

The Aga Khan Award for Architecture

1995 ARCHITECT'S RECORD

1753.BUL

I. IDENTIFICATION

Project Title Restoration of the Ibrahim Pasha Mosque
 Street Address 'Central'square
 City Razgrad Postal Code 7200 Country Bulgaria

II. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

A. Architect/Planner

Name arch.Nikola Moushanov-chief designer
 Mailing Address 58'Evlogi Georgiev'blrd.
 City Sofia Postal Code 1124 Country Bulgaria
 Telephone 440-724 Facsimile _____ Telex _____

B. Client

Name Municipal People's Council-Razgrad
 Mailing Address City People's Council-Razgrad
 City Razgrad Postal Code 7200 Country Bulgaria
 Telephone _____ Facsimile _____ Telex _____

C. Project Affiliates

Please list those involved in the project and indicate their rôles and areas of responsibility (e.g. engineers, contractors, economists, master craftsmen, other architects, clients, etc.).

Name	Rôle
<u>arch.Zlatka Kirova-Sofia</u>	<u>co-designer</u>
<u>eng. Lazar Mishev-Sofia</u>	<u>constructor</u>
<u>Spas Nedeltchev</u>	<u>technical manager</u>
<u>artist-restorer Grigori Grigorov-Sofia</u>	<u>fresco restorations</u>
<u>sculptor Rusi Dundakov-Sofia</u>	<u>vitrage restorations</u>
<u>Construction team at the Institute of</u>	
<u>monuments of culture-Razgrad</u>	

III. ARCHITECT'S BRIEF

Please describe the initial project programme.

Ibrahim Pasha Mosque is the most impressive Muslim prayer home in Bulgaria, built in 1616. It is famous and highly evaluated by specialists of Ottoman architecture. In the years before its restoration, its construction and technical state was bad. There were leaks in the roof, as a result of which the frescoes in the dome were crumbling away. Cracks over the outer walls indicated construction faults. Urgent examination of the building was necessary. In 1968 the National Institute of monuments of culture started the restoration by making graphic fixations and an evaluation of the technical state. The sheet iron casing, worn out by corrosion was replaced by a lead one, which stopped the growth of the destruction process. A drilling analysis revealed former reconstructions. The narthex was found out to be late-after 1880. In its outer walls, wooden columns built in profile, were found out from an older wooden portico. Its construction took place after the destruction of the medieval monumental portico during the Russian-Turkish War/; 1828-29/, when the town was set on fire.

IV. EVOLUTION OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

Please describe the history of the project, from its conception to its final construction and actual use.

All the traces of the construction of the original medieval stone portico were preserved in the northern wall. In 1981 our reconstruction project was made after these authentic data, but the restoration of the wooden portico was declined by the city management. The reconstruction envisaged a restoration of the authentic prototype in a ferro-concrete construction, 'hidden' in an outer stone facing, with the form and detail of the original. A number of new monumental buildings, together with the mosque with its centralizing architectural volume and emphasized vertical accent through its minaret, were among the newly built with regard to the latest urban-planning ideas about the design of the city square. The ambitions of the city management about the mosque resulted in considerable funds granted for its restoration. As a result the windows were restored after the prototype, with stone frames and iron bars in the lower row together with the stone tracery bars over the upper row of windows, typical of the middle ages. The rescue operations about the frescoes in the mosque interior finished in 1988, together with the overall preservation and restoration of the frescoes in the dome. The additional reconstruction work on the portico of the narthex also began.

V. CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

A. Description of Materials

(please also indicate if locally produced or imported and whether fabricated on-site or elsewhere)

1. Foundations

Concrete in foundations

2. Principal Structural Members

Concrete

3. Infill

Concrete

4. Rendering of Façades or Exterior Finishes

Natural outlook of the material

5. Floors

Ceramic tiles

6. Ceilings

Restored frescoes

7. Roofing

Roof casing from lead tiles

8. Other elements (please specify)

Limestone for the lower row of windows and
stone bars of shell limestone.

B. Construction Technology

Indicate the basic construction technology, methods, details or systems.

A hidden ferro-concrete construction of the dome
and the ring roof belt
Reconstructed portico in a ferro-concrete
construction faced with limestone slabs in a white
concrete castC. Type of Labour Force (please indicate percentage) yes Skilled Workers _____ Unskilled Workers

Specialist restorers-frescoes & vitrages, Sofia

D. Origin of Labour Force yes Domestic _____ Foreign

VI. TIMETABLE

(please specify year and month)

- A. Commission the beginning of 1969
- B. Design: Commencement Dec 1968 Completion 1984
- C. Construction: Commencement 1971 at intervals Completion 1989-suspension
- D. Date of Project Occupancy 1989-suspension of the project due to
cancelled state financing

VII. AREAS AND SURFACES

Site and Building Area (please indicate in square metres)

1. Total Site Area 900 m²
2. Total Ground Floor Area 520 m²
3. Total Combined Floor Area 520 m²
(including basement(s), ground floor(s) and all upper floors)

VIII. ECONOMICS

Please specify the amounts in local currency. Provide the equivalent in US dollars. Specify the date and the rate of exchange for US dollars at that time.

- | | Amount in
Local Currency | Amount in
US dollars | Exchange Rate | Date |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------|------|
| A. Total Initial Budget | <u>financing at annual stages, at intervals</u> | | | |
| B. Cost of Land | <u>a change of ownership after 1989</u> | | | |
| C. Analysis of Actual Costs | | | | |
| 1. Infrastructure | <u>vitrages 80 000lv</u> | | | |
| 2. Labour | <u>stone bars 75 000lv</u> | | | |
| 3. Materials | <u>frescoes 180 000lv</u> | | | |
| 4. Landscaping | <u>construction work 300 000lv</u> | | | |
| 5. Professional Fees | | | | |
| 6. Other | | | | |
| D. Total Actual Costs (without land) | <u>no basis for comparison due to the</u> | | | |
| E. Actual Cost per sq.m. | <u>specifics of the restoration work</u> | | | |
| F. Cost Comparison | | | | |

Please indicate how the costs of this project relate to typical building costs in the country:

_____ Average _____ Above Average _____ Below Average

G. Sources of Funds

1. Please indicate the percentage of funds that came from:

_____ Private Sources yes _____ Public Sources

2. If funding was public, what percentage was from:

_____ Local Sources _____ National Sources _____ International Sources


IX. PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT

In what way is this project important ?

In the middle of the 1980^{ies} the new architectural layout of the square was just about to finish. 'The Big Mosque' as the local population called Ibrahim Pasha Mosque, was overlooking the square in its newly restored outer appearance. The citizens, as well as the city management were proud with the renewal of the square, and last but not least, with their awareness, that their city contained a historical and architectural monument of a national standing. Contrary to these public spheres there existed some nationalistic tendencies, which opposed the emphatic position of the monument. This definitely negative social attitude was demonstrated in the brutal act of some vandals, who penetrated inside the building, destroyed and smashed to pieces almost entirely the valuable original plaster vitrages on the windows. They had been preserved intact from the 17th C till then, with a 'mimbar' of an excellent carving and the wooden elements of the 'mahafili'. When we entered the place after that vandal act, the floor was sprinkled with the small fragments of the exquisite and stylistically unique decoration of the mosque interior. The investor - the city municipality provided new funds for the restoration of the shattered vitrages and the carvings of the 'mimbar'. Projects were made after the collected fragments of the originals, of a scale 1:1 for each individual window vitrage and for the separate carved tables of the 'mimbar'. The vitrages of the dome, as well as the upper two rows of windows were worked out and assembled up to 1988. A specialist wood-carver was intended to be called. At the end of 1989, a period of advancing economic crisis in the country and alterations in the financial policy towards the restoration of monuments of culture, the reconstruction process over the Ibrahim Pasha Mosque was cancelled.

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Name (please print) Nikola Moushanov

Signature  Date Dec. 27th 1994