



Ex Seminario di Modigliana: de-construct

Today we are in the midst of a situation that at first glance seems to be contradictory: on the one hand we have a great architectural heritage of enormous historical and cultural importance but in a bad state of conservation or decay; on the other, the need to find new spaces to meet modern housing and working requirements is seen with increasing frequency. The contradiction is however only apparent: to meet the new needs it is in fact not always necessary to resort to new buildings; it is often useful and appropriate to “De-construct” the buildings from by-gone centuries or restore them and change what they are used for so they can be reused.

An example of this is the conversion of the ex Seminario di Modigliana, situated in the province of Forlì, which is now an old people’s hotel centre.

Location

- **location.** Ex Seminario, Modigliana (Forlì).
- **history of the building.** The complex dates back to the middle of the Seventeenth Century and derives from an early convent for Dominican nuns built by noble woman Costanza Severoli di Faenza. The convent was suppressed in 1808 under the French rule which converted the use of the building to the residence of the Sub prefecture. Once the Venetian rule was reasserted, the former Seminary housed the offices and archive of the Community Chancellery and for some time it was also home to the Accademia degli Incamminati (academy of arts, letters and sciences). In 1854 the church was used as a municipal warehouse while the convent was converted largely into barracks.

Intervention

- **type of intervention.** Restructuring and transformation of the purpose of the building.
- **duration of the intervention.** 1997.
- **designer.** Arch. Giorgio Farini.
- **general contractor.** Dottor Group.
- **purposes.** Creation of a hotel centre for old people.
- **Structural and architectural intervention.** The critical point in the works was the very short time the customer asked for them to be completed in. The complex was completely gutted and rebuilt with special features implemented to safeguard the architectural heritage. Sixty rooms have been built each with en-suite bathroom. A restaurant, bar, kitchen, laundry, relaxation and fitness area and a number of doctors’ surgeries have also been created.