



nn. 1-2, 2012: *Dopo l'emergenza, restauro e ricostruzione*

- Editoriale

- P. FANCELLI, Ricostruzione e dialettica nuovo-antico

The more or less widespread destruction of historical city centres imposes urban renewal and reconstruction. Firstly, without doubt, structural reinforcement work needs to be done. Secondly, it is a matter of acting on defective and discontinuous urban-historical contexts, as opposed to existing situations that have been moulded over a very long period of time.

Such historical fabrics represent one of the most important forms of human heritage recognizable to us today. The biggest problem of a well-executed recomposition is the dose pertinence of the interventions to the nature and rules of the settlement, on the one hand, and the linguistic coherence of any additions to our age, on the other. All of this is within a measured dialectical exchange between new and old. Therefore, together with a compatible framework, one needs to combine both a basic structural congruency and a figurative harmony. This obviously entails, on one hand, supremacy in terms of knowledge and planning of the vast and articulate field of typologies and examples of aggregative building but it also clearly means an equal capacity of complete and coherent expression. It is an issue that gradually develops from the urban scale to the architectural detail. All of this means rebuilding there where destruction has reigned, to recompose cities and living communities, a perfect antithesis to the theory of the construction of the 'new town', where ties that need to be delicately sown back together are severed. Obviously we are championing the least practical solution. It is about seeking a complete historical understanding of these places and their suitability for this, in their adherence to laws, human and non, that govern them, in both dynamic and active terms, always bearing in mind the process of anthropic settlements. As always, it is about knowing how to design while interpreting wisely the context in which one is operating.

- C. MODENA, F. DA PORTO, M.R. VALLUZZI, Conservazione del patrimonio architettonico e sicurezza strutturale in zona sismica: insegnamenti dalle recenti esperienze italiane

The difficulties that accompany the application of a modern approach, on both a conceptual and a methodological-executive level, to structural safety in the field of conservation of historical buildings are, largely speaking, an inevitable reflection of the discretionary and ambiguous nature that distinguishes these same concepts, even when considered separately, of "structural safety" and "conservation".

The introduction of guidelines which regulate the possibility to design structural safety 'improvements' (as opposed to mere 'adaptation') for existing buildings has offered the chance to hone design methodologies capable of smoothing over the rougher edges of the confrontation between structural safety and conservation, making use of instruments with an ever higher techno-scientific content.

Undeniable contributions, in this sense, come from such operative environments that focus on the characterization, the interpretation and therefore the mechanical modelling of historical buildings, as well as technologies of intervention. Just as important are the contributions that aim to render less elusive the definitions and concepts that constitute the same principles of conservation, such as compatibility, minimum invasiveness and reversibility (also in its updated version of removability).

- R. DALLA NEGRA, *Eventi eccezionali e principi conservativi: il terremoto emiliano*

Extraordinary, traumatic events, beyond the dramatic consequences they always imply on the human side, constitute moments of ultimate 'stress' both for the structures of our cities or monuments and for the principles of conservation in which culture, in that moment in time, recognises itself. Unexpectedly, such events generate a sort of resetting of those beliefs that the discipline of restoration has accumulated with difficulty, especially when one considers all the various experiences that have been gathered. The debate on reconstructive matters, that has superficially reached also some TV forums and newspaper pages, breaks the topic down to Manichean opposites, such as for instance the demolition of steeples and towers, or the discussion about the possible reuse of rubble. The debate is analysed in three focal points, that have become stereotypes: the false problem of reconstruction 'where it was, the way it was', the distortion of the term 'anastylosis' and the matter of the contradictory yielding to the so called 'psychological issue'.

- C. BARTOLOMUCCI, A. DONATELLI, A. PLACIDI, M. ZUPPIROLI, G. BOTTI, *Dopo la catastrofe: una casistica rappresentativa dello stato dei monumenti danneggiati dai terremoti aquilano ed emiliano*

- *Recensioni*

- Indici della rivista, a cura di R. MANCINI