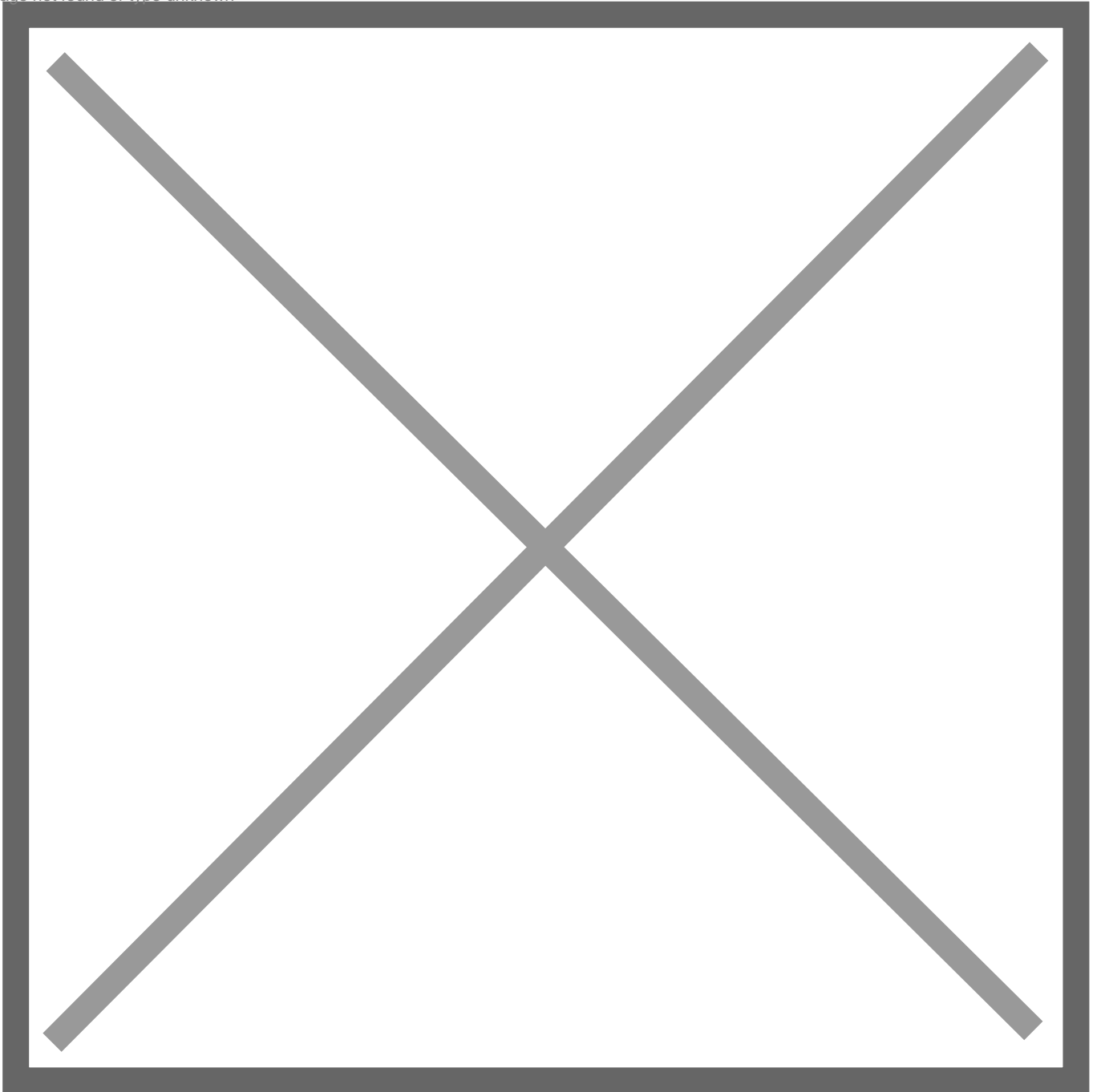


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Vilaggio Matteotti [Mateotti Village]

Italy

Via Irma Bandiera 28
Umbria TR 05100 Terni

Commission

1969

Completion

1975

Original name

Vilaggio Matteotti [Mateotti Village]

Other denominations

Quartiere Mateotti [Mateotti new neighbourhood]

Original use

Housing/housing ensemble

Current use

Housing/housing ensemble

Architects

Giancarlo di Carlo, Fausto Colombo (colaborator),
Valeria Fossati Bellani (collaborator)

Engineers

Vittorio Korach

Others

Domenico De Masi (sociologist)

Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete

Architectural concrete

Architectural concrete

Structural types

One-dimensional/concrete frame

Description

This social housing neighbourhood is one of the first examples of participatory urban design in Italy. The design, by Giancarlo de Carlo, was based on an infrastructural base, which resolved issues of services and circulations, along with a spatial grid capable of accommodating different types of modular housing. The participatory process, which included several stages and involved the assistance of a sociologist, ultimately offered residents a choice from a wide catalogue of flats with up to 45 typological alternatives.

Of the total 840 planned dwellings, however, only the first phase was built, with a total of 250 units. The fact that the project was interrupted compromised its insertion and urban connectivity, leading to a certain isolation, compounded by the formal and functional autonomy of the complex in relation to its urban surroundings.

The ensemble is characterised by the pervasive presence of exposed concrete (in both the housing blocks and the public spaces, with which they form an inseparable whole), the segregation of circulations, and the imposing layout in parallel strips. Its formal and constructive unity means that the scale of the functional units is subsidiary to a single, continuous building. The spatial quality of the whole is achieved by paying special attention to the design of public spaces and pedestrian traffic, as well as to the spaces that relate the private sphere to the public spaces, through the terraces and gardens present in all the housing units.

Links

