

Two instruments to preserve the Heritage: historical-constructive study and reuse

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ABSTRACT: The historical-constructive study of a building is a key instrument that allows to establish the evolutionary sequence of its uprising, taking care of all the historical facts related to the building and identifying its constructive phases. This study, in which the bibliographical and documentary sources are interwoven with the visual analysis of the real estate and its surroundings, offers data of absolute chronology and the possibility of establishing hypotheses as truthful as possible, which help to interpret the building and its evolutionary periods. The concept "reuse" implies the recovery of a historic building, his putting in service and value, to reuse it granting a habitability and functionality to its spaces. In this research has been analyzed, as an example of application of these two instruments, the Historical Heritage of the University of Granada.

1 INTRODUCTION

Understanding the historical evolution of a building involves analyzing the main biographical milestones of its construction process, from the reasons of its initial conception, its primitive formal and material aspects, its implantation in the city, its main architectural transformations over time, accompanied by the decisive factors that motivated them, until the final state in which the study of his biography is concluded.

The object of this investigation is the Heritage of the University of Granada and its policy of recovering historical buildings since it installed all of its dependencies in the old Saint Paul College, after the expulsion of the Jesuits in 1767. The construction stages of the buildings where were projected architectural university spaces in Granada, intended mainly for learning and, to a lesser extent, for research, will run parallel to the needs of each Faculty and its analysis should be made considering all the faces of a polyhedron: politic, economic, social, cultural, urban, scholastic, constructive techniques, training of architects, stylistics, technology, etc.

2 THE HISTORICAL-CONSTRUCTIVE STUDY: OBJECTIVE AND METHODOLOGY

Through a precise tour, written and graphic, by the interventions realized in the historic buildings, occupied in our case by the University of Granada, we will arrive at a cognitive process revealing the different construction phases, which will serve as a basis for the previous

analysis that it must be done in any conservation or restoration project. In order to achieve this detailed historical-constructive knowledge, I have carried out the following actions in the buildings studied for this research: the current Faculty of Law (old College of St Paul), the Faculty of Medicine until its transfer to the Madrid Avenue and the Faculty of Pharmacy until the inauguration in 1961 of the headquarters in Rector López Argüeta Street:

- Analyze all the intervention projects found in the Archives
- Analyze the graphic documentation available and complete it with new documentation of own contribution, to facilitate the evolutionary knowledge of some of the main buildings analyzed
- Identify the different architectural styles and types of buildings, placing them within the national and international currents of each era
- Relate the continent where university life develops, its buildings, to the content, that is, the university institution that inhabits it, the organs of power, the teaching staff, the students, the legislation or regulations by which it is governed and the plans of study that decisively influence the physical configuration of spaces
- Analyze the most outstanding figures of the University, mainly the architects who designed or rehabilitated architectures destined to house university centers, without forgetting the rectors and deans involved in the management of the architectural heritage of the University of Granada

3 THE REUSE AND THE RESTORING CURRENTS

The rehabilitation of historic-heritage buildings to establish a teaching use in them will be directly influenced by restorative currents that will emerge from the 19th century, to which the architects involved will not be strangers, distinguishing mainly two: the conservation and the restoration, that is, consolidate the structure or material of the building to avoid its deterioration or seek the splendor of the new through reconstruction (Capitel, 1992). In the first quarter of the 20th century, when in countries such as France or Italy the antagonistic positions of the previous century had already been overcome, in Spain there will be architects who are still influenced by the "restore as it was" of the current led by Viollet-le-Duc. In front of them, others like Torres Balbás will fight to eradicate it and avoid the continuous destruction of Spanish monuments, through two joint actions: the cultural education of the population and the state organization of the monuments to guarantee their protection. The rigorous historical-artistic studies, together with the technical and constructive advances, allowed the birth of a new current, the *scientific restoration*, initiated by Boito, was conceived as an intermediate position between the conservatism of Ruskin and the stylistic restoration of Viollet-le-Duc. Giovannoni in Italy and Torres Balbás in Spain will be responsible for disseminating the principles contained in the 1931 Athens Charter: respect for the constructive phases with historical-artistic value, identified by a precise historical-constructive study, minimal possible intervention, limited to projects of structural consolidation or additions that complete gaps or straighten lines, and use of new materials to differentiate the old from the new.

4 CASE STUDIES

4.1 *The College of St Paul: from Jesuit school to university*

The College of St Paul in Granada, headquarters of the current Faculty of Law, is considered the origin of the heritage of the University of Granada. The exhaustive and orderly analysis of the existing documentary sources, both graphic and written, subject to a careful critical review, in addition to the observation in situ and measurement of the current state of the building, has allowed me to elaborate a precise graphic tour of the constructive phases of the College of St Paul (Fig. 1). Of the building erected by the Jesuits between 1556 and 1767, the year of their expulsion, only two plans for the layout of the ground floor are preserved in the National Historical Archive: Giuseppe Valeriani's in 1579 and Martin de Baseta's in 1597. Therefore, it

was essential to raise a planimetry that would study the progressive construction of the buildings that were configuring the Jesuit complex, fundamental in turn to analyze the variable use of spaces during the Old Regime (Vílchez Lara, 2017).



Figure 1. Phases of the construction process of the College of St Paul (Vílchez Lara, 2017).

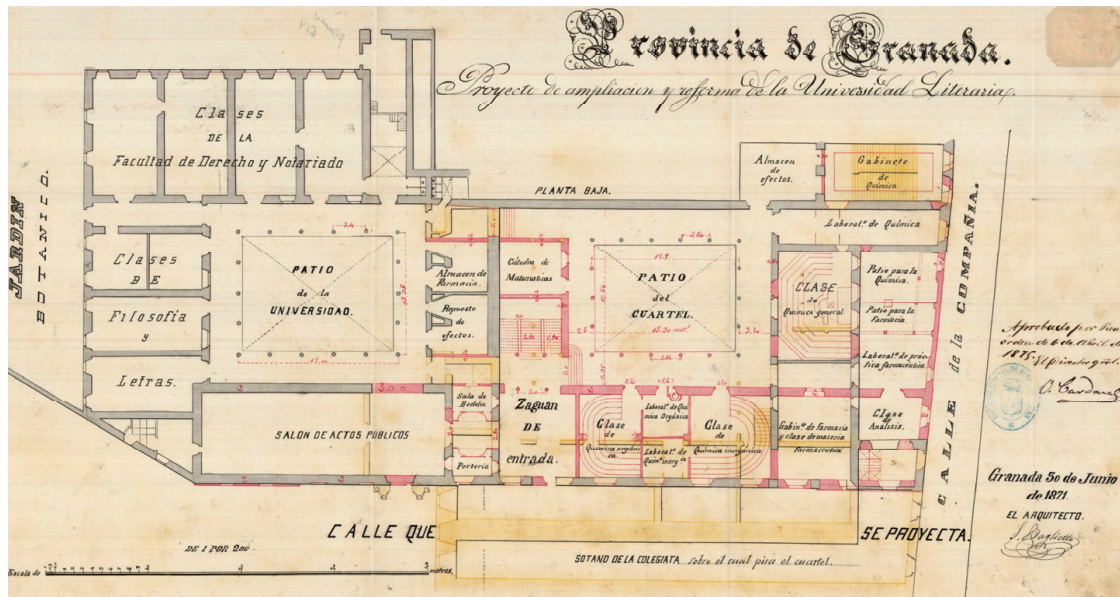


Figure 3. Baglietto. Extension and reform project of the University of Granada, 1871 (General Administration Archive, Spain).

The move of the University to the old Jesuit schools took place on March 29, 1769 (Fernández Carrión, 1997). The description of the university building that the grenadian cloister made in response to the state order received on February 23, 1770, prior to the reform of university studies promoted by Carlos III, which requested information on the teachings and media with that was counted, is an explanation of the works that had finally been carried out in the building. Mainly consisted of the isolation of the university dependencies with respect to the rest of the schools, the execution of the staircase located in the hall, leaving the small courtyard of the southwest corner untouched, and therefore, without building the grand main staircase projected by Fernández Bravo in front of the entrance door, the foresight of a large library room on the top floor, still unfinished, the hall for the celebration of cloisters and the houses of the custodians.

It would take more than a century for the University of Granada to increase its available premises and the old Saint Paul's College underwent a great transformation at the end of the 19th century, which currently makes it difficult to recognize the true dimension and form of some of its old spaces, especially the primitive house of the Jesuit Community, later used as university college and between 1802 and 1871 to house an Infantry Barracks, then blinding the arches of one of the corridors of the main courtyard. But it would be finally with the extension of the university building, once transferred the part of building that occupied the barrack to the University, when we will see drastically reduced the dimensions of the great square main cloister, with eight columns on each side, raised by the Jesuits between 1601 and 1638. The opening of a new street entered into both the plans of alignment and expansion of the historic center of the modern liberal city as in the project draw up by the architect Santiago Baglietto in 1871, at the request of the University (Fig. 3).

Until the year 1876, in which the demolition and configuration of the second courtyard work began, the transformations in the building had been practically imperceptible, with the exception of the demolition of the St Michael College in 1848, passing the empty plot to increase the extension of the botanical garden, which finally began to function as such at that time. Since 1879 the reform projects are carried out by the architect Juan Monserrat y Vergés. The main works completed in 1886.



Figure 4. Wilhelmi and Prieto-Moreno. Project to expand and close the university campus, 1943 (General Administration Archive, Spain).

The final configuration that the architectural ensemble offered in 1900 will be very similar to the current one, in the absence of including the closure of the university campus and the move, approved in 1943, of the Civil Government, which still occupied a piece of the old Jesuit factories. The poor state of solidity and conservation of this building, which lacked the same artistic values of the old Schools or the house of the Community, was decisive to project its demolition and to be able to draw a new plant for the Faculty of Sciences, in charge of the architects Fernando Wilhelmi Manzano and Francisco Prieto-Moreno. The configuration of the great university block, old Jesuit complex, would be carried out according to the imperial historicism of the new Franco regime, after the Spanish civil war (Fig. 4).

In the 1960s, a new Faculty of Sciences, designed by Cruz López Müller, began to be built on the grounds of Fuentenueva, due to the lack of space to house all the scientific sections. The general services of the University, the Rectorate and the university library, move to the Royal Hospital at the beginning of the eighties, allowing the Law School to be accommodated in the entire old Jesuit building.

4.2 *The Faculty of Medicine: from the College of St Paul to the St John of God Hospital*

The reign of Carlos III was decisive for the Spanish universities, among them the one of Granada. The new plan of 1776 indicated the need for the clinical classes of the Faculty of Medicine to have access to the Hospital of St John of God for the study of their patients and the anatomy of their corpses, to which end an Anatomical Theater would be built. In the plane of Granada realized between 1795 and 1796 by Francisco Dalmau, the extension of the Hospital of St John of God can be appreciated, next to the second courtyard. The premises of the Faculty of Medicine would occupy part of it since the end of the 18th century. This established a new university settlement at the end of the San Jerónimo axis.



Figures 5-6. Faculty of Medicine in Rector López Argüeta Street (1930) and in the Madrid Avenue (1944) (University Archive, Granada).

Since the mid-nineteenth century, the teaching of medicine in Spain opted for one of the two existing teaching models in Europe: French, based on learning almost exclusively clinical, developing mainly in the hospital, through the *Leçons cliniques* taught by the great masters at the bedside of the patient. The other Europe-an model was German, of an essentially theoretical nature, based on research, which had to be done in the large Institutes created for it within the University (Albarracín Teulón, 1998).

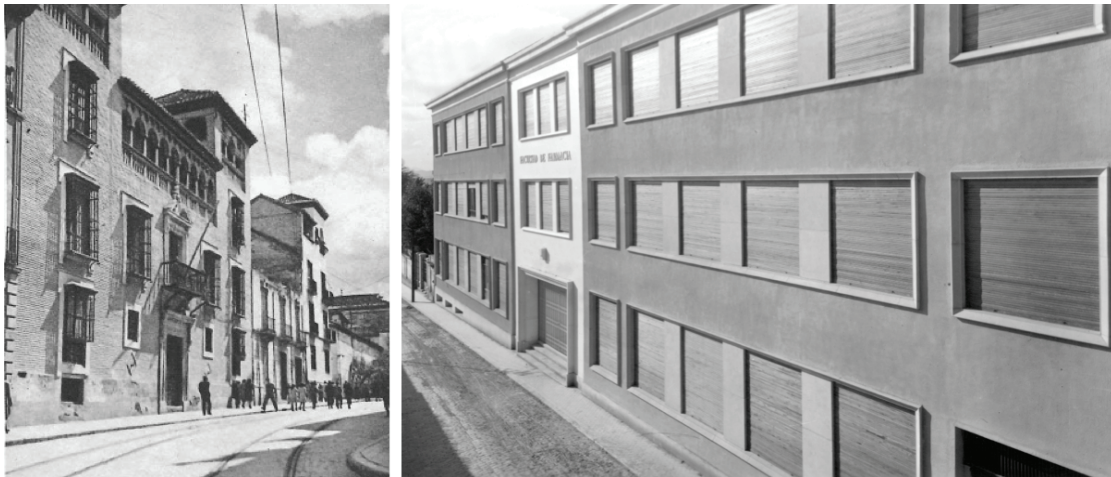
In Granada, the need for the Faculty of Medicine to settle next to the Hospital of St John of God, forced it to assign several premises, which were made various reforms to improve the state of the building and adapt to new demands academic In 1861, the provincial architect Juan Pugnaire was responsible for drafting the project and budget to improve the state of construction of the building of the Faculty and to introduce changes in the distribution of the third floor (Vílchez Lara, 2014). Despite these reforms, the conditions of the Faculty were not the most adequate, but totally deficient in terms of available space, insufficient to accommodate the growing number of students, and the poor state in which it was, especially with regard to hygienic conditions in the building itself and around it.

Between 1882 and 1886, the architect Juan Monserrat y Vergés presented the construction project, and two extensions to it, of a new Faculty of Medicine, on the foundations of the old building, within the eclectic current of the second half of the 19th century. The anatomical amphitheater and the dissection room stand out for their prominence (Fig. 5).

In the early 20th century, the problems of space insufficiency of the Faculty, unable to adequately house more laboratories and other facilities in the finisecular building of Rector López Argüeta Street, justified the need to build a new Faculty of Medicine together with a new Clinical Hospital, which did not depend on the Provincial Council. The sites chosen were located above the neighborhood of San Lazaro and the configuration of the new headquarters will be the product of an architectural competition, developed at the end of the dictatorship of Primo de Rivera. It was won by the architects Aurelio Botella and Sebastián Vilata and oscillates between rationalism and neoclassical eclecticism, offering a new image of the edge of the city, after its inauguration in 1944 (Fig. 6).

4.3 *The Faculty of Pharmacy: from the College of St Paul to the Renaissance Palace of Caicedo*

The Faculty of Pharmacy was founded in 1850, the third in Spain, behind that of Madrid and Barcelona. The faculty of Granada will remain corseted in the premises assigned to it in the former College of St Paul during the first seventy years of its history, suffering from a chronic lack of space together with poor lighting, ventilation, sanitation, circulation and sizing of laboratories, some of them projected in interstitial spaces, such as one of the galleries of the second courtyard.



Figures 7-8. Faculty of Pharmacy in San Jerónimo Street (1940) and in Rector López Argüeta Street (1961) (University Archive, Granada).

The decision to settle in the Renaissance Palace of Caicedo, in the middle of San Jerónimo Street, was accompanied by the idea of preserving to the maximum the characteristics of this beautiful historic building, rehabilitated and enlarged between 1863 and 1870 for use as an Institute, by the architect and professor of the Special School of Architecture of Madrid Francisco Enríquez Ferrer. The student expedition that Enríquez directed to Guadalajara in 1853, under the new pedagogical project of the nascent Madrid School of Architecture, will have a decisive influence on his intervention projects in the historical heritage. The valorization of the architectures of the past, by drawing plans and their critical analysis, was in consonance with the way of proceeding in Europe: the romantic spirit of the traveler in opposition to the intellectual of the cabinet (Prieto González, 2004).

The intervention of the architect Francisco Enríquez Ferrer, in the restoration and rehabilitation of the residential palace, was totally conditioned to the adaptation to the new teaching use and to the bad state of conservation in which the lordly house was before being transformed into an institute. The absence of spaces in the building, which by their dimensions could be adapted to the teaching, will result in the first decision of the project, affecting the physiognomy of the whole property: the total occupation of its subsequent garden, by means of the erection of a construction of new plant, previous demolition of the two pavilions attached to the party walls and the corridor that joined them closing the Renaissance courtyard. To understand the position of Enríquez in the restoration of the Renaissance palace of Caicedo, we have to consider previously that from the second half of the 19th century, the concept of historical patrimony began to be born and to give indecisive steps in Spain, under the knowledge of a monumental legacy to conserve, which hosted architectures from different periods under the same umbrella: historical romanticism. Enríquez will mark in his performance a clear differentiation of the old constructions of the palace of Caicedo, heritage of historic-artistic interest to be preserved, and the new, with an eclectic and academic facade projected towards the Arriola street, where would be the main access the building dedicated to teaching.

In 1919, the architect Fernando Wilhelmi Manzano will project the restoration and adaptation of the Institute to Faculty of Pharmacy (Fig. 7), keeping the building divided into two parts: the noble house for administration, with the exception of the laboratories on the last floor, and the construction nineteenth century, which will host the scholastic part, that is, classrooms, laboratories, library and museum (Vilchez Lara, 2016).

Just as it had happened to the Faculty of Medicine many years before, the need to have premises where to house new laboratories and classrooms that would satisfy the progressive increase of students enrolled and new subjects, will cause the Faculty of Pharmacy to request its extension in 1945 occupying the solar annex, formerly belonging to the Ideal newspaper. This project, presented in 1946, would not succeed, because in 1950 it was decided that the best solution for the overflowing Faculty would be the complete move to the old Faculty of Medicine, in Rector López Argüeta Street. This building, in addition, had to host the National

Institute of Parasitology, reason why its extension was also projected. From a first conservative approach to this fin-de-siècle construction, little by little it is drifting towards the progressive destruction of spaces, "as the best possible option", until achieving the total demolition of its eclectic and historic façade, replacing it with a new, rationalist with one remnants of the monumental style of the already overcome Autarchy, inaugurated in 1961 (Fig. 8), the work of architects Juan de Dios Wilhelmi Castro and Luis Alvarez de Cienfuegos, in which delete any trace of the existence of a heritage that belonged to the University and would become part of the vanished Granada.

5 CONCLUSIONS

The historical-constructive studies are a fundamental tool to determine the constructive phases of the heritage buildings on which we intend to undertake conservation or restoration works and, especially, if these actions also involve rehabilitation of spaces for new uses.

The University, from its installation in the 18th century in the old College of St Paul and the later exit of the medical faculties, Medicine and Pharmacy, in the mid-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, respectively, has been occupying, rehabilitating and transforming buildings of historical heritage to adapt them to a university use. This double assembly university-heritage and university-integration in the city, will determine the urban image of the university axis of San Jerónimo in the first third of the twentieth century, where they will be implemented, in addition to the central building, the Faculties of Medicine, next to the Hospital of St John of God, and Pharmacy, in the old Palace of Caicedo. The choice of the sites located in the northwest edge of the city, next to the San Lázaro neighborhood, to build the new Faculty of Medicine and its Clinical Hospital, is the beginning of the dispersion of the university centers and decentralization with respect to the axis of San Jerónimo, although this fact will not materialize until after the Civil War.

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