

HABILITATION THESIS

ARCHITECTURE AND RULES IN THE CITY

Candidate: dr. arch. Iancu Adrian

Summary

This work synthesizes the activity of the candidate in the period after presenting the doctoral thesis in the domain of architecture; the doctoral thesis titled “Representation and Representativity in the Community Urban Space” was presented in a public meeting on 19.12.2002 at the “University of Architecture and Urbanism Ion Mincu – Bucharest” obtaining the qualificative ‘very good’, which was confirmed through a diploma issued on 24.04.2003 by the Ministry of Education and Research in accordance to Order 3896.

The activity of the candidate presented in this thesis takes two directions: research, and practical application of the results from the research.

a. Research activity

The research activity presented in this work belongs to the domain of architecture – in correlation with urbanism – and it was realised in four directions (marked in this work as distinctive chapters): The Influence of Urban Regulations in the Design Process; The Evolution of The Urban Architectural Space – applied on a recent period of time for the Cluj-Napoca Municipality; Elements for approaching the didactic process of architecture design; Design activity exemplified by completed projects, ongoing projects, or projects still at the stage of propositions.

The original contribution to the activity of research is represented by the components reflected in the domain of architecture or related to the design activity, and that come from assimilating some relatively new subdivisions in the domain of urbanism: Urban Regulation - presented in chapter II - and Urban Management – presented in Chapter III of the thesis. Also, the original contribution to the domain of didactic process (applied to the experience of the design workshop of year V at The Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of Cluj-Napoca) is presented in Chapter IV of the habilitation thesis. After that, the concrete activity of design done by the candidate is exemplified in Chapter V of the thesis.

The original scientific contribution to the domain of architecture, approached as a result of the relation with the urban subdivision of Urban regulations, is a series of elements presented in the volume “Urbanism in Cluj-Napoca 2004-2012” (this is the first book dedicated to this subdivision of architecture and urbanism in Romania), as well as in a work published in a volume dedicated to an international workshop.

The original scientific contribution to the domain of today’s city evolution in Romania, approached as an element of evolution of the architectural programmes and of concrete achievements of architecture objectives, can be found in the volume “Urbanism in Cluj-Napoca 2004-2012” (this is the first book dedicated to this common subdivision, a correlation between architecture, urbanism and public administration).

The contribution to the didactic domain can be seen in my activity as responsible for the subjects “Design synthesis III” and “Design synthesis IV” (and actually the activity pertaining to the two semesters of year V), and of other subjects (Ecological architecture, Elements of architecture and urbanism, Architecture details, Urban regulations, Urban management and law) at The Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning and The Faculty of Installations of The Technical University of Cluj-Napoca. Besides a general presentation of the elements related to the didactic activity, there will also be excerpts from the volume coordinated by the candidate, titled “The Story of A Project”.

The original contribution to the domain of architecture design is presented in a general manner and then exemplified by four works in different stages: one is complete, one is ongoing, and the other two are just projects; for the first work there will be pictures of the finished building, for the second excerpts from the project and pictures from the work site, and for the other two excerpts from the volume “Urbanism in Cluj-Napoca 2004-2012”.

b. Practical activity

The practical activity refers to, on one hand, the contribution to the domain of urban development applied to the municipality of Cluj-Napoca, between 2004 and 2006 when I was chief-architect, as well as in the period since 2004 to date as a member of The Commission of Urbanism and Land Use Planning Cluj-Napoca.

On the other hand, the practical activity in the domain of architecture promoted in the didactic process is related to the activity carried out by the candidate as supervisor of several subjects at The Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, especially those dedicated to architecture design.

At the same time, the practical activity also has a concrete component represented by over 100 buildings designed by the candidate as chief of a project or as a member of a design group. Out of these projects, 74 buildings were designed by the candidate after obtaining the degree of doctor.

The plans for developing the academic career and for research directions are presented in Chapter IV of the thesis; here, there are propositions for future research themes in the domain of architecture, but also closely related to the domain of urbanism or other connected domains such as geography, sociology, urban law.

The common ground between didactic, research and professional experience after the doctoral thesis was represented by architecture and urbanism rules – hence the title of this habilitation thesis in the domain of architecture: “ARCHITECTURE AND RULES IN THE CITY”. I presented the two domains together because they intersect, overlap and influence each other all the time; understanding architecture cannot be done without understanding the urban context, just how urbanism cannot be understood without extensive knowledge or architecture. This is way the area of overlapping, intersection and connection between architecture and urbanism has great potential; this potential can be reached through future research directions which, starting from the roots of the domain of architecture, benefit from the multi- and inter-disciplinary aspects of urbanism.