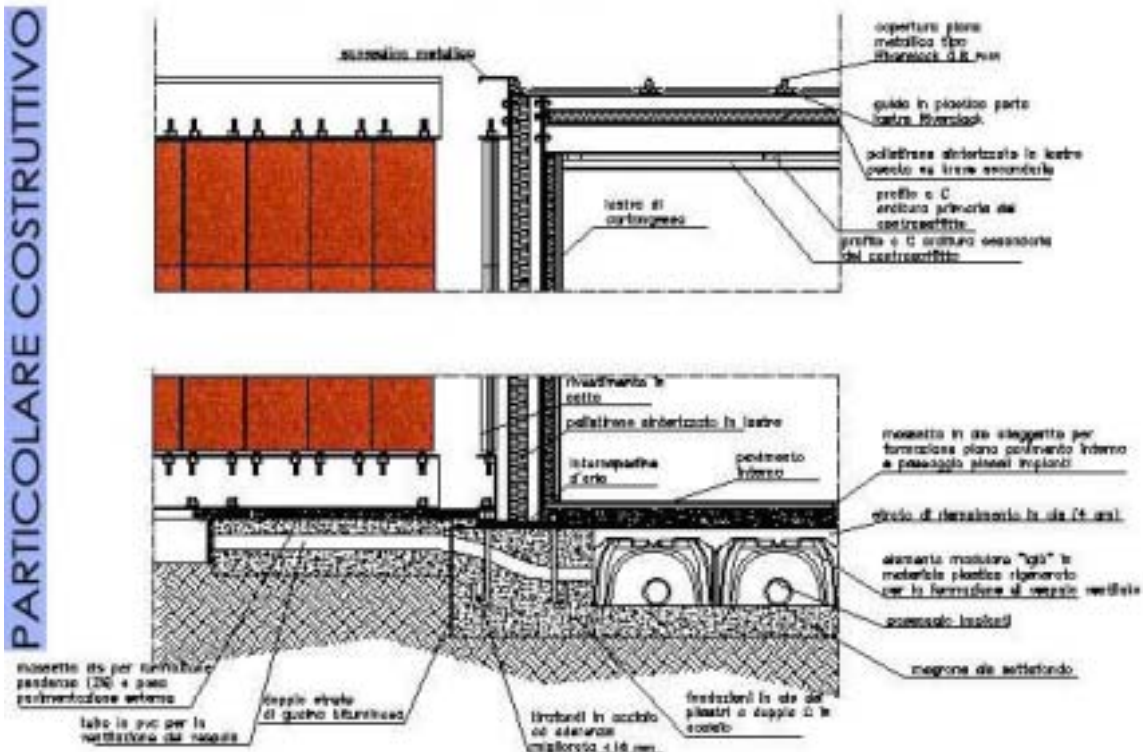
For this reason, the blue print of our project is referring to the tree metaphor. The basic concept is that of life; the tree is in fact a living organism and its organic functions are concretized in the relationship which exist among the parts that constitute itself and exterior.

Our project too, is articulated in this way: the various parts are not connected in a hierarchical manner, they are all placed on the branches, all different parts, but with the same "value"; because of this, no center, no square exists. The lymph that gives life to everything is the activity of the dwellers of the residential area who decide to live close to each other in order to strengthen this living machine able to generate services. In order to make this space available we took inspiration from the Mondrian studies on the topic of the tree. Starting off from here we came to find out the one matrix with which we could define each part of the plan.



General planning map of the area

From the technological point of view our project is entirely created with dry stratified technologies as they can be easier placed in position, they assure a higher flexibility and better respond to the concepts of dwellings biology.



Technological detail

At least, we look into the relationship with the local public Administration: our objective is to make the local Authorities themselves promoters of the project. In this regard we have thought of possibility of making a contest among young couples for the construction of a residential area, considering a space for a nursery school, one for telejobs and other common space, all given, for the running, to the families who won the contest.



Nursery school view

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