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| Mario Pani Darqui (1911 − 1993) |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| The Mexican architect, Mario Pani, spent his formative years between Belgium, Italy and France due to his father’s diplomatic posts. After graduating from the Écoles des Beaux-Arts (1934), he returned to Mexico just before a period of massive urban transformation in Mexico City. During his first decades in Mexico, Pani worked intensively to establish his career. In very little time, he began to win his first commissions. Of those early years the most important was perhaps Hotel Reforma (1936), which Pani controversially took over from Carlos Obregón Santalicia. Apart from this, his early career in Mexico saw him actively participating in many competitions against the most renowned architects of his time. In 1938 he founded the magazine *Arquitectura/México* (1938-1979) not only to disseminate contemporary architecture in Mexico, but also, to republish material from international magazines.  Over the course of his career, Pani designed a huge variety of projects ranging from educational buildings, such as the National Conservatory of Music (1946), the National School of Teachers (1947) or his famous Rectory Building in Mexico City (1952); touristic complexes such as the Acapulco Yacht Club (1955); administrative centres like Condominio Acero in Monterrey (1959) and urban plans such as the Medical Center Masterplan (with Jose Villagran Garcia, 1942), the University Campus of the National Autonomous University (with Enrique del Moral, 1952), among many others. Yet, Mario Pani is more commonly remembered for his housing projects. |
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| Further reading:  (Adrià, Zamora and Pani)  (Larrosa and Noelle)  (Pani and Garay) |

1. Smith, Olive B. (1967) B*uilders in the Sun: Five Mexican Architects*, Texas, USA: Architectural Book Publishing Comany, page 176. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)