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SEZIONE OPERE REALIZZATE BUILT PROJECTS SECTION

Vincitore ex aequo Equal Winner

Centro anziani e Servizi sociali
Social's Service and elderly people centre

**Progettista
Designer**
Gil Torres Carmen

**Committente
Client**
Amministrazione Comunale di Madrid
Madrid Council City's Funds D. G. Heritage

**Localizzazione
Location**
Madrid (Spagna)
Madrid (Spain)

**Realizzazione
Date**
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Segreteria del Premio

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In the conception of this building there has been an open commitment made to the generalized need to generate clean energy in the city, with the conviction that this new necessity, far from being an obstacle for the architectural result, constitutes an element that enriches the design; we obtain some interesting composition elements from the installation of the clean energy production mechanisms.

The project tackles the construction of a public building, property of the Madrid Municipal Council, whose design takes on the exercise of the responsibility of the administration to set an example in the construction of its own buildings. In this project the implantation of photovoltaic plaques in the facade has been chosen to illustrate the architectural possibilities of this technology, both in the city and in emblematic buildings.

Thus, the public building will meet its social ends in several ways:

- Public service to the citizens through its function;
- Solidarity in the production of free, non-contaminating electric energy, which is sent into the general network for the city's consumption, as more energy will be generated than is needed for the building's use;
- Symbolic character, as this is a public building whose image, far from being damaged, is reinforced by the use of the plaques as architectural material
- Building up the city with parameters of acceptable architectural quality;
- Functional example for private construction, encouraging the implantation of this system or others that are similar.

The building referred to, commissioned by the municipal Social Services Department, will house the following different functions:

- A social services centre, dedicated to citizen help and services, whose programme basically requires offices, as well as waiting and meeting rooms.
- A day centre for elderly persons with physical handicaps or with Alzheimer disease, especially designed with plenty of sitting rooms and walking areas.

The building is located on the border of Madrid's historical quarter, within a recently remodelled city block, on a street where traffic is restricted.

The lot on which it is being built is trapezoidal in form, bordering residential lots on three sides. Its facade is a broken line facing the public space and a square.

The necessity to segregate its two principal uses –by social services and elderly people– as well as the geometric complexity of the lot leads to the concept of two independent volumes, related spatially and of different typology, adequate respectively for the programmes and users they are destined to serve. In this way, an optimal facade surface is also gained; in other words, the possibility to optimize openings, light, and ventilation.

The volume destined for use by social services is a high-rise building, for urban convenience, built against the residential building next to it, and with which it shares a dividing wall to its full height. The offices and other spaces are distributed around a central opening illuminated by the glass lift shaft which polarizes the square tower ground plan.

The volume destined for use by elderly people, on the other hand, must try to avoid vertical displacements; thus, there are only four floors, and it is situated on the side of the lot where it is not necessary to conceal a dividing wall. It unfolds in the form of a pill, with the communications nucleus at the centre of the floor, achieving a simple composition whose aim is to enable the elderly to find their way more easily.

In the search for sustainable construction, maximum natural illumination and solar control have been procured; for this reason all the rooms including the walking areas have openings in the facade.

In the high-rise building, openings have been designed under the top slab but over the ceilings of the offices that conduct light obliquely into the interior, with the aim of increasing the illumination of the interior hall.

The space dedicated to elderly people, which should be warmer, has a southern exposure which can be opened via a curtain wall where the solar plaques can also serve as sun shades.

















