

B2 in the Ruin

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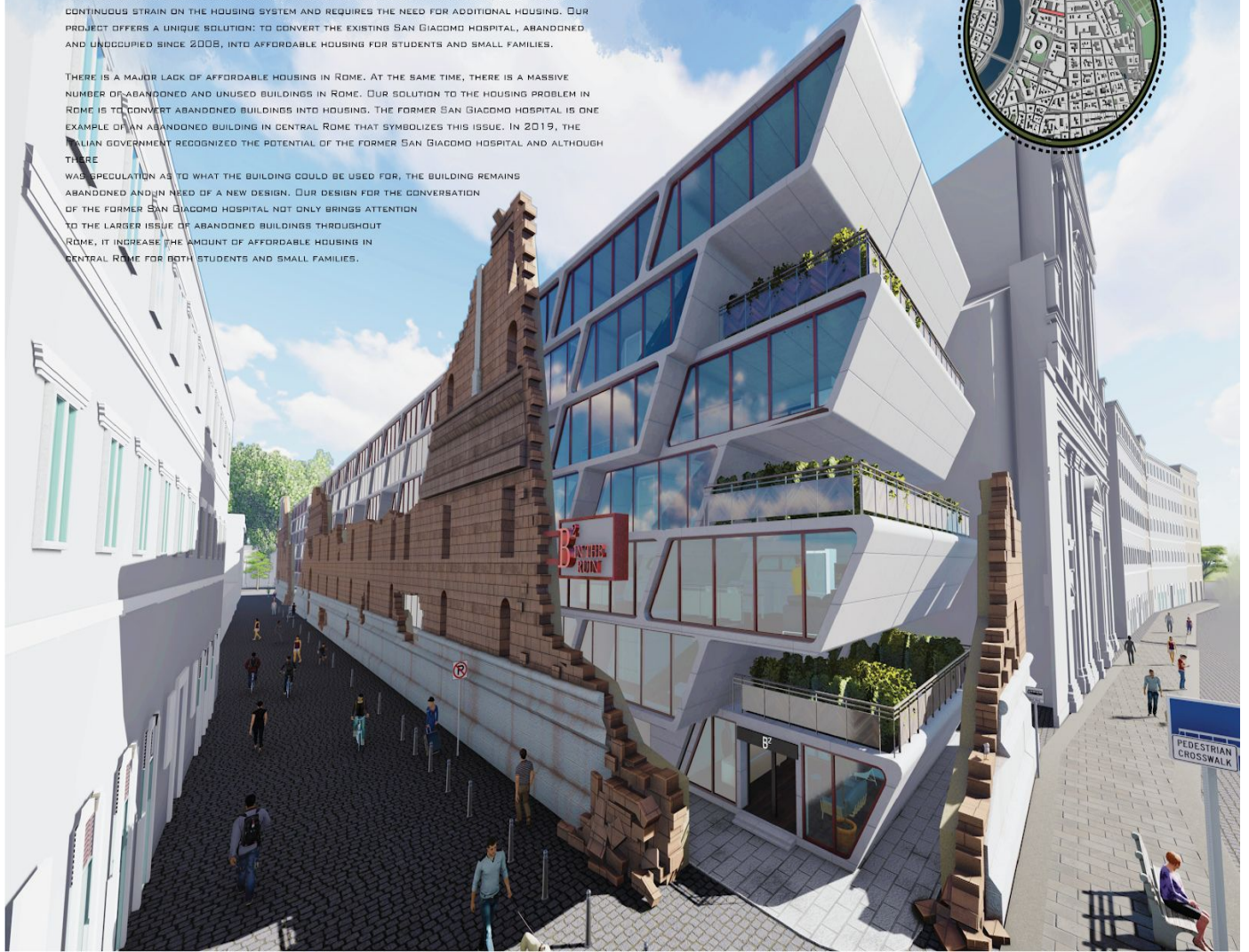
Foreword

There is a large need for additional housing in central Rome. This is due both to the large number of international students who come to Rome to study for part of the year, as well as the demand for housing from smaller families. With available housing already low, this causes continuous strain on the housing system and requires the need for additional housing. Our project offers a unique solution: to convert the existing San Giacomo hospital, abandoned and unoccupied since 2008, into affordable housing for students and small families.

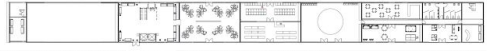
B² IN THE RUIN

THERE IS A LARGE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING IN CENTRAL ROME. THIS IS DUE BOTH TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WHO COME TO ROME TO STUDY FOR PART OF THE YEAR AS WELL AS THE DEMAND FOR HOUSING FROM SMALL FAMILIES. WITH AVAILABLE HOUSING ALREADY LOW, THIS CAUSES CONTINUOUS STRAIN ON THE HOUSING SYSTEM AND REQUIRES THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING. OUR PROJECT OFFERS A UNIQUE SOLUTION: TO CONVERT THE EXISTING SAN GIACOMO HOSPITAL, ABANDONED AND UNOCCUPIED SINCE 2008, INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STUDENTS AND SMALL FAMILIES.

THERE IS A MAJOR LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN ROME. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS A MASSIVE NUMBER OF ABANDONED AND UNUSED BUILDINGS IN ROME. OUR SOLUTION TO THE HOUSING PROBLEM IN ROME IS TO CONVERT ABANDONED BUILDINGS INTO HOUSING. THE FORMER SAN GIACOMO HOSPITAL IS ONE EXAMPLE OF AN ABANDONED BUILDING IN CENTRAL ROME THAT SYMBOLIZES THIS ISSUE. IN 2019, THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED THE POTENTIAL OF THE FORMER SAN GIACOMO HOSPITAL AND ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SPECULATION AS TO WHAT THE BUILDING COULD BE USED FOR, THE BUILDING REMAINS ABANDONED AND IN NEED OF A NEW DESIGN. OUR DESIGN FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE FORMER SAN GIACOMO HOSPITAL NOT ONLY BRINGS ATTENTION TO THE LARGER ISSUE OF ABANDONED BUILDINGS THROUGHOUT ROME, IT INCREASES THE AMOUNT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN CENTRAL ROME FOR BOTH STUDENTS AND SMALL FAMILIES.



PLANS



GROUND LEVEL



LEVEL 1.5



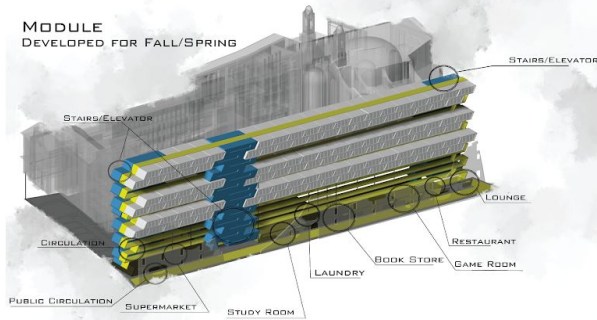
LEVEL 3

OUR SITE IS LOCATED ON VIA ANTONIO DANDVA BETWEEN VIA DEL CORSO AND VIA DI RIPETTA. SPACE SAVING AND FLEXIBILITY ARE KEY. OUR DESIGN CALLS FOR FLEXIBLE APARTMENT PODS CONFIGURED AROUND FIXED CIRCULATION CORES.

Different types of Student Pods

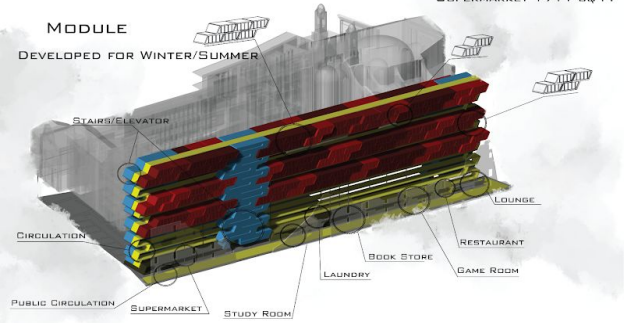
		TYPE A 527 SQ FT
		TYPE B 1054 SQ FT
		TYPE C 1581 SQ FT
		LAUNDRY 800 SQ FT
		GAME ROOM 800 SQ FT
		STUDY ROOM 1800 SQ FT
		LOUNGE 500 SQ FT
		MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM 1873 SQ FT
		RESTAURANT 751 SQ FT
		BATHROOM 480 SQ FT
		BOOK STORE 751 SQ FT
		SUPERMARKET 1711 SQ FT

MODULE DEVELOPED FOR FALL/SPRING



THE TWO LARGEST POPULATIONS IN ROME THAT WE IDENTIFIED IN OUR RESEARCH ARE SMALL FAMILIES AND STUDENTS. OUR RESEARCH SHOWS THAT SIMILAR TO CITIES LIKE NEW YORK, SMALL FAMILIES ARE OFTEN PUSHED OUT OF CENTRAL ROME DUE TO THE LACK OF HOUSING OPTIONS. OUR RESEARCH ALSO SHOWS STUDENTS MAKE UP A LARGE PART OF THE POPULATION IN CENTRAL ROME DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS IN ROME. FOR THIS REASON, IT IS APPROPRIATE TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR THESE TWO SPECIFIC GROUPS. THE DESIGN INCLUDES THREE TYPES OF APARTMENT UNITS CALLED PODS. THE MAIN POD, TYPE A, IS THE SIMPLEST APARTMENT UNIT AND CAN ACCOMMODATE TWO STUDENTS.

MODULE DEVELOPED FOR WINTER/SUMMER



THE LAYOUT INCLUDES A BEDROOM AND BATHROOM ON THE LOWER FLOOR AND A LIVING ROOM ON THE UPPER FLOOR. WHEN TWO TYPE A PODS ARE LOCATED NEXT TO ONE ANOTHER, A TYPE B POD IS CREATED. THE LAYOUT INCLUDES TWICE THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF A TYPE A AND CAN BE MADE BY REMOVING THE WALL BETWEEN THE TWO PODS. WHEN THREE TYPE A PODS ARE LOCATED NEXT TO ONE ANOTHER, THEY CREATE A TYPE C UNIT. BY ALLOWING TYPE A PODS OF 500 SQUARE FEET TO COMBINE INTO LARGER PODS WITH THE REMOVAL OF A SINGLE WALL, THE APARTMENTS REMAIN ADAPTABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND CAN EASILY ACCOMMODATE BOTH THE STUDENT AND SMALL FAMILY POPULATION AS NEEDED.

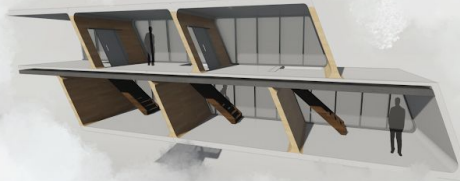
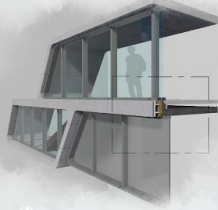
RUINS ARE A BIG PART OF THE ROMAN EXPERIENCE. IMAGINE IF THE COLOSSEUM AND OTHER FAMOUS RUINS WERE TORN DOWN. AS A SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE TO DEMOLISHING THE EXISTING BUILDINGS, OUR PROPOSAL ALLOWS THE FAÇADE OF THE FORMER HOSPITAL TO RUN ITS COURSE. THE STRATEGY FOR ACHIEVING THIS IS TO ALLOW THE EXISTING MASONRY TO REMAIN IN PLACE AND BREAK APART OVER TIME. THIS ALLOWS THE EXISTING 700-YEAR-OLD FAÇADE TO AGE IN PLACE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

OUR STRATEGY PROPOSES TO KEEP THE EXISTING MASONRY FAÇADE WHILE PROPOSING A NEW CONCRETE STRUCTURE IS WITHIN ITS INNER FOOTPRINT. THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE EXISTING MASONRY FAÇADE AND THE NEW CONCRETE INNER PORTION ALLOWS FOR THE APPRECIATION OF BOTH NEW AND OLD CONSTRUCTION. AN APPRECIATION THAT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IF ONLY A SINGLE STYLE WERE USED.



THE PROJECT'S BUILDING MATERIALS INCLUDE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO THE DESIGN OF THE APARTMENT UNITS. WHILE BRICK AND CONCRETE SERVE AS THE BUILDING'S PRIMARY STRUCTURE DUE TO THEIR AFFORDABILITY AND DURABILITY, WOOD SERVES AS THE SECONDARY STRUCTURE DUE TO ITS FLEXIBILITY. THE USE OF WOOD BETWEEN APARTMENT UNITS ALLOWS FOR SEMI-FLEXIBILITY. WITH THE REMOVAL OF AN INTERIOR WALL, INDIVIDUAL UNITS COMBINE TO FORM LARGER UNITS WHEN NEEDED.

MAIN MATERIALS AND WALLS



WOODEN WALLS THAT CAN BE EASILY CHANGED OR REMOVED WHILE OTHERS REMAIN PERMANENT.



As a prototypical strategy, the proposed modular pods can be combined in several ways making it efficient in various locations. One example of its adaptability on another site is Via Vitelliana Brancati, 64 Rome.



Our prototypical pods on other abandoned site in central Rome