



Extended summary

Gaetano Minnucci. Projects in the Marche.

Curriculum: Analisi e progetto dell'architettura e del territorio

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Abstract. Provide The aim of this thesis is to investigate the figure of the engineer Gaetano Minnucci, and deeply its human and working relationship with its region of origin: the Marche. First of these is the essential preliminary part of the work to repair the extensive biography yet little studied form a designer whose expertise is critical in the first instance due to the theme of the trip was to study that determined his career. The Netherlands is the first country to be visited in the early twenties and then Germany and France.

The analysis and sharing of the experience led the engineer to national prominence; maturing in those years in Italy heard of an architectural fervor found Minnucci consciously prepared for the issues that the birth of urban planning, the technical requirements of the new architecture and finally the language that this would take end of the twenties were put the new class of designers. All the knowledge acquired by Minnucci are widely distributed through a series of publications and at the first exhibition of rational architecture (1928) in which he is one of the organizers. At this stage we can define the study, following the occupation that began to cover continuously the Marche in the second half of the forties. The analysis of Marche projects, based primarily on the study of original documents preserved at the state Archives of Rome, led to the recognition of those invariants that characterize much of its architecture. This research has also made it possible to further refine the knowledge of designers and stories related to the regional chapters, some of which have already been written in the past and with which this research is continuing. This is to strengthen that process of discovery that is as useful not only for historians but also more closely the knowledge and awareness of the important cultural heritage that every city and every buildings is often hidden.

Keywords. Architecture of first and second postwar, Netherlands, rationalism, school of architecture, urban planning.

Problem statement and objectives

The aims that you have had with this thesis are multiple places. Being a historical thesis focused on the figure of a designer, a lot of space will be devoted to an analysis of its projects. In particular, research projects will be subject to the Marche region where Minnucci came from and where he often worked after World War II by experimenting with different types of construction planning.

It is for the most of new projects that will be studied for the first time and brought to the attention of critics. Secondly, to understand the importance of character, it will be necessary to shed light on the historical context in which it was found Minnucci to work, first in the twenties, thirties and forties under the Fascist regime, and then after the war. The bibliographical study plays a crucial role in deepening of an historical theme like the one in question.

A key element for understanding and then the first two aspects should be the study of the writings, and before those of the same Minnucci, who has spent much of his time for the dissemination of concepts related to the modern language of architecture. One can not overlook the significant contribution to more strictly engineering issues regarding disclosure Minnucci that has developed over many years in the pages of Italian magazines. First in the journal "L'Ingegnere" (technical review of information of the National Union of Engineers), and then on "Architettura e arti decorative" and "Architecture" later (from 1927 the official review of the National Union of Architects) and "L'Architettura italiana".

The criticism, as reported in the abstract, may have neglected the study of this important personality. The scholars of architectural history, including foreigners, however, have carefully and thoroughly the historical stage that the next twenty year period linked to the war. In the fifties and sixties Italy was the star at the international level because of the speed and effectiveness with which much of the country was practically rebuilt and modernized in infrastructure after the destruction caused by war. For all of this is attempted a detailed reading about the work of Minnucci in the Marches, which owes much of his fortune because of the designation of the reconstruction plan in 1945 that affected the arrangement of the city of Ancona, seriously injured by the war.

This work is part of a broader research undertaken by the department for several years Dardus (today Dicea - Architecture Section), Faculty of Engineering of the Polytechnic University of Marche, aimed at deepening the study of the archives of designers Marches and the important cultural heritage masters of architecture that have historically always left in a land far, far from the vicissitudes of the most important living cultural city in the nation.

The attempt, therefore, is to achieve a complete reading of the entire work carried out in the Marche region, carried out over a period of fifty years. This is more than thirty projects that open up stories often linked together in a dense web of relationships that bind Minnucci other important names of Italian architecture.

Research planning and activities

For the study of documents written by Minnucci to report to the twenties and thirties, it has had to turn to the few Italian libraries that hold this historical material. In particular, the Faculty of Architecture Valle Giulia in Rome at the library holds the Fund Gaetano Minnucci, Marcello Piacentini and reserved, that all the paperwork concerning the character of research and one of the biggest names in the architecture of those years. These archives were donated to the important educational institution or by the same professionals, both teachers for many years at the college, or in cases of Minnucci his heirs. The remaining study material has been recovered and studied only a small part in the library of the Faculty of Ancona on the recent formation of the structure and thus the presence of very recent texts compared to the historical period analyzed. As for the study of the projects must make a distinction between the most known and important and the less important or even not been realized. Among the first quote the reconstruction plan for the city of Ancona, a copy of which is preserved in the Archives of urban history of Ancona as much of the historical photographic material accompanying the pages of the thesis. All of the projects developed in the study conducted by Minnucci is kept in the Archivio Centrale di Stato of Rome, whose fund has been the subject of a recent reorganization of work and accommodation. In the Roman See, it was possible to see, besides the well-known projects (fish market, the church of SS. Sacramento, etc..) A series of projects that were of considerable interest and which was lost over the years each reference. I mention in this regard always to the seat of SIDECOM Ancona, a complex demolished about ten years built a few meters away from the fish market. But then to report the actions of many historic buildings of the capital of the Marche was lost as a result of the war and which has intervened Minnucci planning and also creating works that still adorn the city of Ancona.

In addition to these, I also remember the large number of plans that INA-Casa Minnucci completed in Marche: to the Grazie neighborhood and the subsequent expansion of the Capuchins in Ancona, then those for Fossombrone, Pesaro and Loreto.

The graphic material was then integrated with the results of research conducted at the newspaper of the Municipality of Ancona, who has unearthed a large number of articles which testify to the importance for public opinion had achievements in the local community.

Analysis and discussion of main results

The results obtained from research in the Archives of the central layer of Roma and other institutional sources in which research has been carried out have allowed the writing of most of the texts of the second phase of the thesis. In addition, where possible, the documentation has been digitally scanned, and then properly indexed, it can become part of the digital archive of the department which houses a lot of material, both written and graphic, the result of research projects already implemented in previous years.

The projects which are viewed and discussed the salient points in the thesis are presented here for the first time. In addition to this the value of the study is also given by the quantity of collected references that tie the region of Marche to the much larger national context. Minnucci fact, while operating in the geographical context of the provin-

cial reality has not let his architecture was disrupted by factors of the place. This was made possible through the involvement with important architectural signatures and never denying his ideas about the functional and rational aspects more closely. All this is reflected in a series of fully characterizing unchanged most of the projects and in any case many of those proposals that are told in the cards.

Conclusions

In the city of Ancona in particular I feel I can say that Minnucci, proceeding over the years with more or less large operations, has found a successful continuity and a realization by clients ready to give him the opportunity to work without major impediments. Certainly some works are at least questionable from several points of view, but others are definitely the top of a stylistic movement, rationalist, that the war is practically failed except for a few rare exceptions.

Declaimed the protagonists of both M.I.A.R. almost nobody has continued with the same intensity realization in the years to follow, in my opinion only Minnucci, particularly in the Marche, was involved in interventions such as the fish market, the condo INICIS Via Montebello, the seat of SIDECOM or even INA-quarters of Grace House. And it is perhaps the knowledge that Minnucci of rationalist who had made her fearless action. I close with a quote that really better than any other further explanation needed to understand what it meant in the soul of Minnucci making architecture and how it should be understood.

Minnucci writes in 1973:

The architectural rationalism ... for us it was not a formula, or a style, nor a creed. It was rather a call for a new attitude, a new spirit, a new conception of architecture that leads to acts at the heart of the company and participating in its development, helps to determine an active...

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