

Hotel Angst at Bordighera. A new life

by Giovanni Donato

Tutor: Oreste Lori Gentile

Every time I happen to see a building in a state of neglect, whether it be ancient in the city centre or simply an old farmhouse or even an out of the way hayloft, I ask myself as to how something constructed to the best of one's ability ends up so gloomy.

Instinctively I just feel like entering the place and start clearing out the rubble and debris including the weeds from what once benefited from a totally different reality. I felt the same urge together with my wife, when we entered the once lobby of the HOTEL ANGST for the first time in the summer of 1993.

In recent years I have been going to Bordighera and right from the start I have found the place charming including a number of buildings dating back in history, many of which destroyed into ruins through the years and now and then with restoration bound to end up that way.

Most of these old hotels and large villas of the past were prestigious accommodation for the rich and well-known Europeans, nowadays they have been converted into "Residences" or mini apartments.

Passing along Via Romana you can admire them in pastel colours with shutters closed for most of the year empty and without owners or tenants in them.

I can't say the same of Hotel Angst which on Via Romana is the only construction that arouses curious interest rather than those of future investors.

The lack of structure and the modest conditions of what is left has induced me to think concerning a possible recovery and refurbishment of that majestic building in Via Romana, which continues to resist the hidden dangers of time.

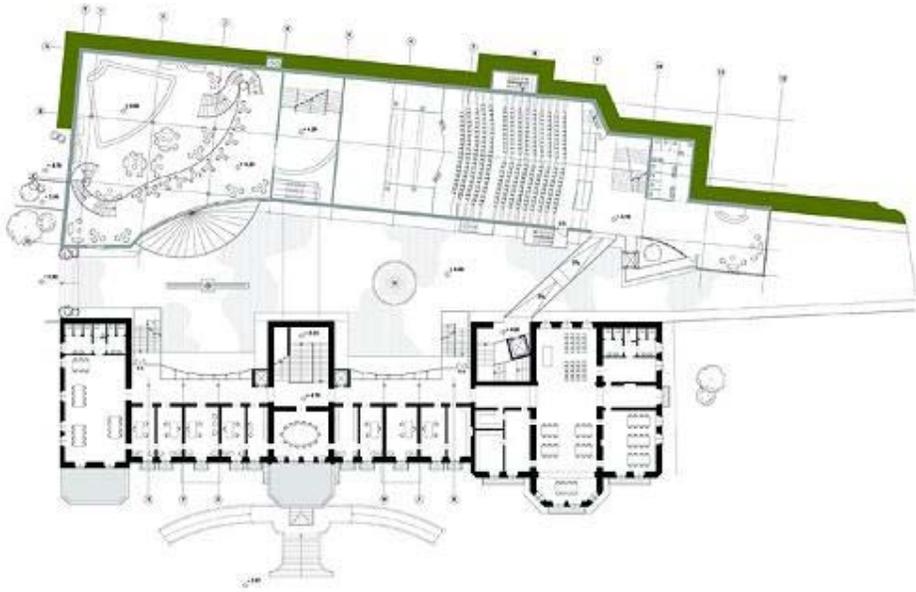
I sincerely hope that Hotel Angst will never be converted into yet another "Residence" of mini apartments for the occasional tourists.

Looking at it from the road one can easily reflect on its past, using ones imagination of what has remained of the hotel and its immense park, but at the same time you wonder what is going to come of it, fearing that one day it would be demolished down to the ground by a building sites excavators.

I have therefore decided to choose this topic as my final thesis, the functional qualification of Hotel Angst, transforming it as it originally was, a selective environment for the chosen few, in a area where culture and entertainment can arouse new interests to improve the equilibrium perhaps a bit inactive in the town Bordighera.

The aim of the project consists in giving "new life" to tourism in Bordighera with respect to the peace and quiet of one of the few real Italian garden cities.

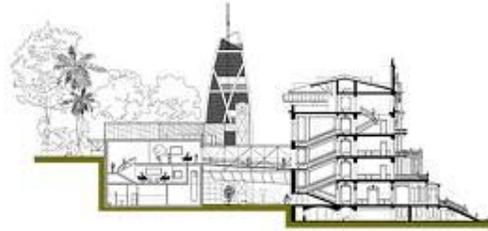
It is my privilege to indulge all my efforts regarding the topic I have chosen and to visit the few accessible areas of a construction that should not succumb to the dangers and disasters of neglect.



PIANTA PIANO PRIMO



PROSPETTO SUD



SEZIONE SU VESTIBOLO



PROSPETTO EST

THE PROJECT CULTURAL AND ENTERTAINING CENTER

At the origin of the project, I decided to fix some “points” in accordance with the project journey development.

1. preserve the facade as a skin and give at the historic building various function.
2. to enlarge the building at the North side following the ground shape.
3. to come between the two building an internal yard open up towards East and West.
4. to create an obliged journey through the hall and the big stairs.
5. to sacrifice the secondary parts of the historical building enlarging the yard and making a light arrangement of the North facade.

For further information, e-mail: www.nena-gio@libero.it