

## I. IDENTIFICATION DATA

<b>Thesis name:</b>	<b>Experimental Architectural School in Prague</b>
<b>Author's name:</b>	<b>Bc. Anagha Poolothvalappil</b>
<b>Type of thesis :</b>	diploma
<b>Faculty/Institute:</b>	Fakulta architektury (FA)
<b>Department:</b>	UNII
<b>Thesis head:</b>	doc.ing.arch. Petr Kordovský
<b>Reviewer's department:</b>	FA ČVUT

## II. EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL CRITERIA

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>extraordinarily challenging</b>
<p>The project is a proposal for a reconversion of the today's ruins of the Praga factory in Prague Vysočany district. The project is based on contextual and historical ties dating back to the glory days of the First Republic and local genius loci including historical connotations. The factory is desperately waiting for a renovation and finding a new use worth of its tradition as a centre of industrial innovation and success.</p>	

<b>Satisfaction of assignment</b>	<b>fulfilled</b>
<p>The thesis solves rather complex and challenging brief based on Anagha's detailed study of the context seen from various aspects – architectural, site specific, historical and sociocultural and last but not least environmental.</p>	

<b>Design Method</b>	<b>outstanding</b>
<p>The student analyzed major volume of data about the site, district and the company and its history. Large part of the project is a thorough research to help understanding what is important. Various examples of similar projects were studied rather thoughtfully.</p> <p>Based on this research Anagha has provided us with a design which brings to the site solutions inspired by the city itself. A scheme using "streets" and "squares" "blocs" and "monuments" on one side and even towers and ramparts on the other, help to organize the project creating a lively city within a city scheme. The design has interesting level of rationality combined with minor irregularities mimicking real city with both the logic and surprises You will find outside the premises of the reconversion.</p> <p>The challenge to save the local flair and tradition was fulfilled. In the same time the design keeps a certain distance to let the those who will use the complex to express themselves in the future.</p>	

<b>Technical level</b>	<b>B - very good.</b>
<p>It is not easy to evaluate the level of technical approach to problem solving in such a complicated design. I must appreciate Anagha's courage in facing this complex brief and using all the skills she has to solve the challenge. Existing structure has been mostly retained with contemporary interventions which are not shy to indicate today's origin. If the project is to be built there is a huge amount of technical issues to be solved starting with energy exchange and ending with the state of the structure after many many years of total neglect. Anyway the mere fact of retaining the building as a part of our industrial heritage and tradition is worth the effort.</p> <p>All the problems of energy/environment control or fire protection regulations ( wood structures are extensively used) are much beyond the envelope of the Thesis Project but they were met in an outstanding effort by Anagha. Have to</p>	

say this was the biggest challenge because of completely different conditions Anagha is accustomed to in her native country.

**Formal and language level, scope of thesis**

**A - excellent.**

The thesis is written and designed understandably. The pictures used in the project part are neat and clear and are simple to understand. Visualizations are interesting and explanatory without the "artistic" overkill we know from similar schemes. Explanatory technical diagrams are clear and appropriate to the stage of the project. The extent of the work shown here is just a tip of the iceberg. The project went through very complicated development during the time. The graphic level of the project is good, number and detail of drawings describes the idea.

**Additional commentary and evaluation**

The design presented is ambitious, the scope and volume of the task chosen and decided by the student to solve deserves appreciation. I would be very happy if such an approach to this specific site and many similar others around in our country would be quite common and not extraordinary.  
Designing a Thesis project is always a challenge, this semester it was an even bigger issue considering the fact our world has turned upside down during the time...

**III. OVERALL EVALUATION, QUESTIONS FOR DEFENSE, CLASSIFICATION SUGGESTION**

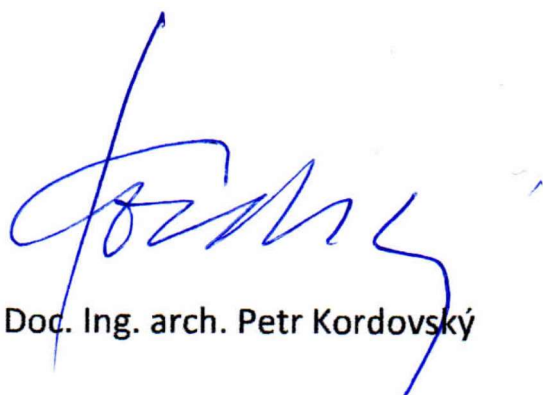
*The complex presented has a great potential for giving a good opportunity for a Bauhaus/monastery type of educational institution. Complexity of the technical solution and balancing on the edge between art and architecture compared with technical issues to work for an everyday life in such a big project represents a great challenge for an architect. I must appreciate the already mentioned courage to achieve such a goal. Anagha used and probably spent all her efforts to finish this design.  
I enjoyed all the time Anagha spent in our group and suggest to give this Thesis a go.*

**Questions:**

- 1) how would you connect the project to present and future local context ?
- 2) Are you sure a design on such a "distant" place can survive for an institution of this type within a big city?
- 3) what are the methods of heating/cooling and ventilating of the space in your project and are there some natural ways of doing so without consuming energy?

I evaluate the thesis with classification grade

**A - excellent.**



Doc. Ing. arch. Petr Kordovský

Date: **2.6.2022**