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“Hollywood” Hotel on Ilidza near Sarajevo by Architect Ahmet Hadrovic

Ahmet Hadrovic

Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Corresponding Author: Ahmet Hadrovic

Abstract

The time of the 1990s before the series of wars on the territory of the former SFRY (which resulted in its disintegration) was a time of social restitution where the former socialist-communist system (known in the SFRY as 'socialist self-management') was transformed into liberal capitalism. The economy that used to be 'controlled from the top of the state' was replaced by (mostly) private initiatives where a large number of investors appeared with capital 'whose origin was not questioned'. There were 'domestic investors' as well as those who 'came from abroad'. In a relatively short period of time after the war (1992-1995), in Sarajevo and throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, new

production facilities, religious buildings, catering facilities (restaurants, guesthouses, motels and hotels) sprang up. In the very beginning, these were more modest constructions that 'grew' over time - extended and expanded - depending on the success of their business. Many of them, shortly after construction, fell into disrepair and were physically devastated.

This paper presents one example of a hotel whose construction began with the 'extension of a private house and its remodeling into a three-star hotel'. The author of this work was the designer of the First and Second phases of the “Hollywood” hotel in Ilidza near Sarajevo.

Keywords: “Hollywood” Hotel, Ilidza, Sarajevo

1. Introduction

The time of the 1990s before the series of wars on the territory of the former SFRY (which resulted in its disintegration) was a time of social restitution where the former socialist-communist system (known in the SFRY as 'socialist self-management') was transformed into liberal capitalism. The economy that used to be 'controlled from the top of the state' was replaced by (mostly) private initiatives where a large number of investors appeared with capital 'whose origin was not questioned'. There were 'domestic investors' as well as those who 'came from abroad'. In a relatively short period of time after the war (1992-1995), in Sarajevo and throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, new production facilities, religious buildings, catering facilities (restaurants, guesthouses, motels and hotels) sprang up. In the very beginning, these were more modest constructions that 'grew' over time - extended and expanded - depending on the success of their business. Many of them, shortly after construction, fell into disrepair and were physically devastated.

This paper presents one example of a hotel whose construction began with the 'extension of a private house and its remodeling into a three-star hotel'. Thanks to its good location (Ilidza near Sarajevo has been a famous spa town since the time of the ancient Romans) and the enterprising skills of its owner, the “Hollywood” hotel has undergone several expansions and redesigns. The author of this paper worked on two designs, Phase I (extension, superstructure and adaptation of a private house into a hotel) and Phase II (construction of a new physical structure).

2. Hotel “Hollywood”, Ilidza near Sarajevo (1999-2002)

“Hollywood” hotel is located on Ilidza near Sarajevo (Geographical coordinates: 43°49'45.83"N, 18°31.99"E, elevation: 499 m), a place where the cult of enjoying the benefits of natural thermal water was conceived in ancient times Romans (3rd century BC)¹, (Fig 1). The “Hollywood” hotel project presented here was realized in two phases.

In its first phase, the hotel had about thirty rooms, a restaurant for guests, a cafe-bar and an internet-club (which were also open to outside guests), as well as a sauna and a beauty salon for guests. In its first phase, the hotel had outdoor parking for its guests.

¹ Not far from the location of this hotel, there are still preserved remains of Roman public baths (thermae).

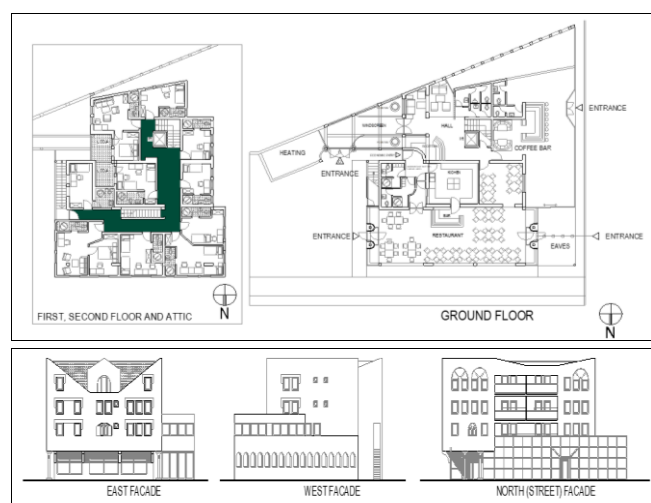


Source: <https://slidetodoc.com/regionalna-podjela-bosne-i-hercegovine-geografske-regije-bosne/>, Accessed 8/14/2022.

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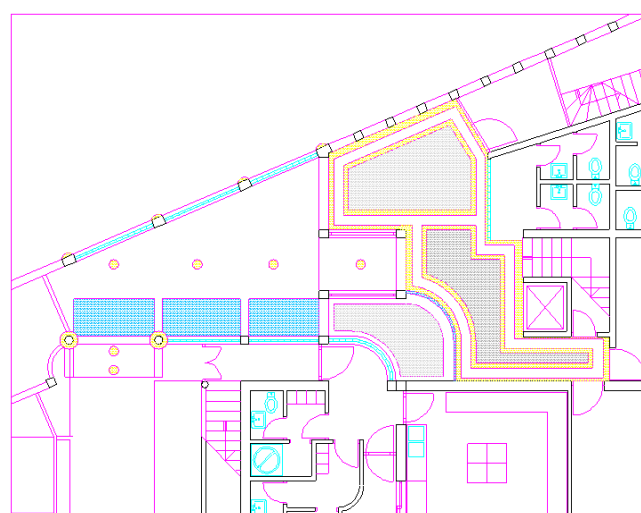
Fig 1: “Hollywood” hotel on Ilidza near Sarajevo. Location

In the second phase of construction, the “Hollywood” hotel got a new building (which was connected by a 'warm connection' with the construction of the first phase hotel only from the level of the 1st floor). On the ground floor and gallery (mezzanine) of the new building, conference rooms, exhibition spaces and offices for companies were planned, while on three floors and in the attic rooms (68) and apartments (4) were planned for guests. All hotel facilities have been realized² (Fig 2, 3, 4).

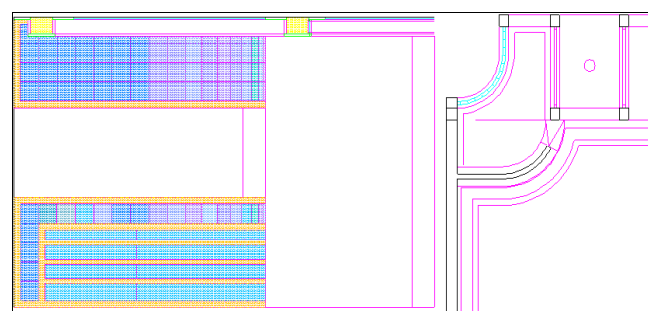
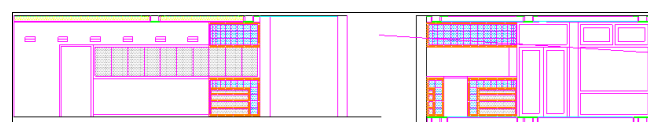


Source: Author (1999-2002, Project)

Fig 2: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo. First phase (1999-2002). Project

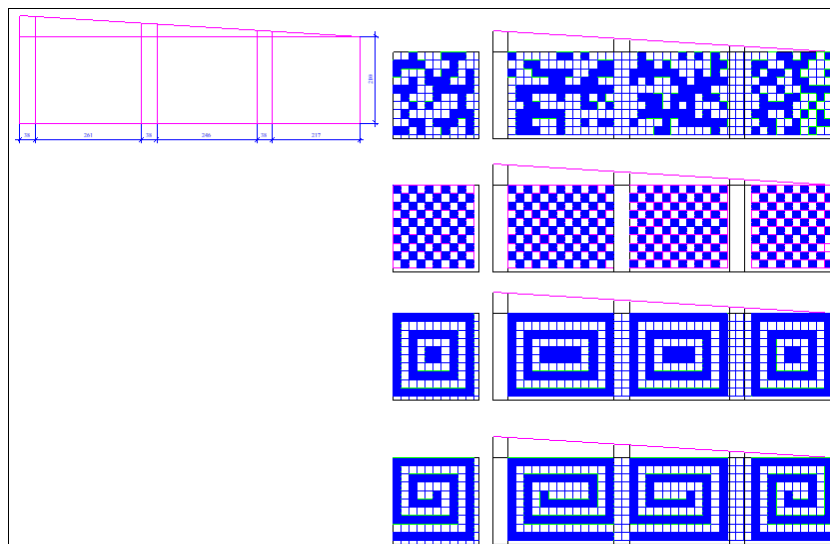


Entrance hall with reception'

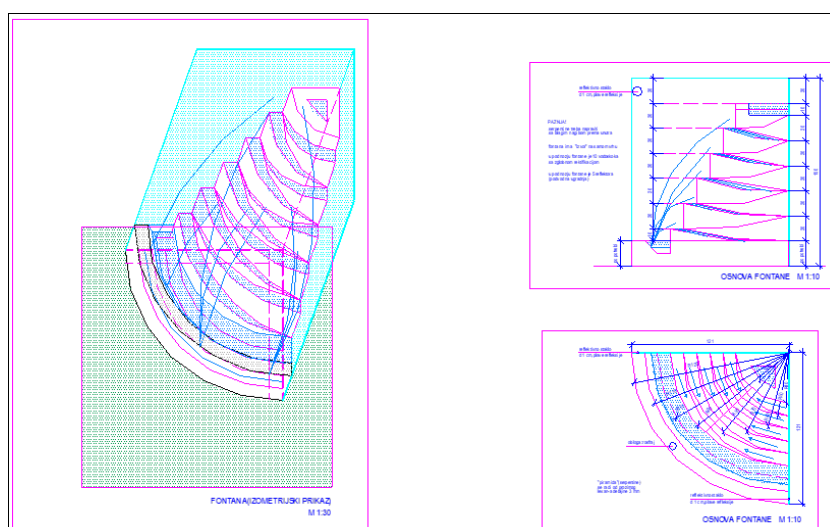


Details of the entrance hall

² The hotel later underwent a third phase of expansion, but the author of this paper did not participate in it - the author of the design of the First and Second phases of the construction of the „Hollywood“ hotel on Ilidza.



Stained glass in the entrance hall



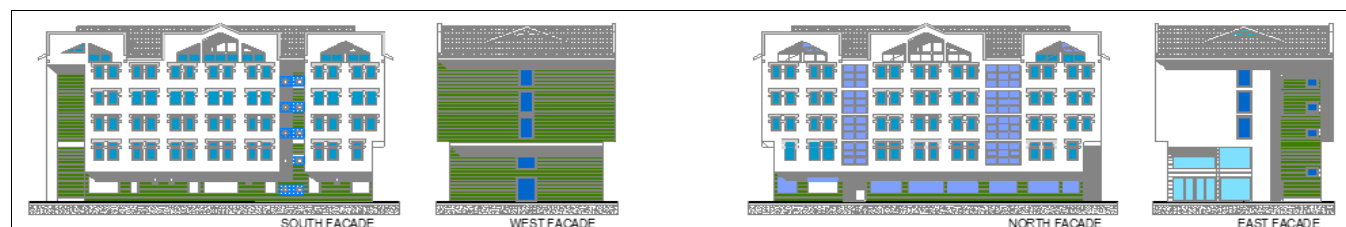
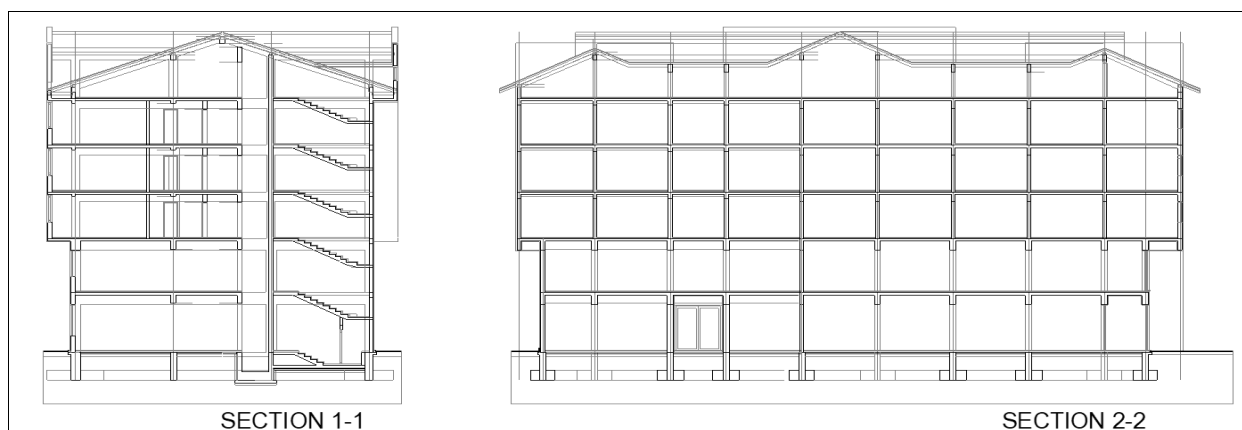
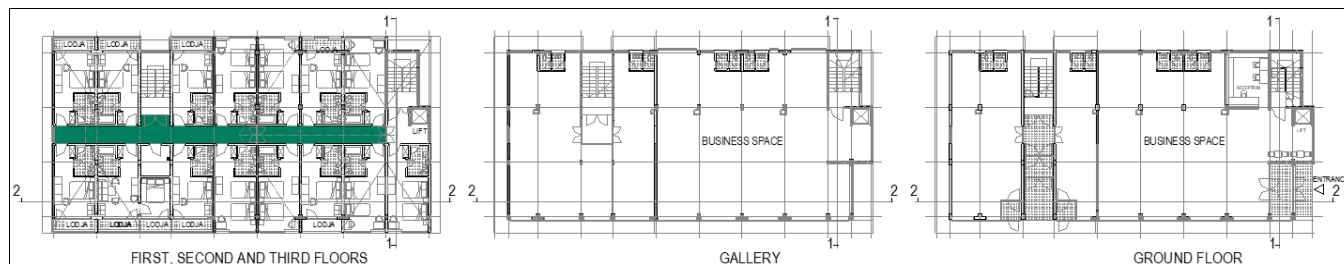
Source: Author (1999-2002, Project)

Fountain in the entrance hall of the hotel

Fig 3: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo (2002). First phase: some interior elements. Project

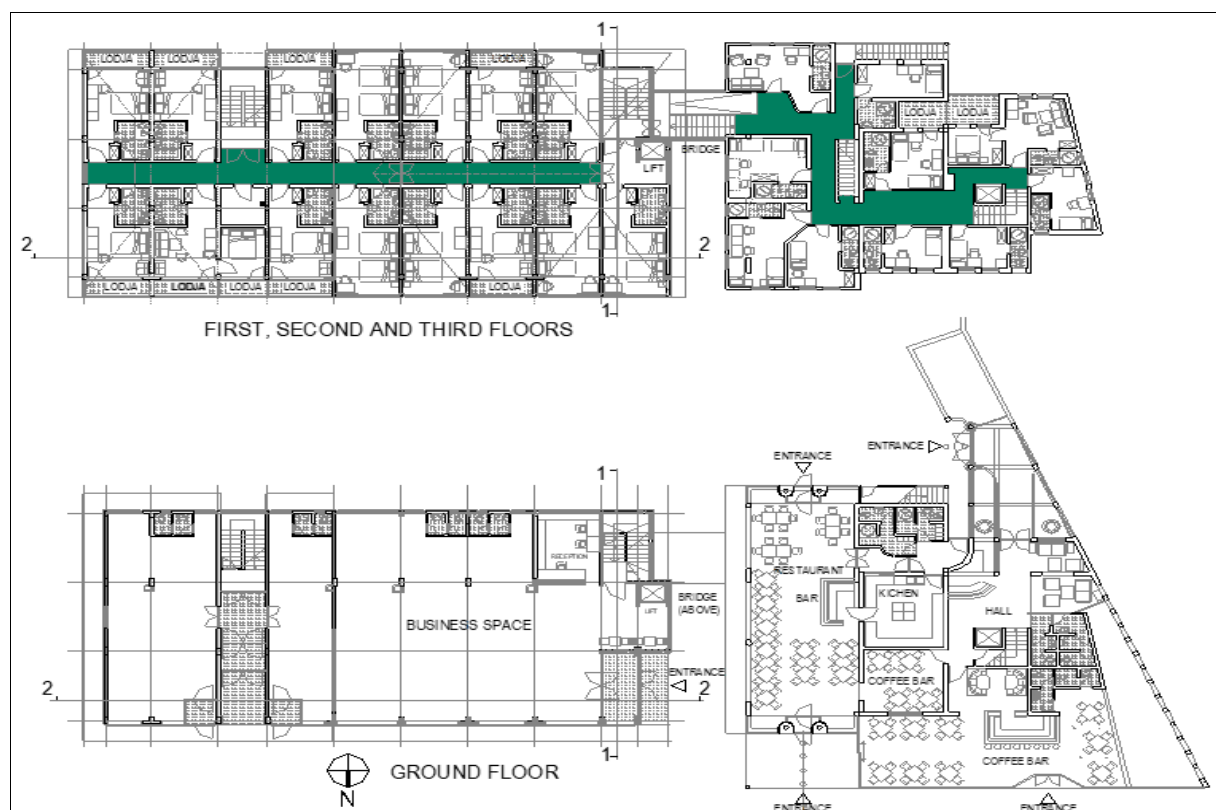
Source: <https://lh5.googleusercontent.com/p/AF1QipMwUDLvTRaIFXE5qzZAVBiVC3iKZgjcZfaNd6U=h720>, Accessed: 9.21.2022.

Fig 4: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo (2002). The first stage



Source: Author (2002, Project)

Fig 5: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo. Second phase (2002). Project



Source: Author (1999-2002, Project)

Fig 6: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo. First phase + Second phase (1999-2002). Project



Source: Author (March 30, 2012.) <http://turizaminfo.com/objekti/hotel-hollywood/>, Accessed: 9.21.2022.

Fig 7: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo. Second Phase (2002)



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Fig 8: “Hollywood” hotel, Ilidza near Sarajevo. Third phase (2018-2022)

3. Conclusion

“Hollywood” hotel on Ilidza near Sarajevo is a representative example for the study of 'Architecturally Defined Space' on a concrete example of an architectural realization where the 'Natural and Social Environment', 'Man' and 'Perspectives' of Architecturally Defined Space can be clearly observed in their synergy^[20]. “Hollywood” hotel has been created since the end of the war (1992-1995) in Bosnia and Herzegovina until today. The generation started from the reconstruction and adaptation of a family house, through its 'addition', 'superimposition' and redesign to the construction of a completely new architectural structure that is connected with the initial architectural structure. This construction-business process is a direct consequence of the post-war state of society (its transition from a socialist to a capitalist system), the displacement of the population of a certain ethnicity (as a direct consequence of the war) and the arrival of money of unknown origin and its placement in debt-business investments.

By predicting the generation of the “Hollywood” hotel on Ilidza near Sarajevo, its 'Perspectives' can even be predicted: all the physical architectural structures built so far will be removed at one point, and new structures, physically larger, will be built in their place, in order to increase the profit of their investor. The location where the “Hollywood” hotel was built has become a real 'gust of wind' and it is difficult to predict what it will look like in 20, 50, 100 years, since some content with the meaning of 'genius loci' was not able to 'take root' in it, such as the case with the hotel complex from the era of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy in its vicinity.

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