

Minimum Documentation Fiche

composed by national/regional working party of **SECTION BASILICATA-PUGLIA,**
Italy



01. Picture of building/site

Depicted Site: Albergo delle Nazioni.

Source: Nicola Cavallera (2019)

date: 1932

1. Identity of building

1.1 current name of building

IH Hotels Grande Albergo delle Nazioni

1.2 variant or former name

Imperiale

Albergo delle Nazioni

1.3 number & name of street

Lungomare Nazario Sauro 7

1.4 town

Bari

1.5 province/state

Bari/Puglia

1.6 zip code

70100

1.7 country

Italy

1.8 national grid reference

41°07'19.6"N 16°52'47.2"E

1.9 classification/typology

Modern Housing

1.10 protection status & date

-

2. History of building

2.1 original brief/purpose

Hotel

2.2 dates: commission/completion

1932/1935

2.3 architectural and other designers

Alberto Calza Bini

2.4 others associated with building

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2.5 significant alterations with dates

1962 storey elevation

2.6 current use

Hotel

2.7 current condition

Very Good

3. Description

3.1 General Description

The building was part of the regime's plan to make Bari one of the up-and-coming cities in southern Italy. In fact the government launched national tenders in order to sponsor the construction of many public buildings along the sea front.

The building, also known as the Transatlantico, includes an Ina-Casa housing complex and a hotel with a curved façade on the corner. The plan and volume of the building is based on angular symmetry, but it extends further along the sea front in order to emphasise its material presence. Apart from the hotel, there are five more buildings extending southwards and arranged around three open courtyards; they are all public residential buildings.

3.2 Construction

The travertine base acts as a socle for the building constructed using Trani stone and green marble strips concealing the load-bearing, reinforced concrete structure. A series of loggias and regularly arranged windows on the façade give the building a modern air thanks to the successful plastic effect created by the relationship between solids and voids. The building was inaugurated during the Fiera del Levante in 1935.

3.3 Context

The hotel is located on the Bari seafront in a privileged position in the urban grid. The corner position has suggested the positioning of the entrance and the corresponding curved facade right in the block curve. The sea is the visual goal of all the rooms that face the facade overlooking the coast.

4. Evaluation

4.1 Technical

The building is a representation of the firm and rigorous style typical of the fascist period, based on the order and proportion of the construction parts which are clearly visible and are reflected in an ordered vertical and horizontal scan.

4.2 Social

High Value.

4.3 cultural & aesthetic

Albergo delle Nazioni is an iconic structure that lies right on the sea and embellishes the coastal road built between the 20s and 30s of the last century. It has also been a film set, command of the Allies and theater; all these all these features have made it one of the most famous buildings in the city.

4.4 Historical

Albergo delle Nazioni is the conclusive piece of the continuous facade of Bari's fascist waterfront. It is the first known great hotel that was built in town and, still now, it has a terrace with a wonderful panorama on the old town of Bari.

4.5 general assessment

This building is a glorious example of the regional declination of the regime's architecture and a masterpiece of the works from Alberto Calza Bini.

5. Documentation

5.1 Principal references

A. Colonna e M. Lastilla, Storia e cultura di una città: edifici pubblici a Bari 1900-1950; Ed. Union Tipografica, Merano; 1987

L. Semerari, La nuova edilizia a Bari: architettura tra le due guerre, volume 2; Ed. Adda, Bari; 2001

5.2 visual material attached

Fig.01 - Angle View (google)

Fig.02- Collage (private collection)

Fig.03 – Plan (national archive)

5.3 rapporteur/date

6. Fiche report examination by ISC/R

name of examining ISC member:

date of examination:

approval:

working party/ref. no:

NAI ref. no:

comments:

Fig.01 - Angle View (google)

Fig.02- Collage (private collection)

Fig.03 – Plan (national archive)





