

Salvaging and e recovery of the “patrimoine partagé” in Rhodes: NNO building in Campochiaro

by Micol Avagnina and Emanuela Ballauri

Tutor: Cesare Renzo Romeo

Co-tutor: Nina Avramidou

The architecture realized in Dodecanese islands during the Italian occupation (1942-43) constitutes a very representative chapter of European contemporary architecture story. Great evidence of architectural works was left in Rhodes centuries ago as well. These works were declared Human Heritage by UNESCO and give the island a multiethnic and multicultural aspect. Rhodes has a priceless and stratified architectural heritage which dates back to classical, Byzantine, medieval and gothic periods, and also many architectures deriving from dominations that lasted longer or shorter periods. So, it's not surprising the presence of a strong interest in discovering the Italian period architecture in Rhodes and the recent attempts to save it as a cultural illustrious heritage of the 20th century.

The usual notion of “colonial architecture”, has been replaced by a more neutral one, “patrimoine partagé”, that recognises in these works a mayor attention to the contest and to local architectural traditions, without the negative connotations linked to phenomena of cultural imposition by dominant people as, for example, in African colonies. Our objective, in this case of study, is verifying, with a direct experience, a global diagnostic proceed, that aims to fill in a diagnostic protocol finalized to a recover intervention. The three phases of process (explorative, prediagnostic and diagnostic) have revealed necessary to a deep knowledge of the building property. According to the results of tests and analysis performed before, we made a diagnosis, necessary to the following choice of correct measures. We noticed that the diagnostic method allows improving a global knowledge about the building object, following an organized and exhaustive way: every described phase is indispensable to the elaboration of a correct diagnosis, which aims to realize an intervention that is to considers both physical, typological and technological aspects of the object and those linked to its history and to its cultural and geographical context.

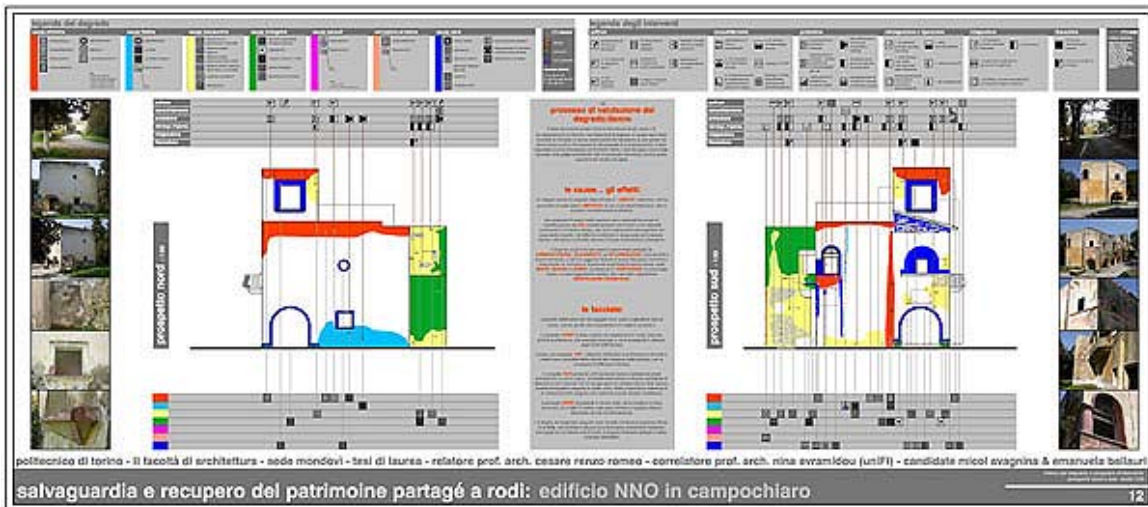


Why “NNO building in Campochiario”?

If we think about Italian architecture in Rhodes, it soon comes to our mind the famous centre’s buildings, so sumptuous and representatives, and we forget the other parts of the island’s phenomena because they haven’t a performing function, but they’re noteworthy examples.

Campochiario is a typical Italian colonial village, organized around a centre that includes all public buildings and around which there were the colonies’ houses. NNO building faces the central square, it housed commercial, social and leisure activities and that’s why it was the village pole.

The building, that hasn’t been in use since more than thirty years ago, is really worn-out and it’s perfect as a study subject for an intervention.



Our work is the consequence of a stage in Rhodes, during which, charged by the city of KAMIROS, directed by Professor NINA AVRAMIDOU and by Professor CESARE RENZO ROMEO, we applied recognition works on the building dealing with structures: studies aiming on foundation, structural parties and those made of reinforced concrete and on finishes.



During our staying, we developed a research of the Historical Archives of Rhodes and we collected a lot of photographic documents about these buildings. We hope our work can contribute to give a little proof of a shared architecture of the 20th century realized in the Balcanian region, that deserves being homologated Human Heritage.

For further information, e-mails: micolos@libero.it; eballauri@libero.it