

Diploma Project - LS 2024

DP Theme: "SOCIAL AND COLLECTIVE HOUSING - HLAVNÍ NÁDRAŽÍ"
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The author deals with a deserving task, sociologically and technologically: to propose social housing in a place above the railway station and near the liveliest part of the capital's center.

The project is based upon a comprehensive analysis of the site and a profound excursion to the history and philosophy of the social housing; and taking into account cultural context, too. Author collected plenty of information and used it as a reliable base for designing process.

From the urbanistic point of view author chose a suitable solution, working with the complete hierarchy of spaces ranging from public to private ones. A reliable way of employing a semi - open traditional block structure was employed; this system provides an easy orientation and a natural perception of a city scene and can provide spaces of various degree of privacy. The apartments are responsibly designed and documented, but the design of the building's common areas does not seem so convincing to me: the rectangular space on the parking level ("general waste and machinery building") could be more specific, and at least it would be worth mentioning the solution to the problem of draining sewage from the building located above a wide railway track. The project does not include height dimensions, the sections show the railway track but not the surrounding terrain. It could be also worth considering the possibility of using the roof with interesting views.

I consider the visual aspect of the design to be successful. The rational design of the object, which truly reflects the construction, has a surprisingly vivid colouring, moreover justified by the cultural background of the author; lively blue colour of staircase towers in the inner courtyard is another creative surprise.

Project's portfolio consists of abundant material. All drawings vital to understand the design are included - plans, sections, elevations, axonometries as well as a lot of visualizations.

The diploma project is, in my opinion, a piece of nice and creative work, with a few issues mentioned above.

Recommended grade of assessment: Very good - B

Ing.arch. Tomáš Hořava
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