

library and file in ancient school

2011 - 2020

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- developer: sant sadurni d'anoia city council
- commission: 1st prize restricted competition
- built area: 2.349 m²
- budget: 3.555.061 €
- location: primer homenatge a la vellesa square
sant sadurni d'anoia, barcelona
- awards: finalist fad award 2019
finalist catalunya construcció prize 2019
selected XV spanish biennial of architecture (beau)



The proposal aims the integral rehabilitation of the whole existing building, an outstanding architectonic example with historical interest from the beginning of the XX century, and completes the needed programme with an extension, a new built volume that occupies the old school's playground. The historical façade is preserved as it was conceived and the original entrance remains as the main entrance to the new public facility. The new volume stands close to the ancient one but without touching each other. The existing building remains as the main piece, isolated and remarkable.

Taking benefit from the plot's slope, the new files are placed below the ancient building, with its own entrance by the back street. Although the whole plot is occupied, the new files don't appear as a new volume from the street and it becomes an extension of the existing stone socle. The rest of the library programme appear as two volumes standing on the new base: stairs and the main hall. Their position maintain the existing patio as the building's central element.

The new reading hall separates from the historical building and the crack generated allows also the entrance of natural light into the lower floor. This new volume is covered by corten steel panels and ceramic tiles for the side façades, trying to connect with the idea of rhythm and materials of the existing building.



