

INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE COMPETITION

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. CONSTRUCTION OF THE GARDEN

- a) What works are included in the 25,000 Euro budget and what works are excluded?
- b) Is it necessary to reconstruct the colonnade? Do the costs for this reconstruction have to be included as part of the 25,000 Euro budget?
- c) Are the plumbing and electrical systems for cell n.25 to be included as part of the 25,000 Euro budget?
- d) The brief mentions a budget of 25,000 Euro for the construction of the garden, however the documentation to be submitted does not call for a project budgeting document.

- a) The project to be submitted includes the works relative to the new garden, whether they are of a botanical nature or whether they are relative to the creation of particular structures or systems that are directly related to the project. All interventions that are propaedeutic to the preparation of the site are to be excluded, as are works of fixed construction, those related to the redefinition of the volumetric and architectural appearance of the collapsed cell, any and all building systems up until the point of connection to the network of distribution within the space of the garden.
- b) The colonnade will not be rebuilt, and the works related to the architectural redefinition of the cell are, in any case, outside of the budget described in the brief.
- c) The plumbing and electrical systems related to the creation of the garden and its maintenance for the minimum requested duration are to be included in the budget of 25,000 Euro. The interventions for the supply of electrical energy and water for irrigation are excluded, up to the point of connection or supply from the network inside the garden. The points of supply may be identified in the most favourable position for each project. It will be the responsibility of the Superintendent's Office to provide them.
- d) A detailed budget will be requested from the competition winner in order to allow for the development and construction of the winning project.

2. PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS AND THE PREPARATION OF THE GROUND PLANE

- a) Where are the planned connections for the plumbing and electrical systems?
- b) Does the planned irrigation system only have to last three years (for the period of initial growth of the new vegetation)?
- c) It is possible to insert music and water as part of the project?
- d) It appears that the substratum of cell n.25 is characterized by a scarce amount of earth, with outcroppings of calcareous, non fractured rock; does the project thus have to include the preparation of a suitable substratum, raising the level of the ground plane or excavating in order to contain the roots of the new plant species?
- e) What is intended by "covering the remains"? Are there restrictions relative to their protection?
- f) Is it possible to make level changes inside the garden?

- a) With regards to the connections to the various networks, see answers 1 a) and 1 c)
- b) The irrigation systems must be useful and functional for the garden to be built and its maintenance for the period requested.
- c) The design decisions are absolutely free of any conditions, other than the indications and restrictions listed in the brief.
- d) The layer of earth that constitutes the ground plane is composed essentially of flood plane material, of a lime-clay composition, with a compact consistency and featuring the presence of lithoid materials of modest dimensions (small stones). There are remains of stone foundations from former buildings: an aqueduct, a hole surrounded by solid brick walls, traces of foundations from undefined constructions, most likely a burial site. These existing elements may be integrated within the project or they may be ignored. In no case, however, is it possible to hypothesise their demolition, in part or in whole. These elements must be considered in the event of plans to create a substratum of vegetal material for the roots of the new plant material.
- e) With regards to the "covering of the remains", see the above point. There are no particular restrictions for their conservation, though should you intend to cover them it will be necessary to ensure their protection and maintenance using relatively standard practices: protection with an artificial fibre matt and a layer of non-organic gravel.

f) It is possible to introduce level changes within the garden.

3. RENOVATION PROJECT

- a) Is the cell to be considered in its current or renovated state?
- b) Are the rebuilt volumes to be assumed as restrictive or can the project make reference to the current state of the site, without considering its reconstruction?
- c) Is access from the garden exclusively from the cell and not directly from the central courtyard?
- d) Is the garden accessed only from the portico or can it also be accessed from the cell?
- e) What are the definitive paving materials?
- f) Does the project by the Superintendent's Office also define the covered spaces (dividers, stairs, paving, finishes...) or is it limited to the reconstruction of the volumes of the cell and the portico?
- g) Will the perimeter walls be rebuilt at their original height and that of the volumes of the cell and the portico? Do they have to be shown in the project renderings?
- h) The restoration project does not show the two wings of the portico. We would like some clarification because, looking at the plans, there is a portico to the right that borders on cell n.24.
- i) In the restoration project the columns of the portico are not shown. Will they be restored?
- l) Will the cell and the portico be completed at the same time as the garden, or during a preceding phase?
- m) Will the wall that divides cell n.25 from cell n.26 be rebuilt at a height of 2 m? Can you see cell n.26 from cell n.25?
- n) The drawings do not show the perimeter wall with cell n.26. Will the portico of cell n.26 be restored, thus closing the garden in on four sides?

- a) The volume of the cell is to be considered in terms of its restored, original geometric form and spatial configuration.
- b) The volumetric decomposition of the cell cannot be modified by the project. The new garden must relate to this situation.
- c) Access to garden is gained exclusively from the portico and the spaces of the cell.
- d) See above.
- e) The paving of the cell will be a neutral material, most likely a rough cement finish. The garden paving is part of the new project.
- f) The project for the decomposition of the cell will define, in addition to the volume and the architectural and spatial qualities, the internal portions of remains and ruins that have already been discovered during excavation (interior walls, internal passages). Furthermore, it will also deal with those elements related to its functional use (paving, lighting, windows/doors).
- g) The perimeter walls of the garden have already been rebuilt as per their original height.
- h) Originally, for cell n.25, there only existed one portico along the wall that separates the garden from cell n.24. Of this portico, as per the remains discovered during excavation, it is possible to deduce the definition of the architectural spaces and the three volumes into which it was subdivided: an entrance to the portico, the portico itself with an open colonnade along one side open to the garden and with access to the latter and a second space that was closed at the end. The two spaces at the ends will be rebuilt; for the portico, given that no columns were found during the excavations, only the roof will be rebuilt.
- i) See above.
- l) The restoration of cell n.25 will be completed prior to the garden: works are planned to begin in May and be concluded by the end of July.
- m) Plans include the reconstruction of the dividing wall between cell n.25 and cell n.26, up to a height of approximately 2 m, for this reason the garden to be designed will not be visible from cell n.26.
- n) See the preceding response. The portico of the garden of cell n.26 is not part of the current restoration project inside the Monastery.

4. AREA OF INTERVENTION

- a) Is the area under the portico to be considered part of the project?
 - b) Where is the access to the cell located and what is the relationship between the main cloister and the cell (heights...). Is it necessary to design the access and stairs?
 - c) Is it possible to make changes to the internal spaces, or is the project to be limited to the garden?
 - d) The brief mentions a rectangle of 29 x 12 m, while the hatched area on the "ground floor site plan" also includes a small rectangle beside the cell. Are the cell and the portico being rebuilt extraneous to the project?
 - e) Do the perimeter walls belong to the project? Can they be kept as they are, or must we consider them as per the project for their restoration? Can we make any changes?
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- a) The portico of cell n.25 is not part of the project described in this brief.
 - b) The cell is accessed exclusively from the door from the Chiostro Grande (Main Cloister), via a set of stairs that lead, from the entrance to the cell to the rooms inside the cell, analogous to the scheme that is repeated for all of the cells on the east side of the Main Cloister (cells 17 to 24). The connecting stair in cell n.24 is composed of 13 steps, with another two steps in front of the entrance door to the first space. The creation of

this stair and access is not requested of the competitors, but is part of the programme being completed by the Superintendent's Office.

c) The project only calls for the design of the open space of the garden.

d) The competition project also includes the exterior space of lesser dimensions (approx. 6x4.5 m), enclosed between the dividing wall with cell n.26, the large part of the garden and the apartment of the cell. The cell and the portico are not part of this project.

e) The perimeter walls of the garden are not part of the project and must be considered in their rebuilt condition (see the preceding response). However, it is possible to imagine the use of the surfaces of the walls within the garden itself.

5. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

a) Is it possible to have photographs of similar cells that have already been restored?

b) Is it possible to have a scheme of access to the cell from the main floor of the Monastery?

c) Is it possible to have an original drawing that shows the typical gardens of the cells when the Monastery was built?

d) Is it possible to have an image that shows the backdrop of the garden once the cell has been restored?

e) Is it possible to have a plan showing the points from which the images were taken (with cones of focus)?

a), b), c), d), e) The documentation provided is considered to be more than sufficient.

6. IMAGES AND TEXTS TO BE SUBMITTED

a) Can the 2 images to be submitted be scans of hand sketches or do they have to be realised with programmes such as CAD or Photoshop? Can we submit scans of hand drawn sketches?

b) In the 2 screens to be submitted, in addition to the images there is talk of a 1,000-character text for a total of 2,000 keystrokes. Does this refer to the descriptive text of 2,000 keystrokes to be attached to the project, or is there a possibility of adding another text, for a total of 4,000 keystrokes?

c) The requested size of the images is 200 Kb. Isn't this a little bit too small in order to guarantee an acceptable level of quality, also in terms of details?

a) Yes, it is possible to submit scans of hand drawn sketches for the 2 images requested.

b) The descriptive text to be attached to the 2 images of the project is composed of 1,000 keystrokes for each screen.

c) 200 Kb are sufficient for guaranteeing the legibility even of the details.

7. PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION

a) Is there a cost for registration?

b) What is the last day for registration?

c) Do all the members of a team have to be registered with a Professional Association, or is it sufficient that the team leader be registered? In this way the other members of the team can be university students or recent graduates.

d) Is it possible to involve professionals from other professions not mentioned in the brief as consultants or collaborators, for example an artist?

e) Can a registered architect, who deals largely with landscape architecture be the head of a group that also features artists (musicians, graphic designers, lighting designers) who participate as members of the group and not as the group leader?

f) The brief states that the team leader must be registered with a Professional Association, but it does not specify what associations of landscape architects are included under this term. Is registration with associations such as AIAPP or EFLA sufficient for a team leader?

a) There is no cost for registration. The Competition is free.

b) Registration can be made up until the moment of self-publication of the requested material as per the dates listed in the brief.

c) Only the team leader need be registered with a Professional Association or associations recognised in their home country, as indicated in the brief.

d) It is without a doubt possible, and encouraged, that the groups include various professionals.

e) See above.

f) Registration with associations such as AIAPP or EFLA is certainly acceptable for the qualification of the team leader.

8. SITE VISITS

a) I made a site visit to the Monastery in order to gather inspiration for the project. I was not, however, allowed to visit the project for the gardens by the invited architects. I was told that I required special

permission from the Superintendent's Office. I wanted to know if there are plans for a collective site visit to the Monastery or if it is possible to receive, even via email, the aforementioned special permission.

b) In the event of a site visit, at our cost, is it possible to have a permit to visit the project site?

c) Is it possible to visit cell n.25 following registration for the competition?

a), b), c) In order to visit the site it is necessary to make an appointment, via telephone, with Mr. Domenico Anania, who works at the Monastery, at +39 0975 77745, or on his cell phone at +39 338 9519374. All visitors will be accompanied by Mr. Anania. Based on the availability of time it may be possible to visit some of the gardens in the other cells. Obviously, it is possible to visit the entire complex of the Monastery by paying the cost of the entry ticket. Appointments must be made exclusively with Mr. Anania.

9. VARIOUS

a) Is there a common theme that ties all of the cells together?

b) What activities were carried out by the brothers of the Monastery? Study and contemplation, work and research?

c) Is the garden visible from above from any point within the Monastery?

a) There is no specific theme that ties together the various cells of the Monastery. They are apartments where the Carthusian monks passed much of their life, which was characterized by strict rules of cloistered life, respecting the rules of a life dedicated essentially to prayer, study and contemplation. All of the spaces of the apartment and the annexed spaces that made up the cell (thus including the garden) were focused on this objective though they did allow for living conditions that were as comfortable as possible, both in terms of space and functions, in order to avoid subtracting the monk's attention his objectives.

With regards to the architecture of the cells of the Monastery it is possible to provide some initial indications in reference to the various building typologies. The cells are subdivided based on four typologies: the first four cells (1 to 4) are of smaller dimensions and the apartment occupies only one floor, in addition to the storage space at the same level as the garden, at a much lower level; these spaces were destined for the younger brothers under the direct control of the Prior, and for this reason their gardens were carved out from that of the Father Superior. Cells 5 to 10 are on three levels with a larger opening towards the "desertum"; the garden is always located at a much lower level with respect to the main floor of the apartment. Cells 11 to 16 are all located on the north of the Chiostro Grande and are similar to the preceding ones, though they have a shorter garden that is not as low with respect to the main floor of the apartment and this conformation of floor levels creates a minor basement level. Cells 17 to 24 are all located on the east side of the Chiostro Grande and are very different in layout as a result, above all, of the different topographical situation of the earth up valley that is much higher than in the other cases; this condition necessitated the location of the garden at a higher level with respect to the entrance to the Chiostro Grande and, as a result, the floor level of the main floor of the apartment is raised with respect to the latter and connected by a flight of stairs; this creates a basement level that is below the garden and the main body of the apartment is limited to one floor, without a useful upper level.

b) The activities of the Carthusian Monks were dedicated almost exclusively to prayer, study and contemplation, with the exception of the Prior, the Procurator (the administrators of goods) and the Speciale (pharmacist). There were no plans for activities of work necessary for supporting the community and maintaining the Monastery, given their vast riches and properties. The manual works carried out by the Carthusian Monks were more craft based, and often focused on the creation of true works of art. The activities necessary for the functioning of the complex were handled by "conversi", un-ordained Carthusians who lived in a building outside the Monastery and who had little opportunity for direct relationships with the brothers.

c) The garden of cell n.25 is not visible from other points inside the Monastery. It may be visible from exterior areas along the road that leads to the inhabited centre of Padula.