

Minimum Documentation Fiche 2003

Composed by regional national working party of:

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Formed by national or regional working party of:

0.1 Image of building/site



Theme represented: Source: Date:

Legislative Palace. Source: Blomberg; Ecuador. 1st ed. Quito: Editorial publishing 2005

1. Identity of the building or group of buildings / urban scheme / landscape / garden

1.1 Current name of the construction

The Legislative Palace Building

1.2 Former name or variant

None

1.3 Number and name of street

6 de Diciembre Avenue and Piedrahita Street;

1.4 Town

Quito

1.5 Province / State

Pichincha

1.6 Zip code

1.7 Country

Ecuador

1.8 National grid reference

1.9 Classification / typology

Administration = ADM

1.10 protection status and date

It is part of the Selective Inventory of the Metropolitan District of the city of Quito

2 History of building

2.1 Original / brief purpose

The Legislative Palace project takes place in a special historic moment for the development of architecture in Ecuador, since it is in the decade of the fifties, previous to the realization of the eleventh Latin American Conference of Chancellors, that is why the State encouraged the construction of important administrative buildings and equipment non-existent at the country.

These projects were entrusted to young professionals that had accomplished their studies abroad and in a nascent architectural faculty, whose influences and knowledge were guided in the mainstream toward modern architecture.

Planning and construction of the building of the Legislative Palace in Ecuador comes true after several attempts to endow the legislative power with their own building.

2.2 Dates: commission / completion

In 1956, the design and construction of the building for the legislative power became a reality.

In 1957 the General Secretariat of the Conference is created, and it is through this that the design and direction of the work of the building of the Legislative Palace is granted to architect Alfredo León Cevallos.

2.3 architectonic and other designers

Architect: Alfredo León Cevallos

Collaborators: Engineer. Jose Larrea Naranjo - Chief of Calculation Team, Milton Barragán Dumet, Oswaldo Viteri Paredes, German Sevilla Naranjo.

2.4 Others associated with the building

2.5 significant alterations with the dates

At the present time this building has been remodeled, as a consequence of a fire of considerable magnitude that happened on March 5, 2003, which affected: the ground floor, the mezzanine, first and the second upper floors.

In October of 2003 the project for the building restoration was awarded, in charge of architect Milton Barragán Dumet, that at that moment it was a member of the technical team that was in charge of the original design and worked with Alfredo León Cevallos.

2.6 Current use

Headquarters of the National Congress

2.7 Current condition

After the process of restoration the building has undergone relevant modifications with respect of the original plan, as well as inside and outside it.

The main transformations at a functional level are related to the adaptation of conference rooms, a library and the legislative filing office. At the tower of offices the structure is released and the recovery of the functional distribution of the initial project is proposed, although, respecting areas of circulation and halls.

Externally, the creation of subterranean parking lots and housing for the members of the parliament escort is proposed. Besides, the plaza outside by the main access is enlarged. The most remarkable change made by Barragán Dumet is the one related to the formal structure, since the office tower is completely surrounded by a perforated metallic mesh that makes it impossible to see the tower which causes the loss of visual quality and the characteristics of detail appreciation.

The horizontal planes that characterized the project are visually eliminated by surrounding it in a gray cloud that mingles with the landscape.

3 Description

3.1 General description

The building is constituted by three articulated volumes, in which the functional program is contained, these volumes have differentiated shapes. Two parallelepipeds, one of them functions as the base where the conference rooms of the Chamber of Congressmen and the Senate, whereas the other one is a great tower where offices function; and finally the third volume of hexagonal shape where the Congress-in effectiveness- meetings are held.

It starts with a symmetric floor, in which the two conference rooms are distributed, and at the bottom Of the conference room the Congress meets; this symmetry is kept in the distribution of offices and services.

The building is located at the centre of the building lot and pointing at the northeast of the city, which allows making good use of the longer length of the lot and setting the accesses toward the streets with lesser traffic, obeying the free circulation on 6 de Diciembre Ave. and Gran Colombia Avenue, both important connection axles of the city.

The area of construction of the building is 18850 m² in nine floors; of which the ground floor, the mezzanine, the upper first floor, and second upper floor have different distributions, starting at the upper third floor, that is at the level of + 15,52 pattern floors are used. (Images 28 - 33).

The total height is 42 m, the maximum length is 108 m² and the maximum width is 64 m with a height between floors of 3.70 meters in the office areas. The volume of the conference rooms of the Plenary has a height of 16.70 meters.

3.2 Construction

As to the execution of the project, there was a call for a competitive bidding in January 1958, and after the offers were analyzed, the construction of the building was allotted to the construction company "Mena- Atlas" and engineer. Gallo Amino - Quito, who had a 16-month term for the completion of the work, nevertheless, minor delays in the delivery of materials caused it to be inaugurated in March 1960.

3.3 Context

The immediate surroundings of the lot, at the moment of the development of the project and its construction, were not completely built, there were some buildings scattered around whose various architectonic characteristics delimited in styles such as republican, classic, neoclassic and eclectic. Some examples of these cases are girls high school 24 de Mayo (present-day, Eugenio Espejo), Maternity Isidro Ayora, Eugenio Espejo Hospital, and Casa de la Cultura (the Ecuadorian House of Culture).

4 Evaluation

4.1 Technical

Alfredo León takes an independent design approach to those of the constructions nearby that respond to other moments of architecture, getting away from the mimicry. The positioning of the building reveals the intention of making good use of the dimensions of the building lot and the urban surrounding in order to give an answer to the location of entrances, windows and circulations. When it comes to the functional level, he is worked up making good use of the program to potentiate possibilities.

As it regards to the functional level, the program serves to potentiate diversity in the organizing of spaces and volumes, the stairways and lifts are locate in concordance with the program, the public spaces and those for circulation are also an important part in this distribution.

The construction elements of the project generate a relation between the parts than in addition to answering to technical needs they respond to a search for form intensification, for instance, it stresses the horizontality of the project, looks for equilibrium through the use of opaque and transparent volumes, bringing order into the elements without searching for their hierarchy.

4.2 Social

4.3 Cultural and aesthetic

4.4 Historic

When the urban aspect is considered, the building becomes a referential milestone, the organization of the city with the regulating plan of the decade of 1940, it marks the creation of a new civic and political center as a part of the new city, the linkage of the project with the public space is developed, the handling of materials and scales bring the citizen closer to it. The geographic position of the lot and its topography potentiate the vision of the building from the distance.

The prerequisites of the surroundings, the building lot, the location, etc become variables of the program, which are assumed to potentiate the project, their influence or contribution in it is recognized insofar as they allow improving the construction of the building.

4.5 General evaluation

In this project there was not a search for the application of a concept, it rather works with a program that, with criteria of organization, it guarantees its consistency and identity of the project. The capacity of the architect to organize space is recognized in the design.

The result is a project that is configured with its own rules, which are recognizable through its appearance, the originality of the work is based on the form of relation of its elements and volumes, the concordance between the program and the space structure.

5 Documentation

5.1 Main references

Benavides, Jorge. La arquitectura del siglo XX en Quito. 1° ed. Quito: Banco Central del Ecuador 1995.

Cuvi, Pablo; Historia del Congreso Nacional. 1° ed. Quito 2004.

Del Pino, Inés (coord.); Quito 30 años de arquitectura moderna. 1°ed. Quito – Ecuador: TRAMA 2004.

Monard, Shayanira. "Historia constructiva del Palacio Legislativo" monografía preparada para el consultor Arq. Milton Barragán Dumet.

5.2 Visual materials

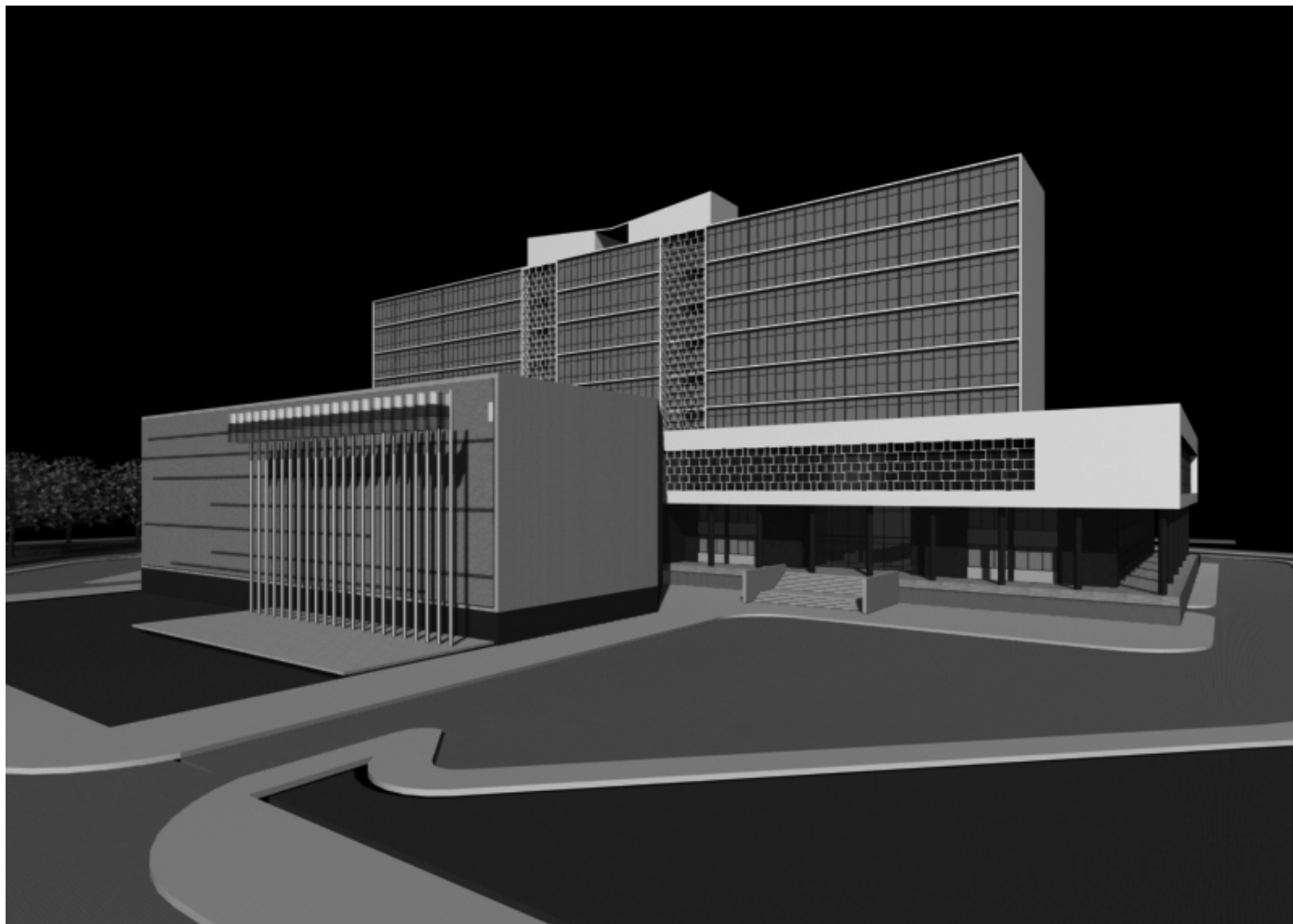
Images showing technique, shape and function







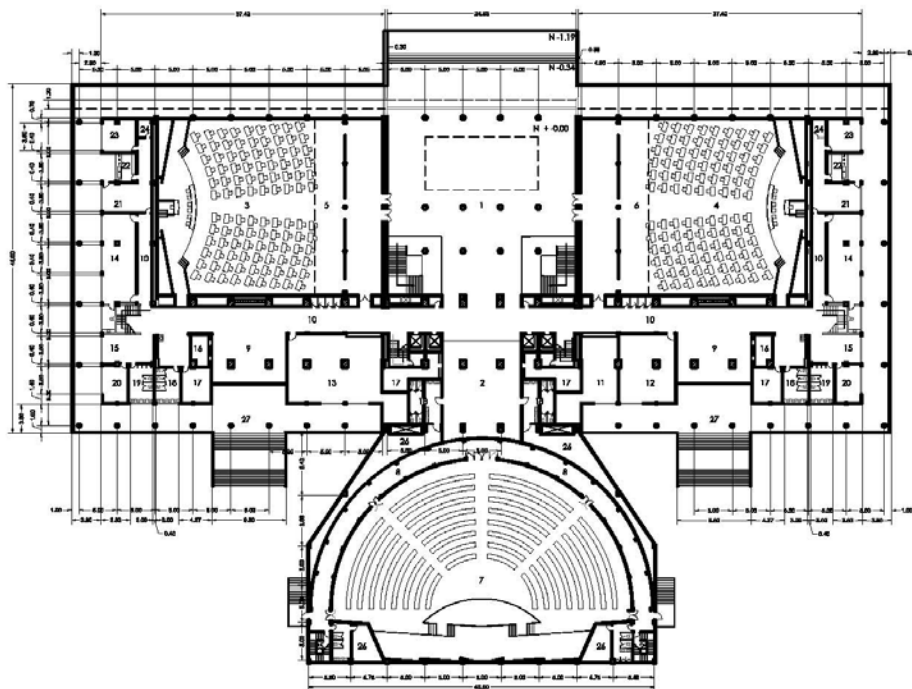




Images upper floors, construction sections (plans)

PLANTA BAJA n +0.00

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | HALL DE PASOS PERDIDOS | 17 | AUMACEN |
| 2 | HALL DE CONGRESO PLENO | 18 | S.H MUJERES |
| 3 | CAMARA DE SENADORES | 19 | J.H HOMBRRES |
| 4 | CAMARA DE DIPUTADOS | 20 | PELLUQUERIA |
| 5 | ANTESALA DE SENADORES | 21 | SALA COMEDOR (CONSERJERIA DPTO) |
| 6 | ANTESALA DE DIPUTADOS | 22 | COCINA (CONSERJERIA DPTO) |
| 7 | CONGRESO PLENO | 23 | DORMITORIO (CONSERJERIA DPTO) |
| 8 | GALERIA DE PLENO | 24 | BAÑO (CONSERJERIA DPTO) |
| 9 | HALL DE SENADORES Y DIPUTADOS | 25 | ACCESO A CABINAS |
| 10 | CORREDORES | 26 | DEPOSITOS |
| 11 | CONSEJERIA | 27 | PASAJE EXTERIOR |
| 12 | SALA DE CONSERJES | | |
| 13 | ORCINA DE TELECOMUNICACIONES Y CORREOS | | |
| 14 | SALA DE PERIODISTAS | | |
| 15 | SALA DE DESCANSO | | |
| 16 | INFORMACION | | |



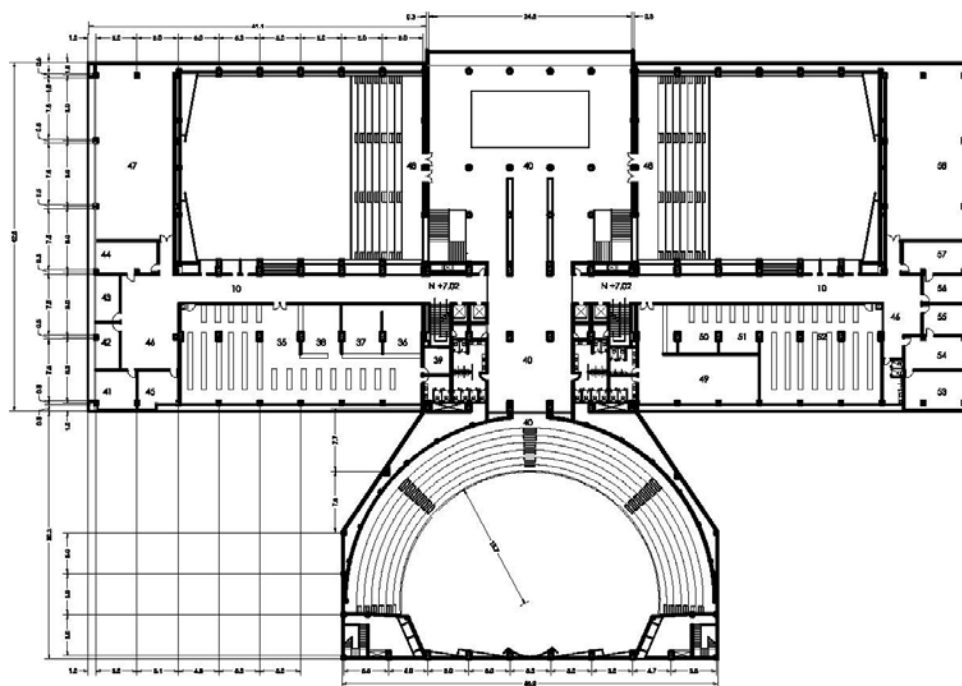
PLANTA n +7.02

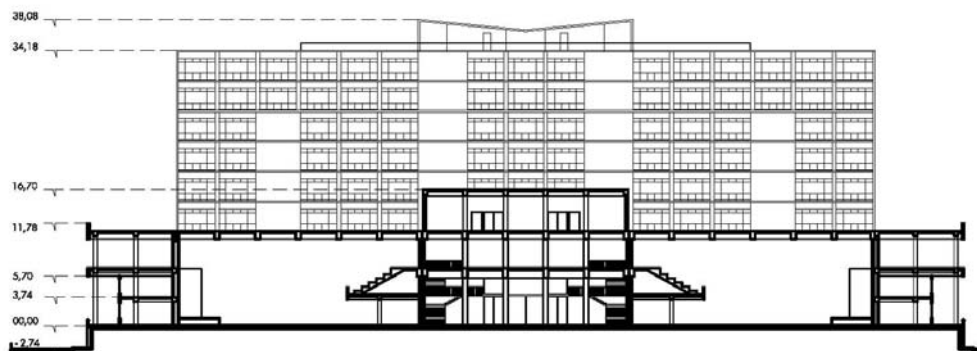
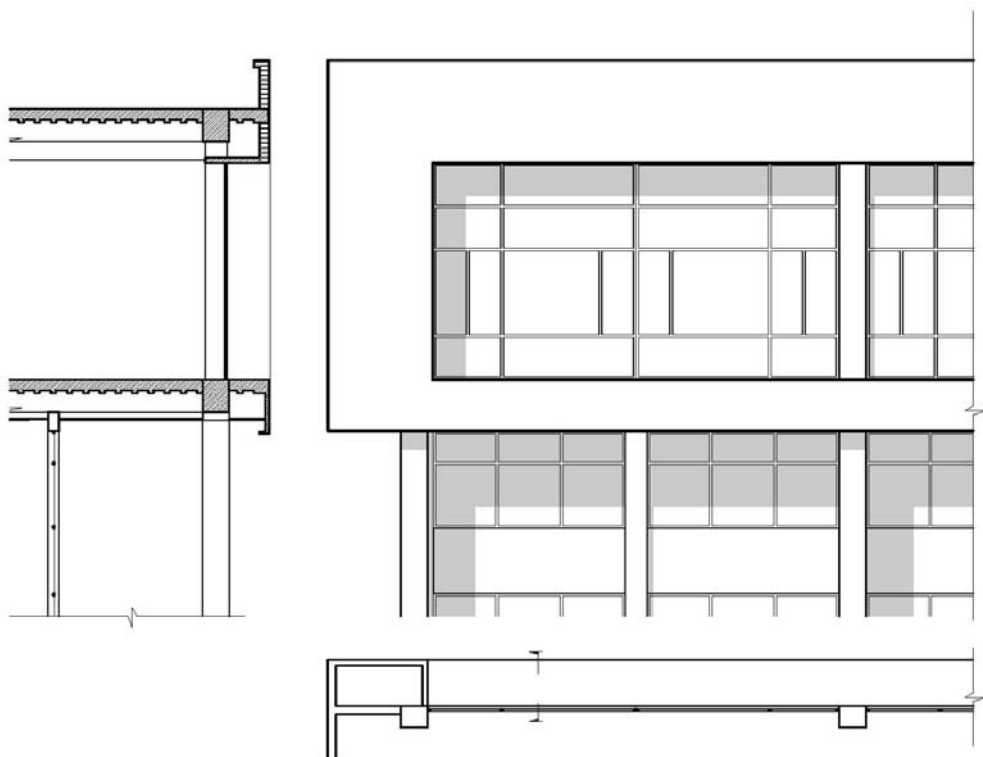
- 10 CORREDORES
- 35 ARCHIVO
- 36 DEPÓSITO DE DOCUMENTOS
- 37 OFICINA ARCHIVERO
- 38 OFICINA AYUDANTE
- 39 BOFEGA
- 40 HALL DE LOS PASOS PERDIDOS
- 41 PRESIDENCIA
- 42 SALA PRIVADA DE CONFERENCIAS
- 43 SECRETARIA
- 44 PROSECRETARIA
- 45 ESCRIBIA
- 46 SALA DE ESPERA
- 47 SALA DE SESIONES
- 48 GRADERO SALA DEL SENADO Y DIPUTADOS
- 49 SALA DE LECTURA BIBLIOTECA
- 50 PRESTAMO Y CATALOGACIÓN FICHAS DE LIBROS

- 51 OFICINA AYUDANTE DE CATALOGACIÓN
- 52 DEPÓSITO DE LIBROS
- 53 SALA DE ESPERA
- 54 OFICINA DE EMPLEADOS
- 55 PROSECRETARIA
- 56 SECRETARIA
- 57 PRESIDENCIA
- 58 SALON DE SESIONES



1 : 5





5.3 Arquitecta Ana Patricia Rodas Beltrán. / March 2010.

6 Fiche report examination by ISC/R

name of examining ISC member: date of examination:

approval:

working party/ref. n°: NAI ref. n°:

comments: