# LAURA ROMANÒ architect

**PORTFOLIO** 



#### BIO

Laura Romanò graduated with a Masters degree in architecture from the Politecnico di Milano, Italy, in 1992 (final grade 100/100). She specialized in the "Restauration of historical monuments" at the Università degli studi di Genova, Italy, 1995-1998 (final grade 50/50).

She has been a member of the "Ordine degli Architetti" (National Architects' Register) of Milan, and has been working in her own firm in the management of financial planning and safety coordination in construction, as well as the construction and rennovation of various kinds of structures since 1996.

Her activities encompass feasibility studies including analysis and evaluation for large-scale projects.

She is interested in searching for innovative technological solutions, and brings to her projects her experience and passion for work and aesthetics that characterize the activities carried out together with her collaborators.

She is also interested in the arts. This interest informs her sensitivity.

She deals with residential and commercial buildings, as well as private houses where attention towards details and the use of materials characterize the design proposals.

Each project is developed with care and dedication, and there is a special focus on using new materials, colours and lighting to create the right atmosphere in different environments to help people improve their quality of life.

The Laura Romanò Studio has carried out a number of different projects:

- Designs related to social housing, such as shelters, houses for disabled or disadvantaged people, dormitories, canteens, and care centres;
- Management of the process of designing and renovating health care facilities;
- Interventions in the public works sector aimed at restructuring kindergartens and middle schools, as well as spaces for sports;
- Interior design;
- Numerous projects for police stations.

#### **COMMUNITY SOCIAL CENTRE**

Year: 2020

Location: Lecco

The pre-existing building was partially demolished and rebuilt. The restructed part of the building is protected by the Superintendency for Architectural Heritage.

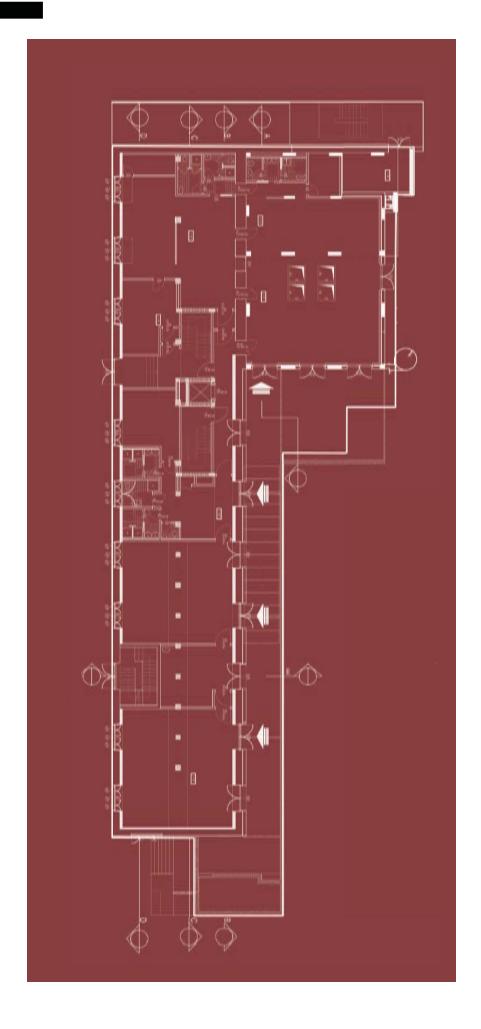
A complete renovation is being carried out in an industrial building with large spaces and high ceilings, which allowed redesigning it in a functional way.

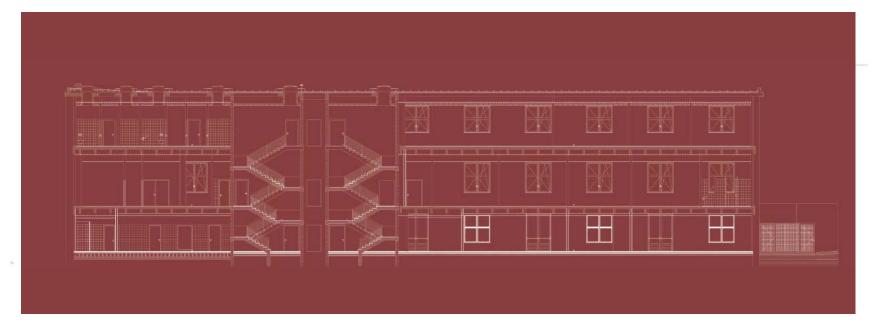
On the ground floor there is a minimarket, an industrial kitchen with a canteen, and available service spaces. On the first and second floors, apart from administrative offices and meeting rooms, there are bedrooms with bathrooms and some flats.

Outside, a partially underground walkway with a steel and glass cover allows access to different functional areas.

Outdoor spaces have been designed with parking and a small square.





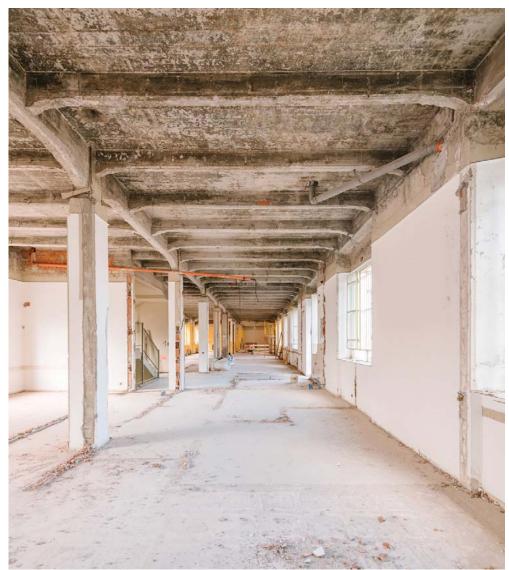






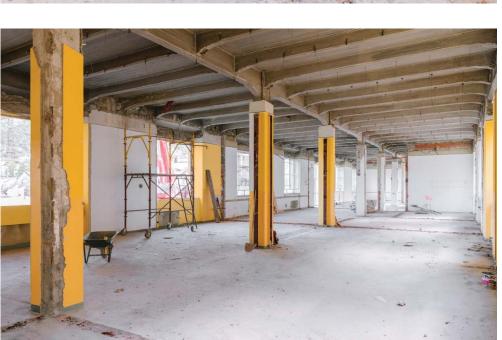
















#### **DAY CARE CENTRE**

Year: 2020

Location: Milan

Inside the space of old connected warehouses located under the railways of Milan's Central Train Station has been designed a day care centre. The 300 square meter rectangular vaulted space, abandoned for a long time, was damaged and had seepage problems. The day care centre is designed to organize some spaces to support elderly people in collaboration with the city's association.

The project includes a multifunctional space where it is possible to organize various types of activities for the guests during the day. A large library along one of the main walls of the common area will serve to collect and share the pleasure of reading, and is designed as an important meeting point.

To complete this centre are some other function areas, such as a space for the preparation of snacks and drinks, two rooms for carrying out training activities, and staff offices, together with services and technical rooms.





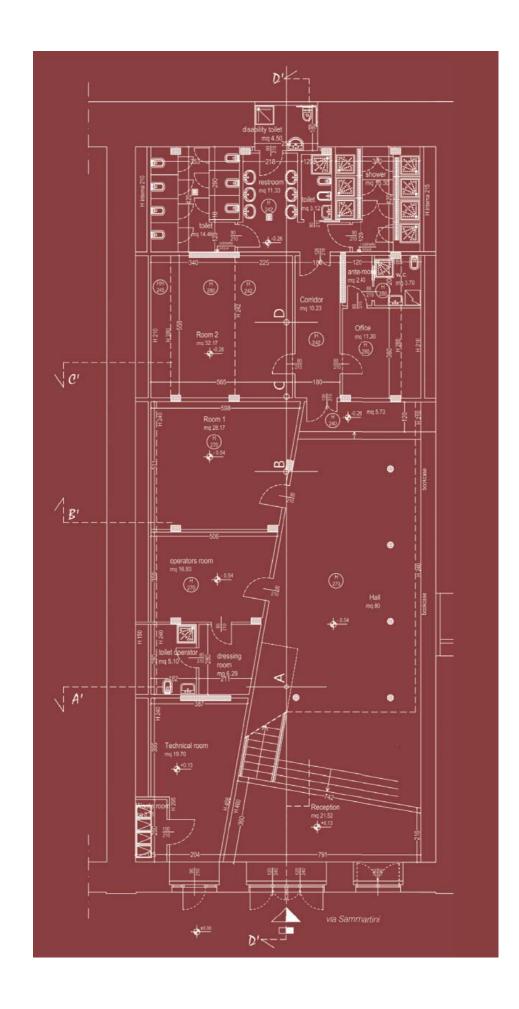






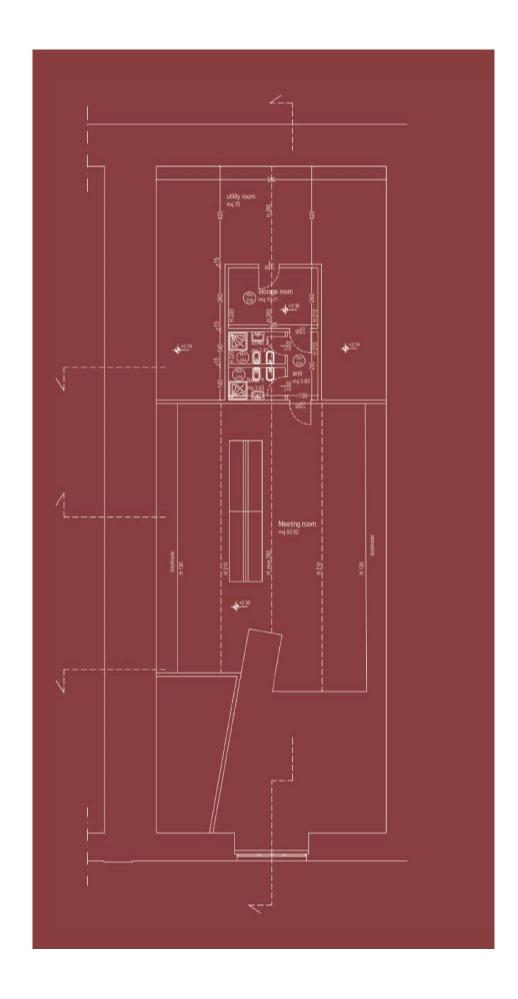














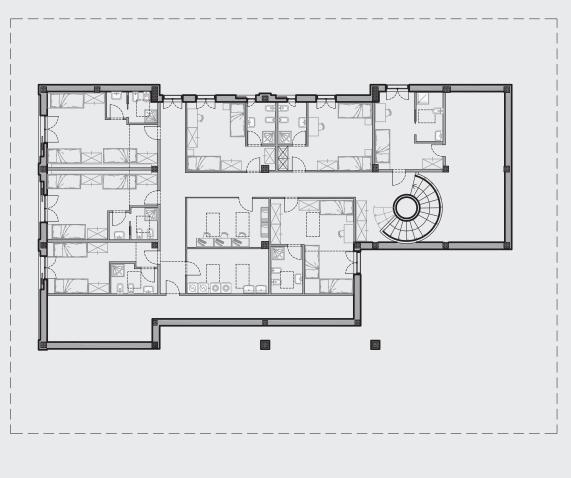


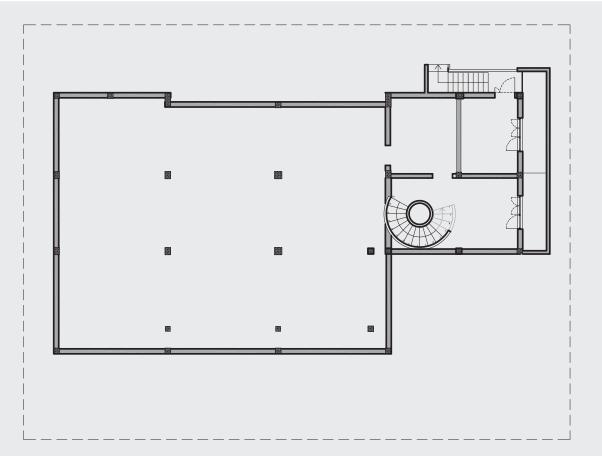
### **COMMON HOUSE**

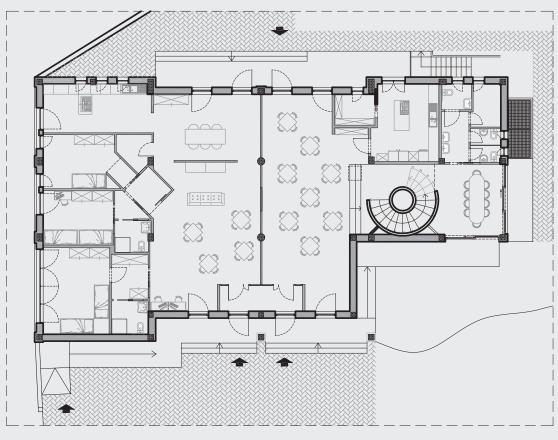
Year: 2020-2021

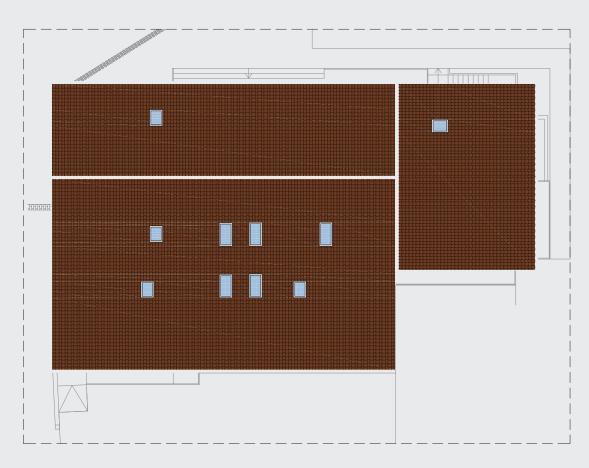
Location: Rozzano, Milan

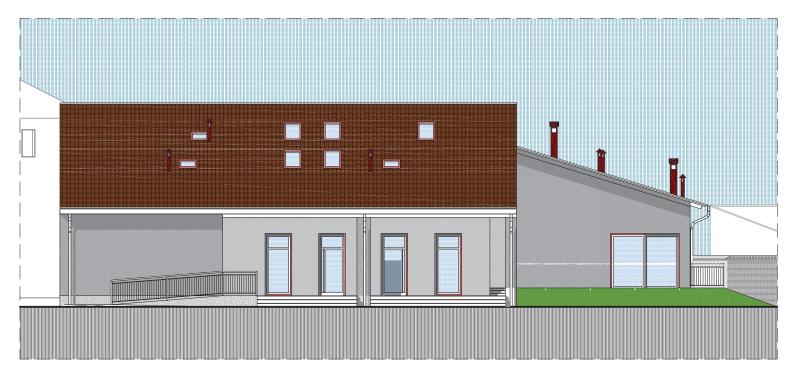
The building is an old factory which was renovated in order to have new spaces, common areas and services for several people in need. The project aimed at being a temporary accomodation in one part of the building and a disabled home in the other part. The main focus was the reorganization and distribution of interior spaces. In addition, choosing different materials to create new characteristic elements was important.

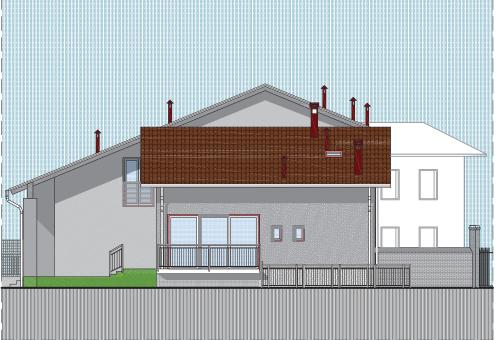




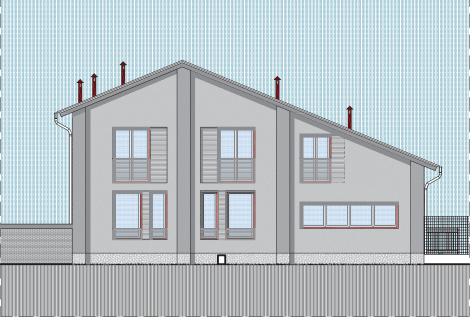
























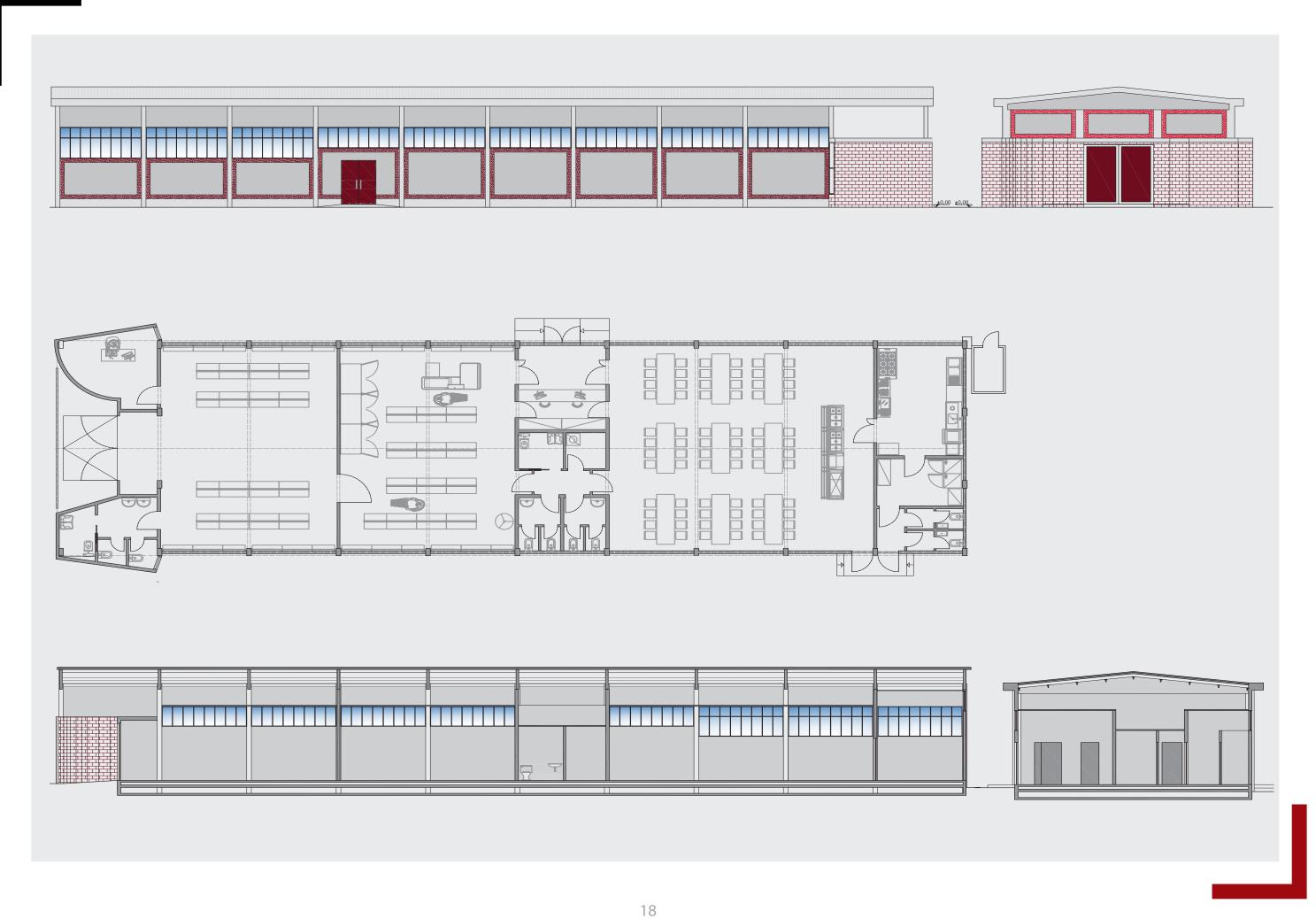
### **FACILITY SERVICES**

Year: 2020-2021

Location: Rho, Milan

The building was renovated to have a canteen with a small supermarket managed by a social organization.

The main reception area and services are located in the centre of the building, splitting the interior area in two main spaces for the two different functions, and making the entrance accessible to enter from both of them.



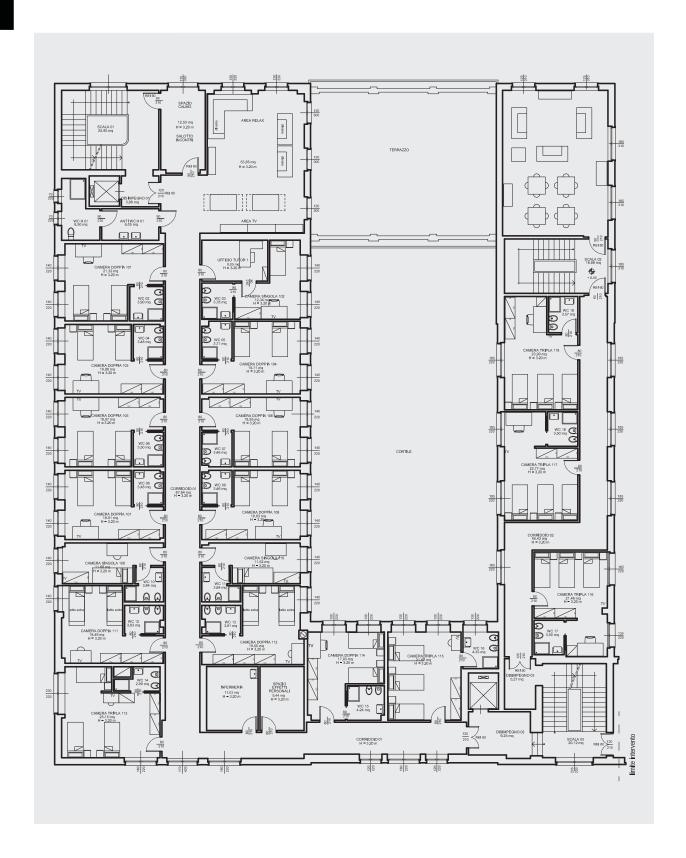
### **BOARDING SCHOOL ACADEMY**

Year: 2020

Location: Milan

The building is located in the complex of a historical building in Milan called "Villa Clerici". It hosts young football players who want to become professionals in the future.

The project concerned the building's restoration. There are many furniture solutions to organize the spaces for 63 boys and young men in a comfortable way to arrange some offices, classrooms, facilities spaces and 5 single rooms, 20 double rooms, and 6 triple rooms on two floors. Each floor shares common internal spaces for relaxation and an external area with a garden and playground where the young football players can train and have some quality time.





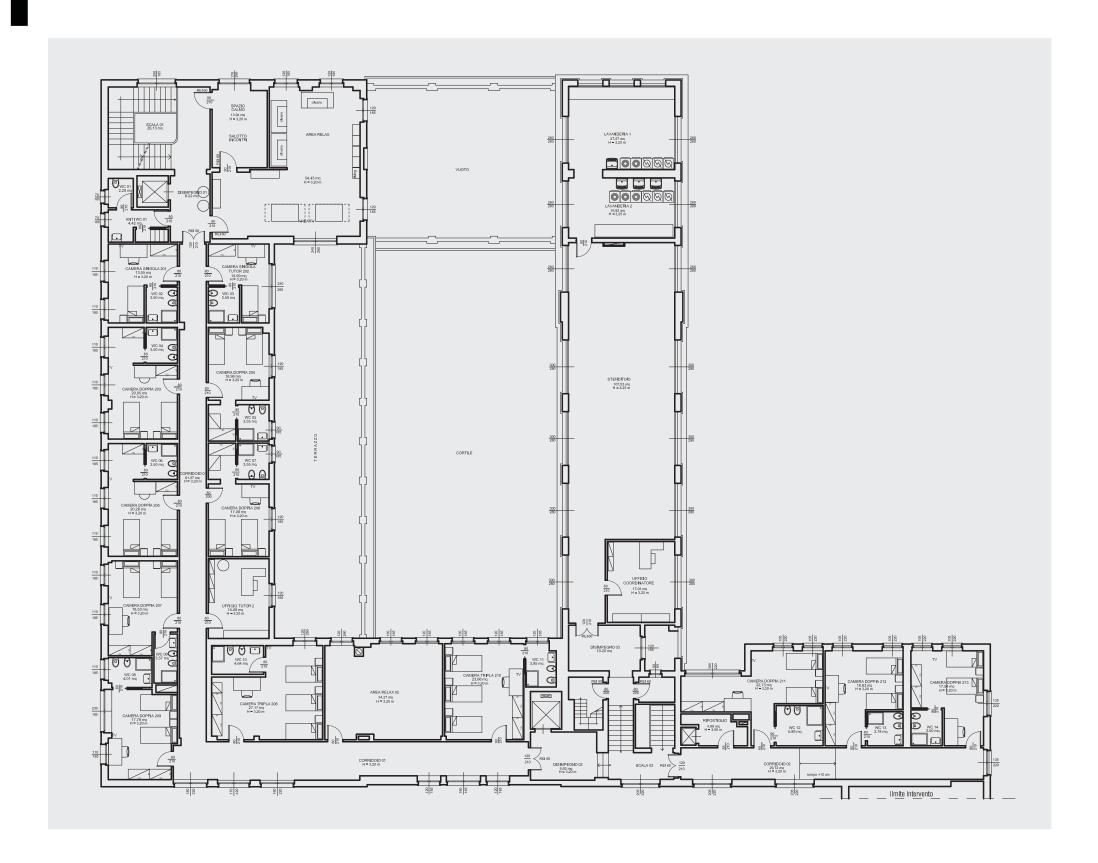


















#### **FONDAZIONE RAIMONDI – HOSPITAL**

Year: 2016

Location: Gorla Minore, Varese

This healthcare facility, mainly intended for rehabilitation, has been operating since 1909. The building consists of three floors with diagnosis and treatment facilities for patients with orthopedic problems or for those suffering from degenerative diseases.

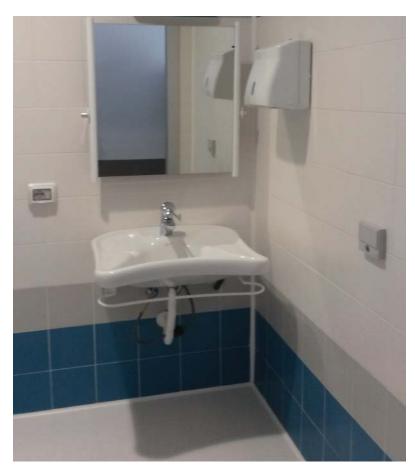
To improve its services and adapt it to the regulations in force, the healthcare facility had to be completly restored. The renovation was carried out in inpatient wards, outpatient departments, and administrative offices.

Every department has clinics and functional services for the rooms each of which are equipped with their own private bathroom suitable for disabled people. The sector dedicated to specialist clinics has been equipped with medical equipment and the necessary tools for diagnostics.

The design choices were implemented on the basis of the best use of the environments in terms of functionality and comfort, while also enriching the spaces from an aesthetic point-of-view.





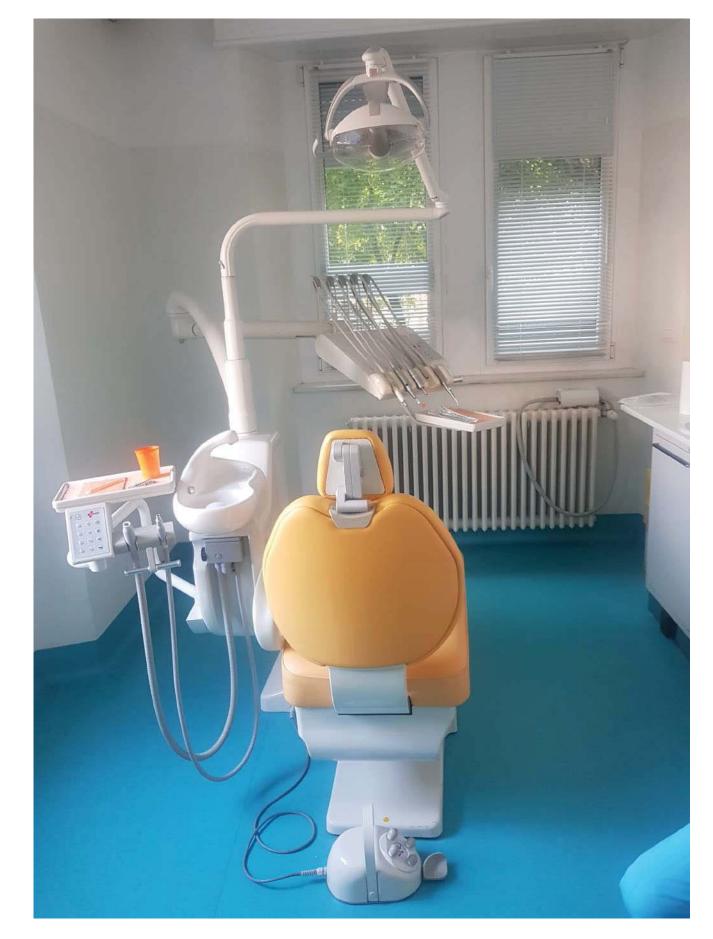












### **REFETTORIO AMBROSIANO**

Year: 2015

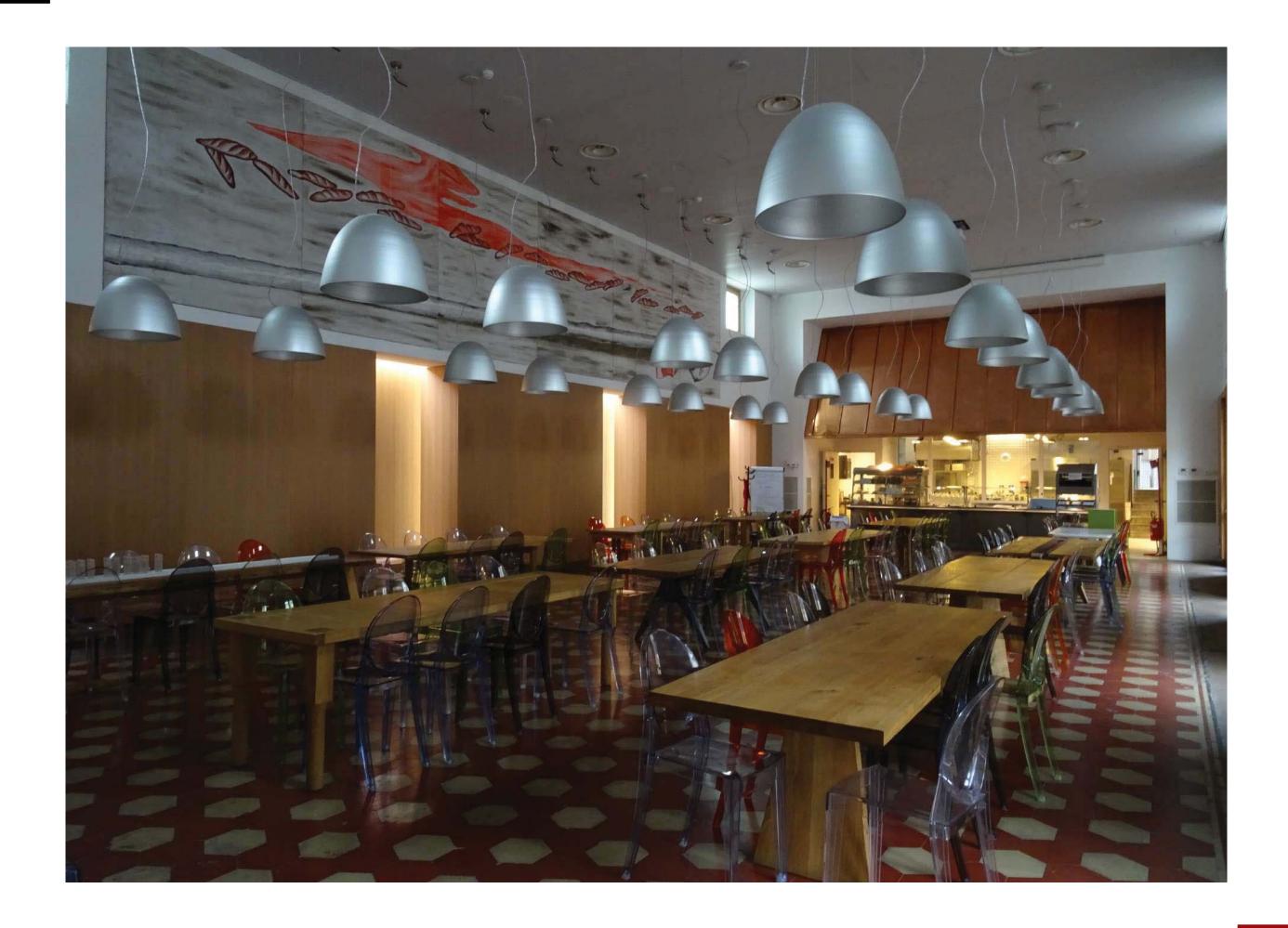
Location: Milan

The project concerned the renovation of the former Greco theatre which had been built during the 1930s in Milan. The main goal was to design a canteen and a kitchen with a big copper hood.

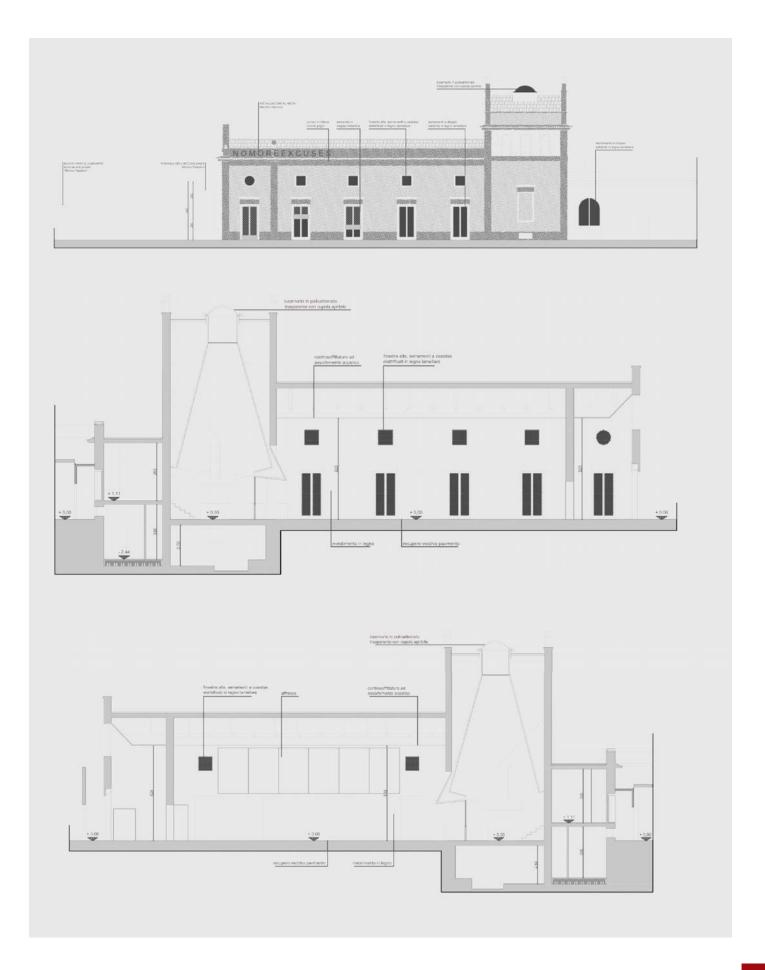
The concept for this project was a result of collaborating with a group of professionals from the Politecnico di Milano, which also engaged internationally renowned designers and artists, who contributed with their work to upgrade this useful space.

Throughout this redevelopment, the architectural space was enriched with pieces of art and design.

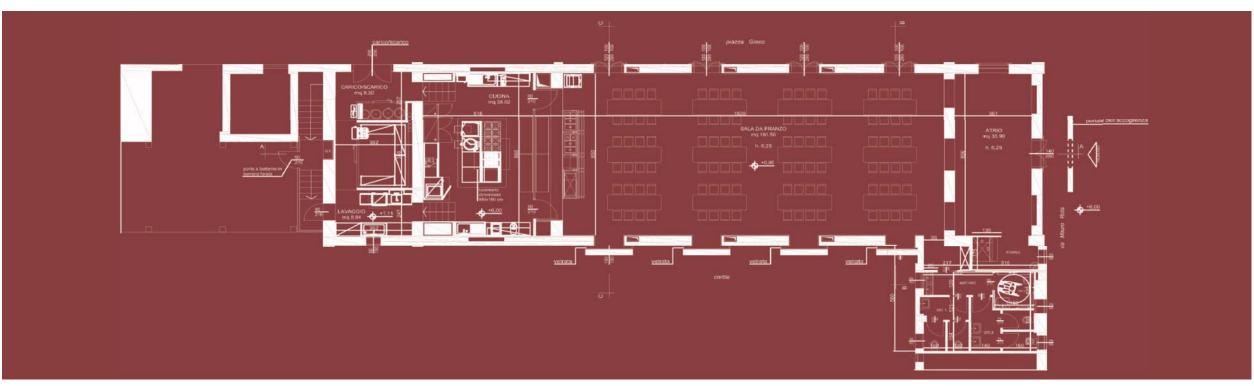
In this way, many artists and designers made a significant gesture of beauty and culture.

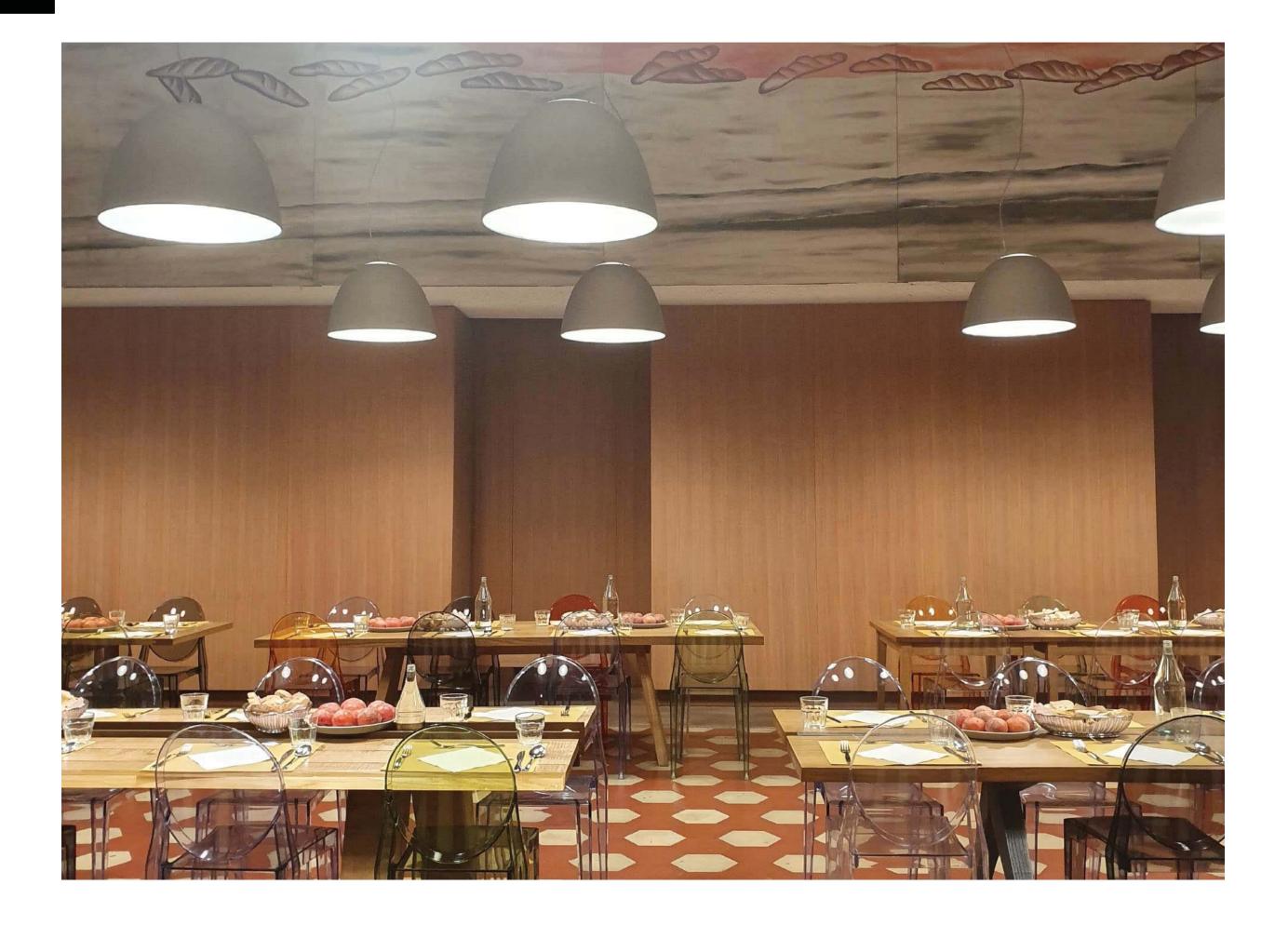


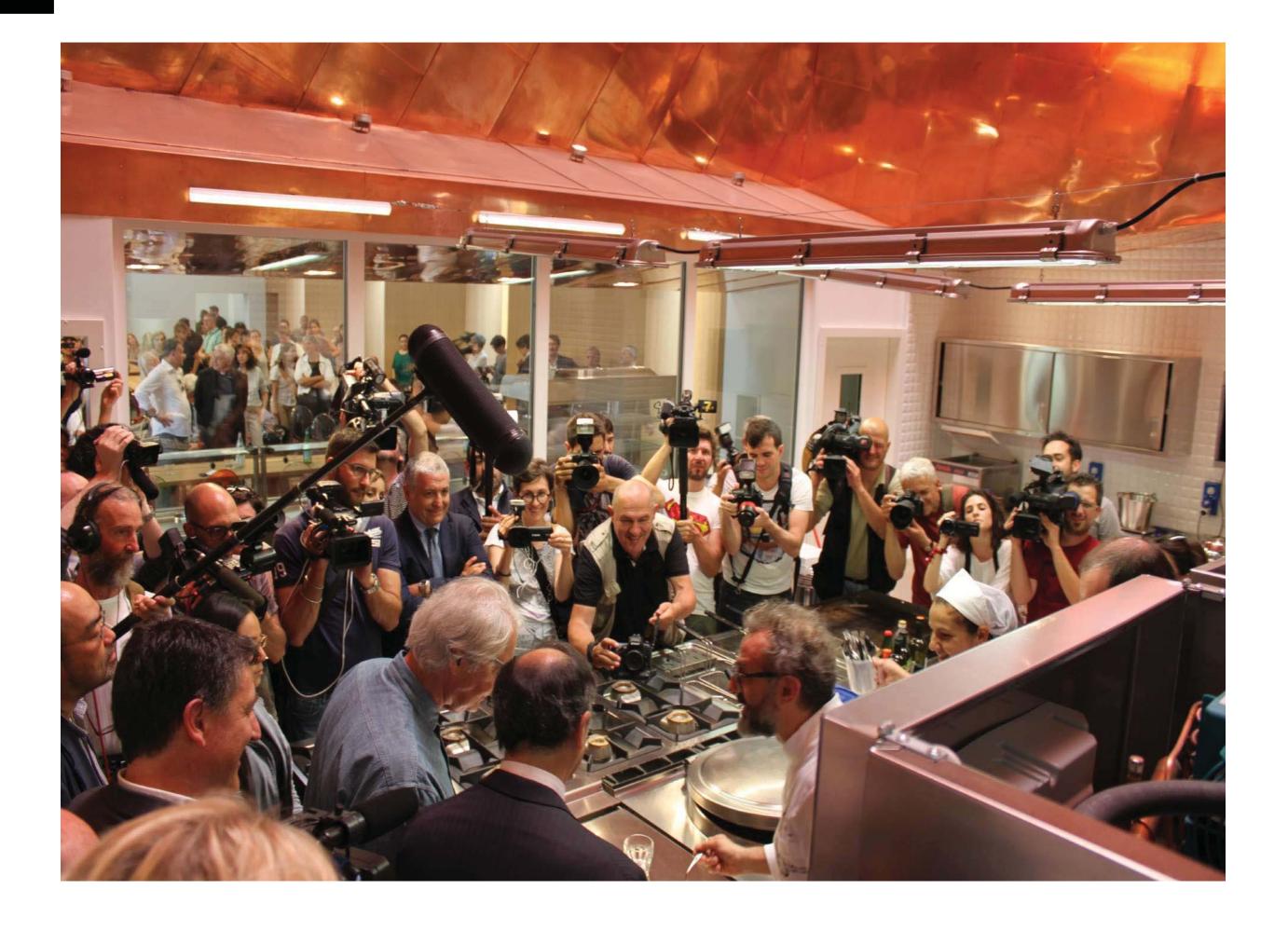












### **CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS PAVILION - EXPO 2015**

Year: 2015

Location: Milan

Realization of the Caritas Internationalis Pavilion for EXPO Milano 2015.

The plot occupied by Caritas, placed in a strategic position along the main path of the Expo 2015 site, presents a number of different features: an outdoor paved area that greets visitors, a covered area, and a green area.

The structure of simple steel shapes was covered with a white plastic fabric.

An artwork entitled Energia, realized by the German artist Wolf Vostell in 1973, was the main attraction in this space. Energia is a large installation with great narrative force that was constructed out of a Cadillac loaded with war weapons surrounded by pieces of bread.

















### **STUDENT DORMITORIES**

Year: 2015

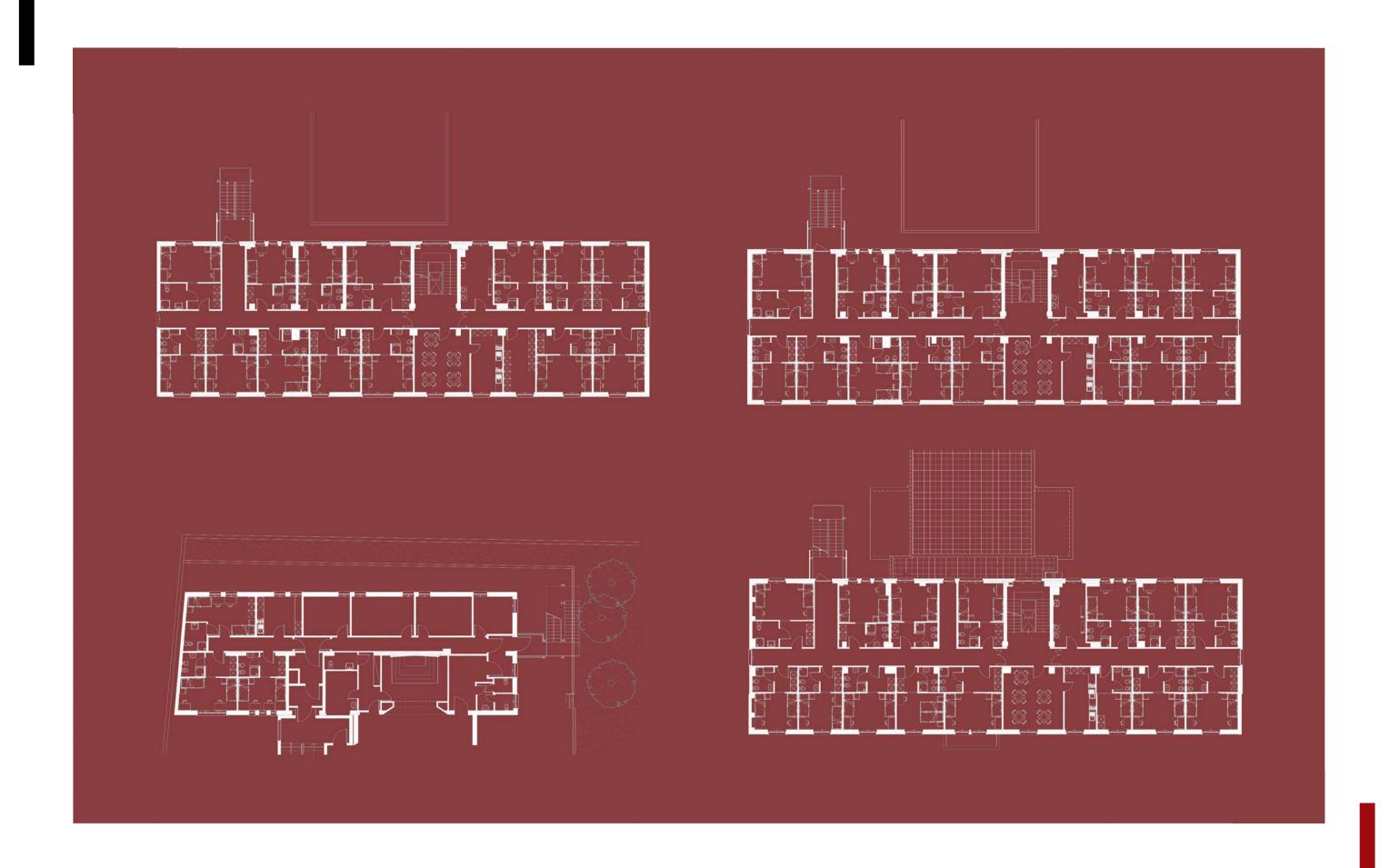
Location: Milan

Opera Cardinal Ferrari, Milan

The design concerned the complete renovation of a building. The project consisted in reorganizing the spaces for accomodating 84 university students.

The three floors available for residential use, with a lift and stairs, allowed a rational use of the building. The spaces are organized with bedrooms, bathrooms, some common rooms for studying together and the dining room and kitchen areas. Each room has a private bathroom, and there are also some rooms with specially equipped bathrooms for disabled students.

On the first floor, it is possible to access a large terrace that could be used by guests during the summer season.



#### **HOMELESS SHELTER**

Year: 2011

Location: Milar

In an urban factory complex of Milan, more than 100 Art Deco style warehouses of about 300 square metres each were built in the early XXth century. These warehouses, with a total area of 40,000 square metres, were called the "Magazzini Raccordati" because they were connected by an internal railway line.

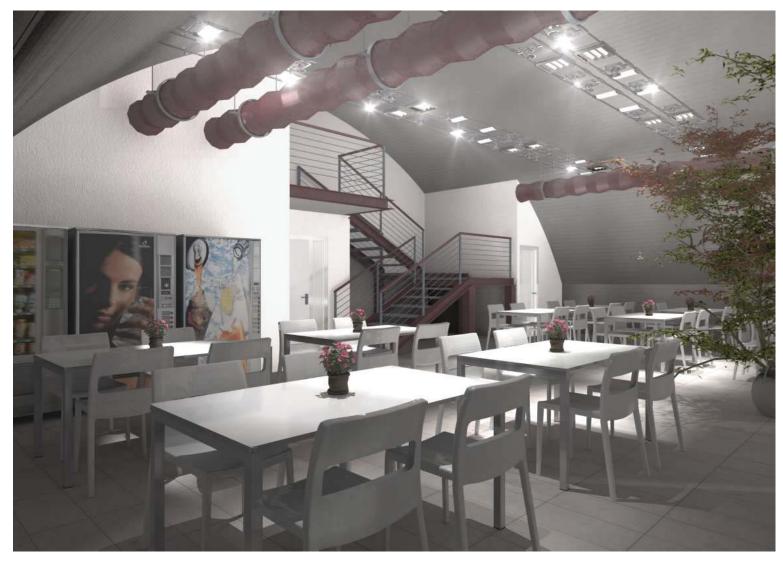
They hosted various types of craft, commercial, and recreational activities. These spaces, rectangular on the planimetric level and covered with an internal vault ceiling, have their main facade looking onto the road.

In the 1970s, a Camillian Father, known as Fratel Ettore, opened a shelter for homeless people inside the two spaces. For years it remained a point of reference as a help centre in Milan. Just in these two spaces, which had long been abandoned, a new shelter for 63 homeless people was created.

The project consisted of a renovation of the rooms and an improvement of the heating system, as well as of the hygrometric and acoustic characteristics. Furthermore, reception areas and a large multifunctional common room were created. All the rooms, painted in different colours, created comfortable and pleasant interior spaces.

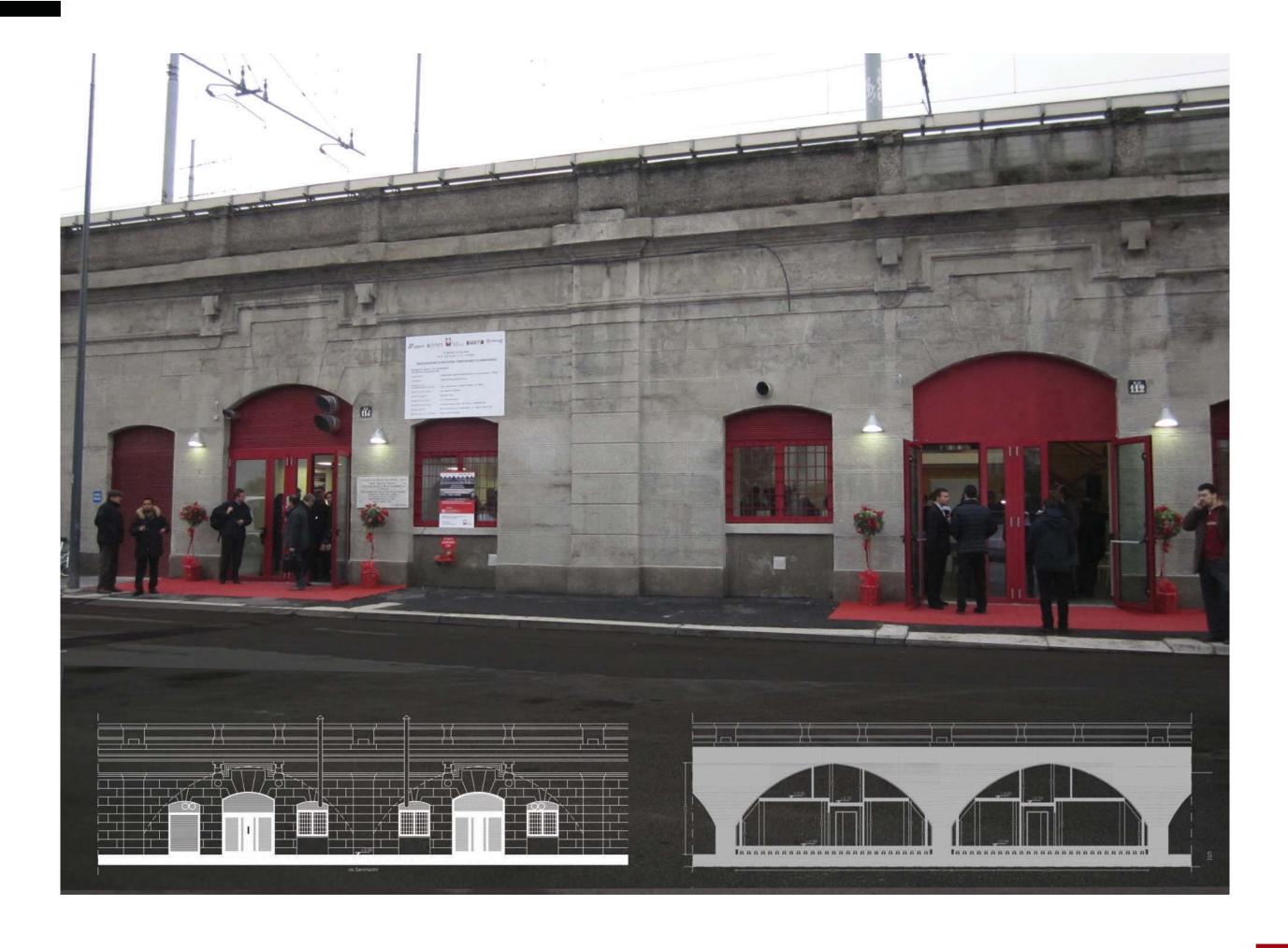








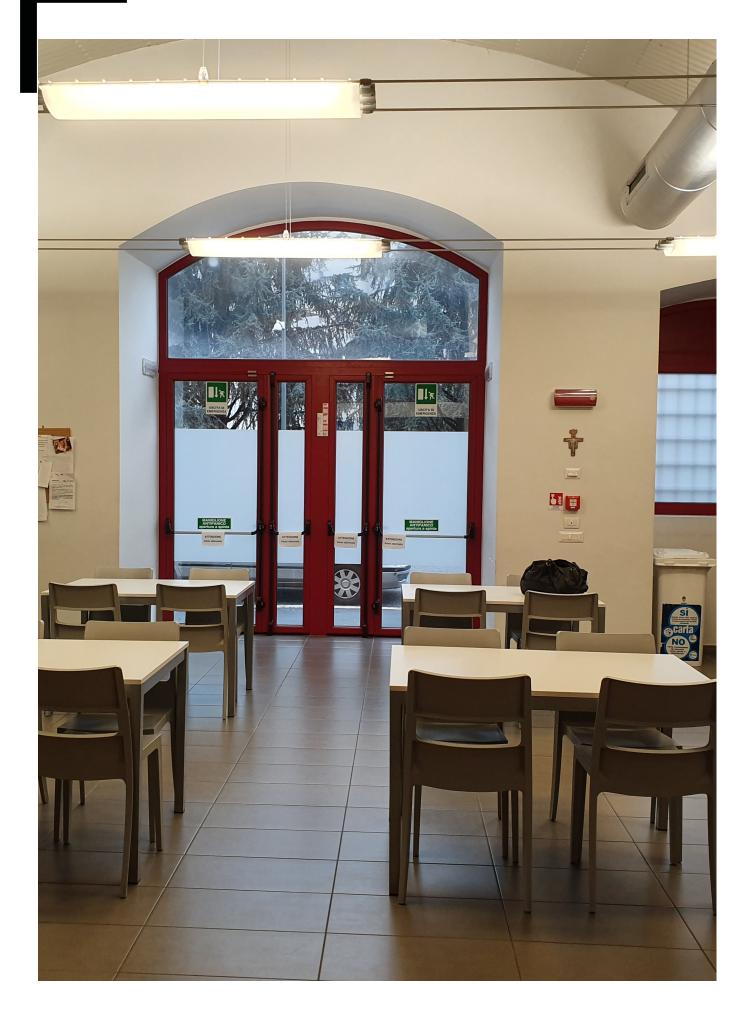


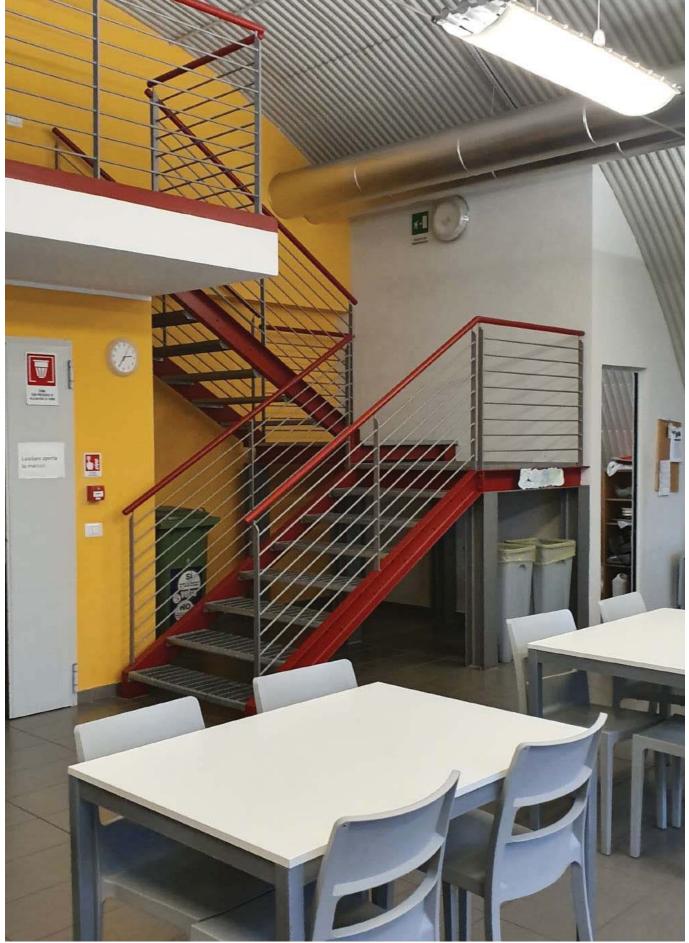












#### RESIDENTIAL HISTORICAL BUILDINGS

Year: 2011 - 2017 - 2018

Location: 2011 - Caronno Pertusella, Varese

2017 - Gallarate, Varese

2018 - Varese

2011 - Villapizzone, MI

Caronno Pertusella, Varese (2009-2011)

A prestigious historical building built in the 17th century was renovated as a residential mansion.

- Gallarate, Varese (2013-2017)

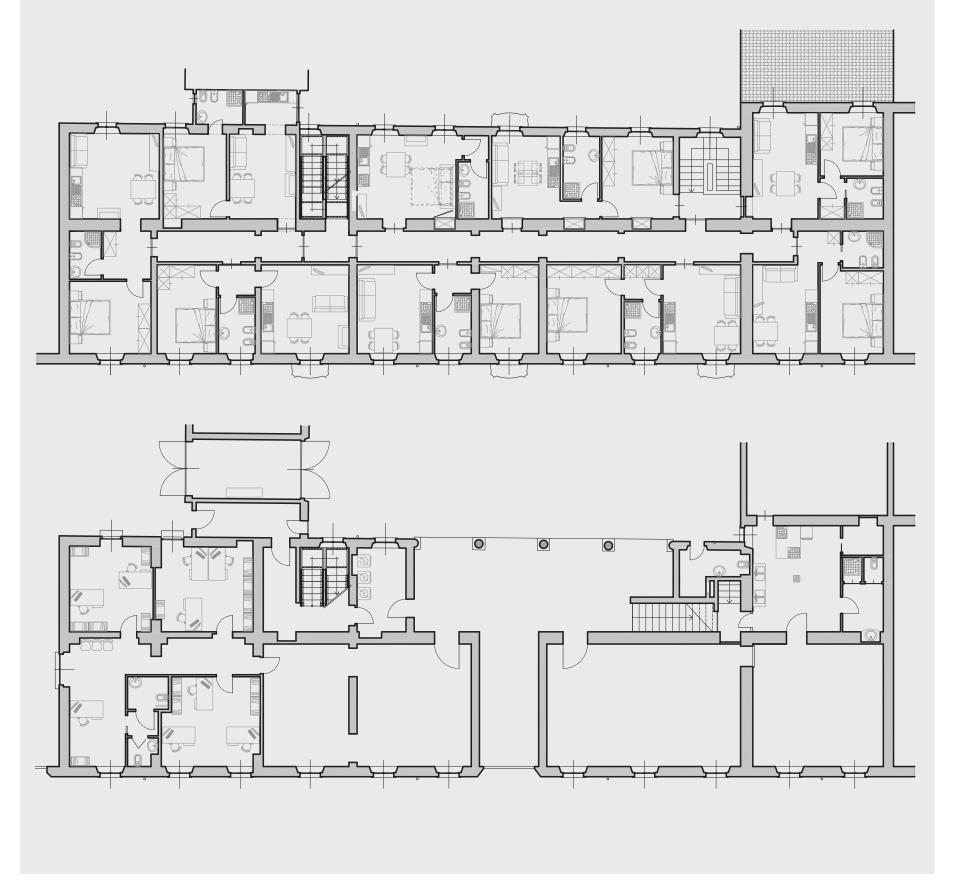
In another town near Varese the old mansion was renovated to organize many different spaces and functions. On the ground floor, the design created several offices for management and representative spaces for events, while on the first floor nine housing units for rent were realized. Historical materials were renovated

-Gallarate, Varese (2013-2017)

A building that was built in 1920 was restored. It had been the manufacturing factory named "Azienda Foderami Dragoni" founded in 1929. In addition to the factory spaces, there were some offices and the owner's house.

The project aimed at finding solutions inside an industrial building in the Art Nouveau style. Housing spaces were organized together with some office spaces

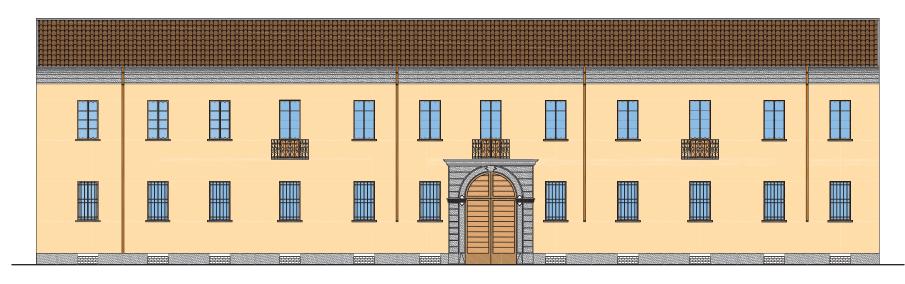
#### Caronno Pertusella, Varese













#### Gallarate, Varese



















Before

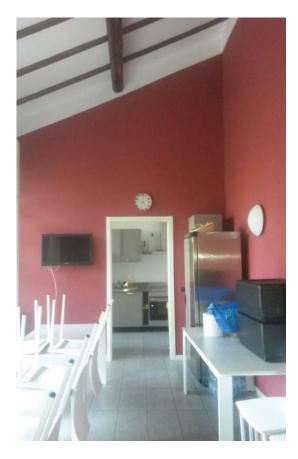
After

#### Varese











After

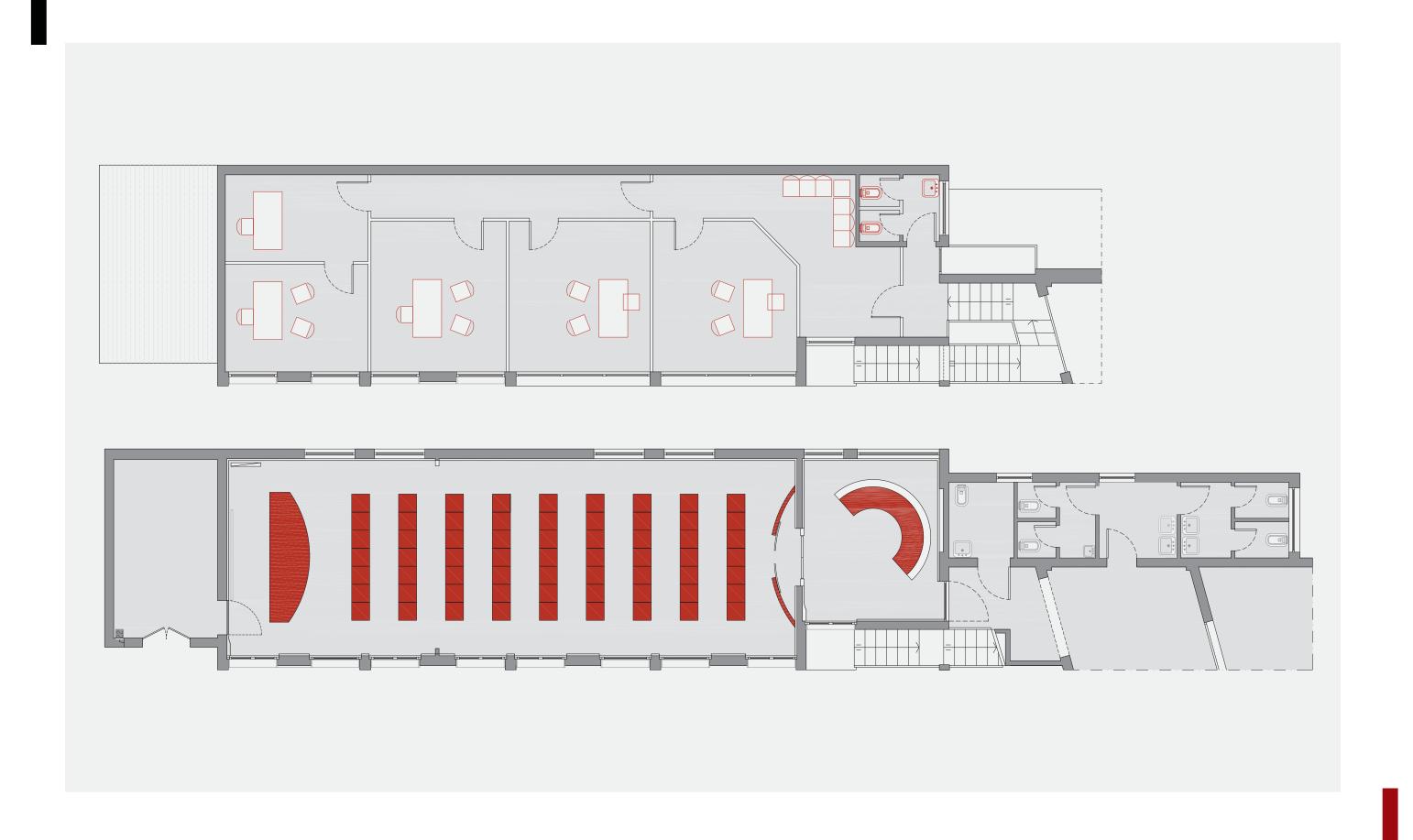
### **CONFERENCE ROOM AND OFFICES**

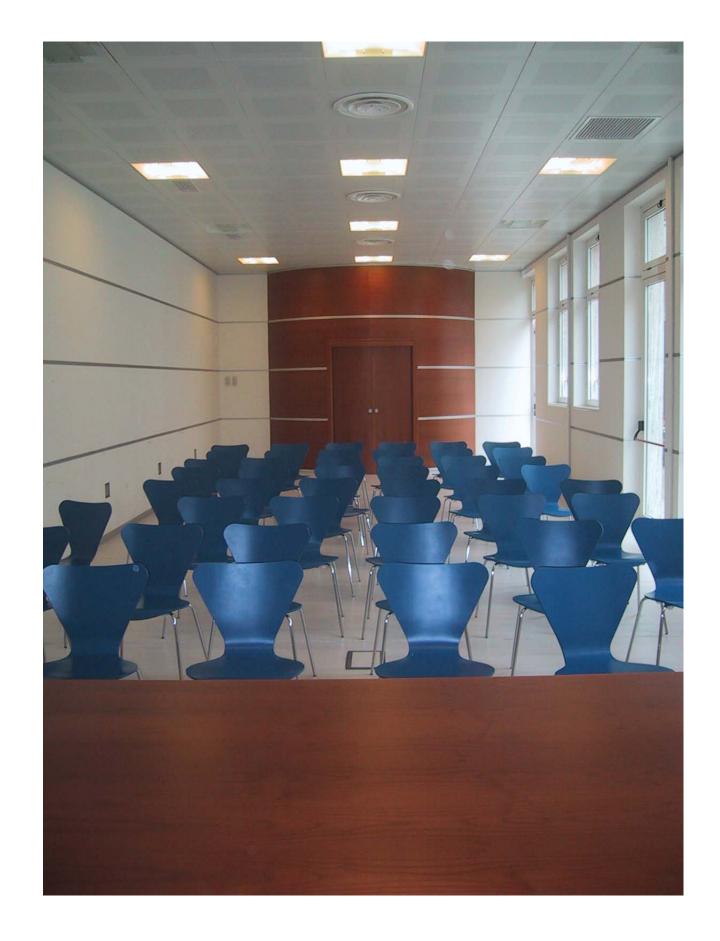
Year: 2008

Location: San Cristoforo sul Naviglio, Milan

A historical building next to the San Cristoforo church was renovated and redesigned as multifunctional rooms and offices.

Internal partitions, such as curved walls and doors, create the entrance to the meeting room. Special attention was paid to the interior design with steel horizontal lines to improve the perception of the spaces.











### **MILITARY BUILDINGS**

Year: 2002 - 2004 - 2007

Location: 2002 - Rho, Milan

2004 - Azzate, Varese

2004 - Cusano Milanino, Milano

2007 - Busto Arsizio, Varese

2010 - Pero, Milano

These projects were intended to create new police stations, consisting of headquarters and housing areas.

The projects are divided into two parts. The first part consists of some administrative offices in addition to special units, while the second part concerns the accommodations for the police officers.

#### Azzate, Varese



Busto Arsizio, Varese





Rho, Milan



### **RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS**

Year: 2009 - 2011 - 2012

Location: 2009 - Rho, Milan

2011 - Rho, Milan

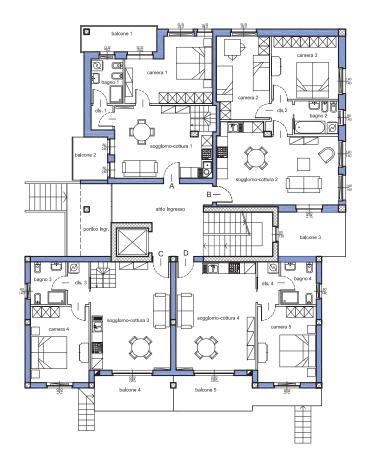
2012 - Rho, Milan

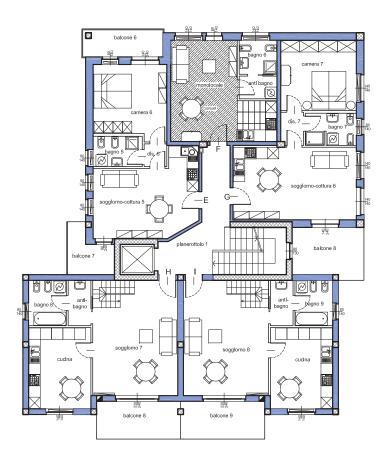
Residential building – Rho, Milan 2007-2019

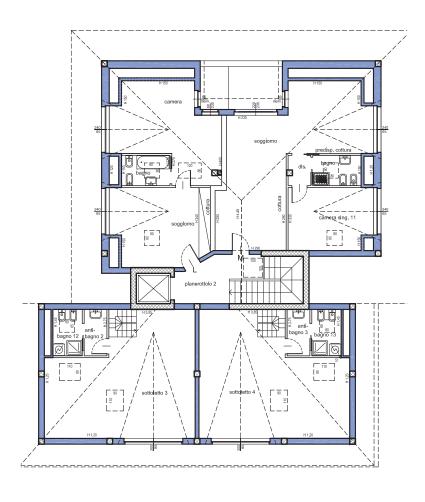
Renovation with enlargement of a residential building of 11 apartments.

Residential buildings – Rho, Milan (2007 – 2012)

Construction of two residential buildings of 24 and 30 apartments, respectively.

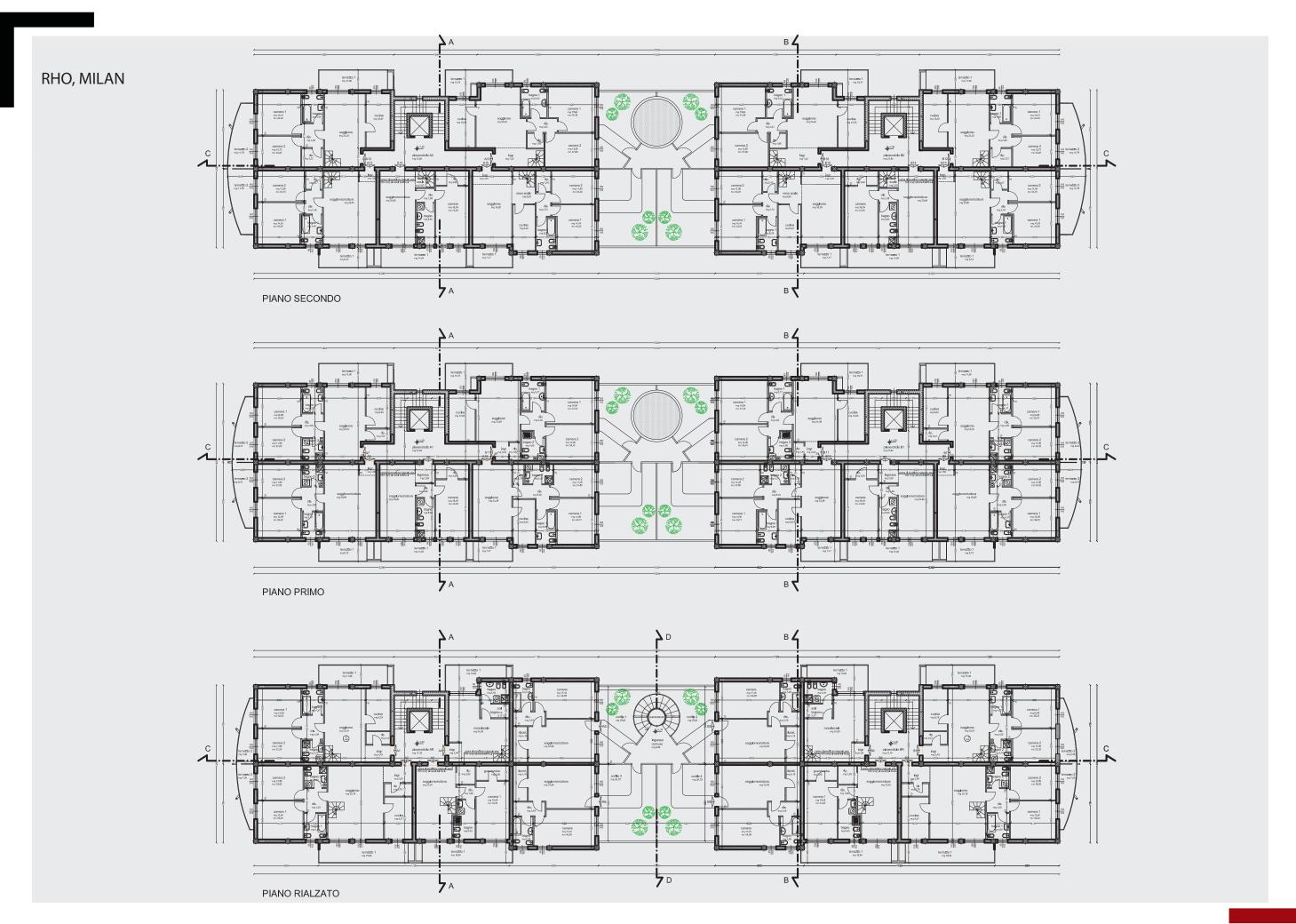


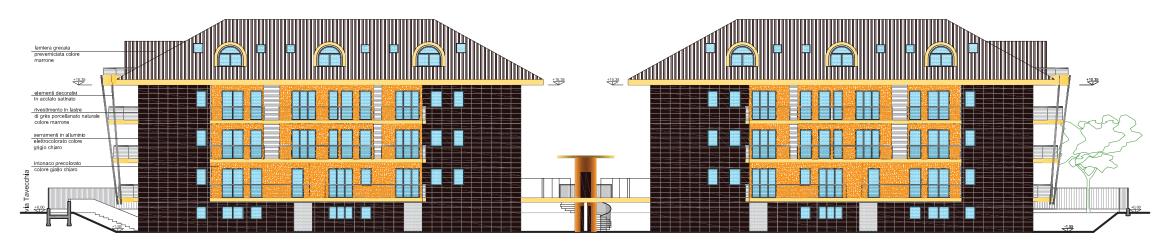




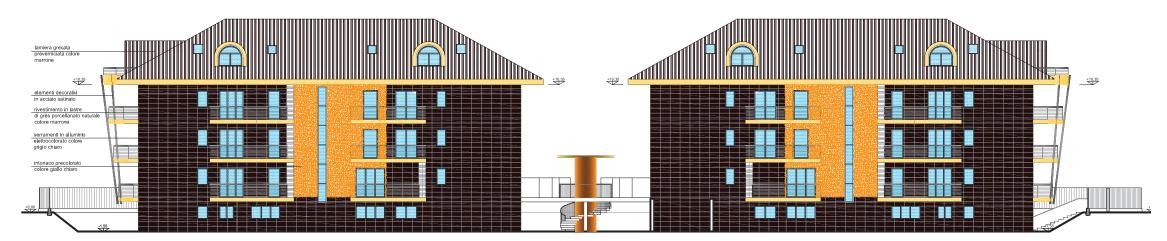








PROSPETTO EST



PROSPETTO OVEST





PROSPETTO NORD







### **INTERIOR DESIGN**

The projects for the internal renovation of homes and offices had as their purpose a reasonable redistribution of spaces and a search for the combination of shapes and colors.

The arrangement of the interior spaces was combined with an attention to the aesthetic perception of the rooms.

The continuous search for new materials to use, the application of shapes, and the use of colors allowed the improvement of the visual impact of the spaces and a stimulation of the senses in the search for the functions of every room.

In the dwellings as well as in the work spaces, the choice of chromatic compositions and materials coordinated with each other was further developed through a single architectural expression.

