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Can You Believe This Gorgeous Puerto Rican School Building Was Abandoned for More Than 20 Years?

Posted By [Beverley Mitchell](#) On October 19, 2014 @ 1:01 pm In [Architecture](#), [Daylighting](#), [Inhabitots](#), [News](#), [Sustainable Building](#) | [No Comments](#)



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Before [Puerto Rican](#) [2] architecture firm [Díaz Paunetto Arquitectos](#) [3] were commissioned to refit this annex building at the Guardería Ecológica La Mina in Corozal, it had been abandoned for more than 20 years and was gradually being reclaimed by vegetation. But with the school's ecological commitment, it was determined to salvage the building's structure rather than simply demolish it. The result – a stunning transformation inspired by the surrounding stands of bamboo – is a multipurpose meeting and [teacher training facility](#) [4], with loads of handy storage space and sparkling with multicolored, filtered light. And most incredible of all? The whole project was completed in just six months.

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[1] Image: <http://inhabitat.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2014/10/Gelm-Annex-5.jpg>

[2] Puerto Rican: <http://inhabitat.com/index.php?s=puerto+rico>

[3] Díaz Paunetto Arquitectos: <http://www.diazpaunetto.com/projects/gelm-annex.html>

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