

The space and invalid people. Working out of specific places for people affected by Down's Syndrome

by Federica Lanzavecchia

Tutor: Eugenia Monzeglio

The present dissertation put forward some reflections for working out of special rooms for people, with Down's Syndrome.

Particular circumstance, and theme of this work, is the research for reorganization of the space of CEPIM (Down people Center), placed in Turin (Italy).

Preliminary analysis.

In this dissertation an analysis is carried out:

- to establish, in an introductory note, a general trace concerning symptomatologic characters of people affected by "Trisomy 21";
- to take into consideration regulation in force, whether national affective in Aosta's Valley Region, in support of disabled people;
- to examine national and regional services for people with intellectual handicaps and, in this particular case, of Down people;
- to take into consideration situation concerning Italian Associations and Centres actually present.

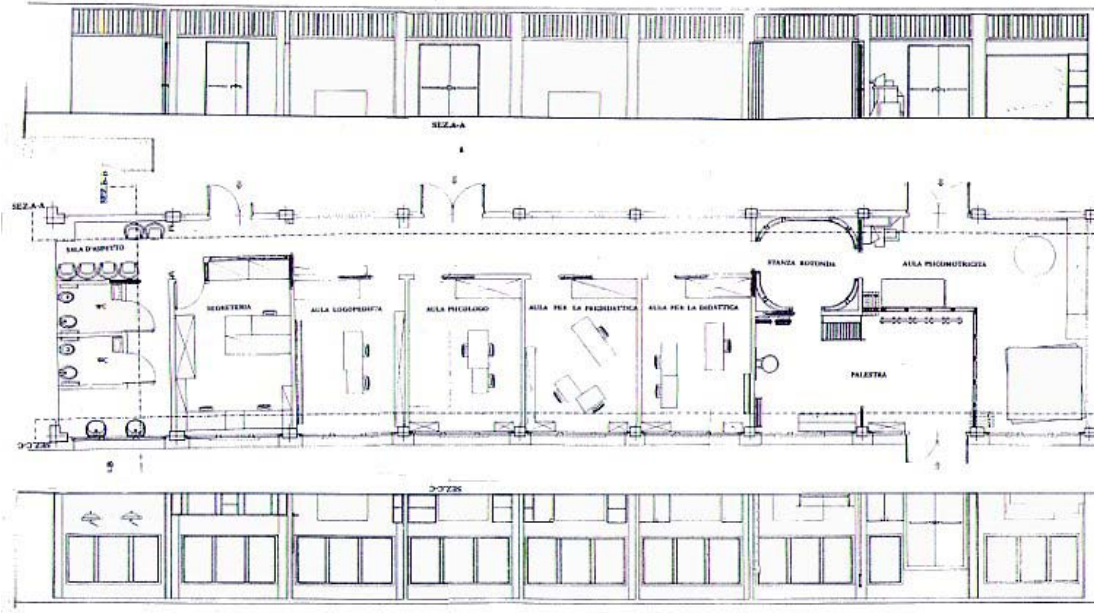
Project approach

The setting-up of this planning work and choice of formalities of realization arise from:

- aims to which make reference;
- the analysis of existing ambient and spatial situation;
- available resources.

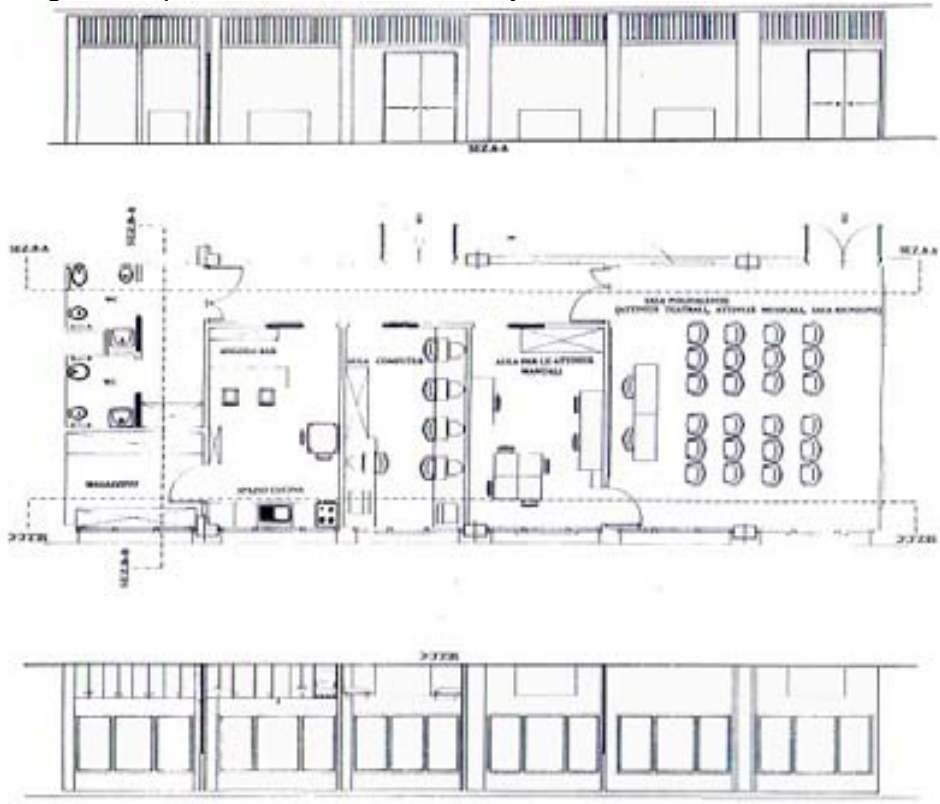
Moreover, methodology of work is altogether characterized by a project approach in which there is a research that focalizes its attention:

- on study and qualitative analysis of trisomic person's perception;
- on necessity of a kind of re-education founded, however it's possible, on assumption of Down People's assumption of responsibility (as establishment of places which agree them to live some moments of "normal daily recurrence"), and which comparison took to settlement of places to create a background on which to project suggestions of integration;
- on cooperation whether of people that turn this service to account or of team (composed from psychologists, speechtherapists, ...), for an hypothesis to re-organize places;
- on necessity to contribute:
 - a) to the building up of abilities
 - b) to the understanding of disability
 - c) to maintenance of what has been learnt.



Later on the planning work is considering:

- identification of useful opportunities (what places there are, their sizes, ...)
- structure of places as teaching aims that the team is preferring, by not falling outside legislative protocol in force until today.



Manner of realisation.

Following necessity to create, if necessary, centres similar to CEPIM, a "modulate" conception of various rooms was supposed, without losing sight "totality's" principle of characteristic aims and purposes of the centre in question, in which must live reception and rehabilitation centres for Down People, formative and informative services for parents, technicians and teachers and services for cultural sensitization, promotion and spreading of problems related to the Syndrome.

Moreover principle which is allowing to integrate necessary rooms with pre-existing structure, to be precise with rooms placed at disposal from the Municipality of Turin, to permit to development of all indispensable activities for CEPIM's living.

According to these principles, many references relative regulation in force are not lacking, on dejection of architectural barriers (Italian Ministerial of order Public Works n°236/89), from which the attempt to eliminate all these physical obstacles, that made difficult life relations for people that presents a redoubt moter capacity and which restrict or dostruct anybody easy and sure employment of parts of a building, of its spaces and its equipments.

Besides, with regard to aims of present regulations, logical references were made to Presidential Ruling by Decree 503/96 (abrogative of Presidential Ruling by Decree 384/78), on which was tranferred attention for a successive project control, finally to recover and to offer suggestions and "real" solutions for all people who are daily excluded from a solution of livability.

In the hope that this work could, even it in little part, contribute removing obstacle stronger than any "architectural barrier", the prejudice.