

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Construction)
Honors theses

The fortress of Fenestrelle a san architectural question. The architecture and the slope

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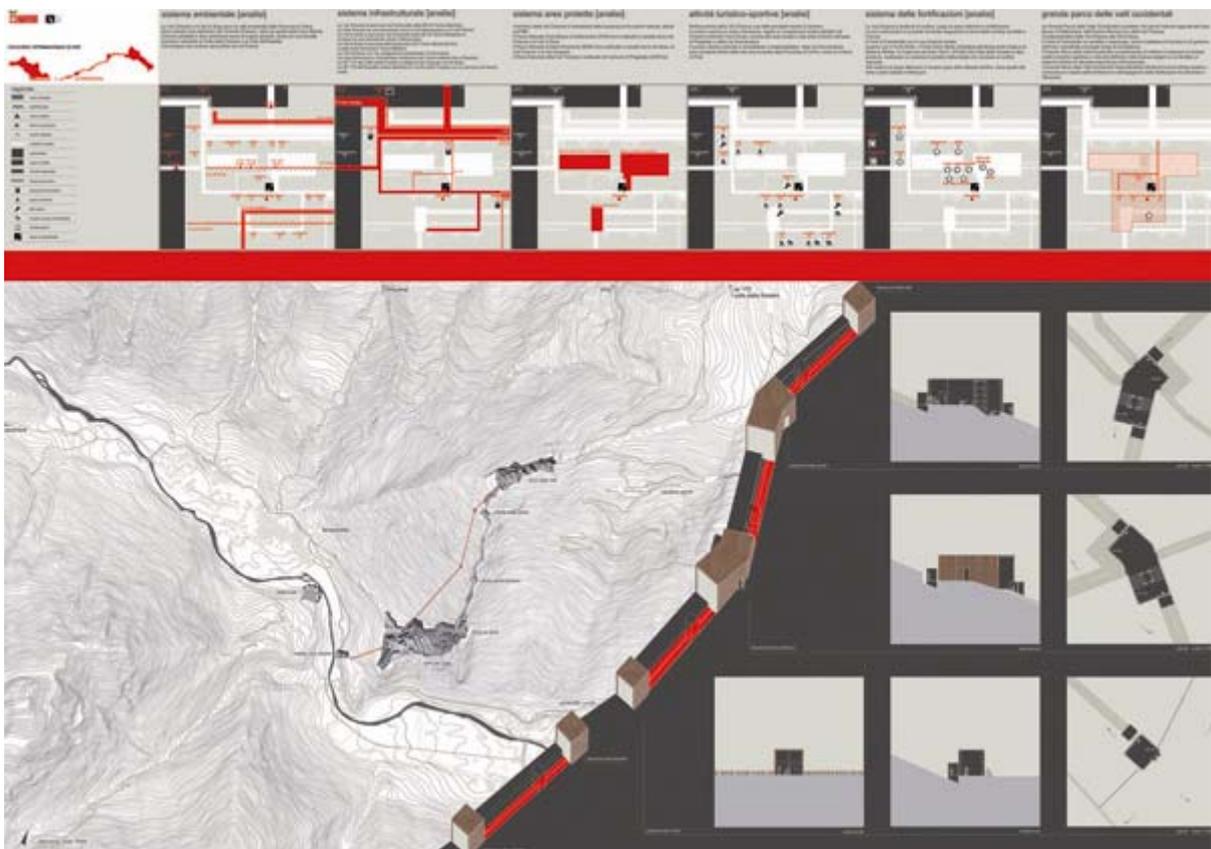
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This thesis born from a project presented at the International ideas competition “Il drago e la montagna”, published by “Provincia di Torino” (the Country Council of Turin) in order to find a future for Fenestrelle’s fortress.

The competition required to establish a territorial general plan, to find a use for the fortress and make a detailed plan relating to the “Ridotta Carlo Alberto”.

My role was concerned with the territorial analysis, regarding the environmental and infrastructural system, conservation areas, tourist and sports activity, and the fortifications system.

From the results of this analysis i proposed: a big conservation area, *Grande “parco delle valli occidentali”*, the reconstruction of the “Forte Mutin” (the first walled structure build in the area) and the introduction of a infrastructural system abling people to reach the different levels of the fortress.



Competition drawing

One has to consider this system as a new landscape component, designed in harmony with the territory and the typological structure of the fortress.

The developed of a lift system is fundamental in the hypothesis of reusing the whole structure of the fort, that has been developed along a mountain slope with a height difference of 650 metres.

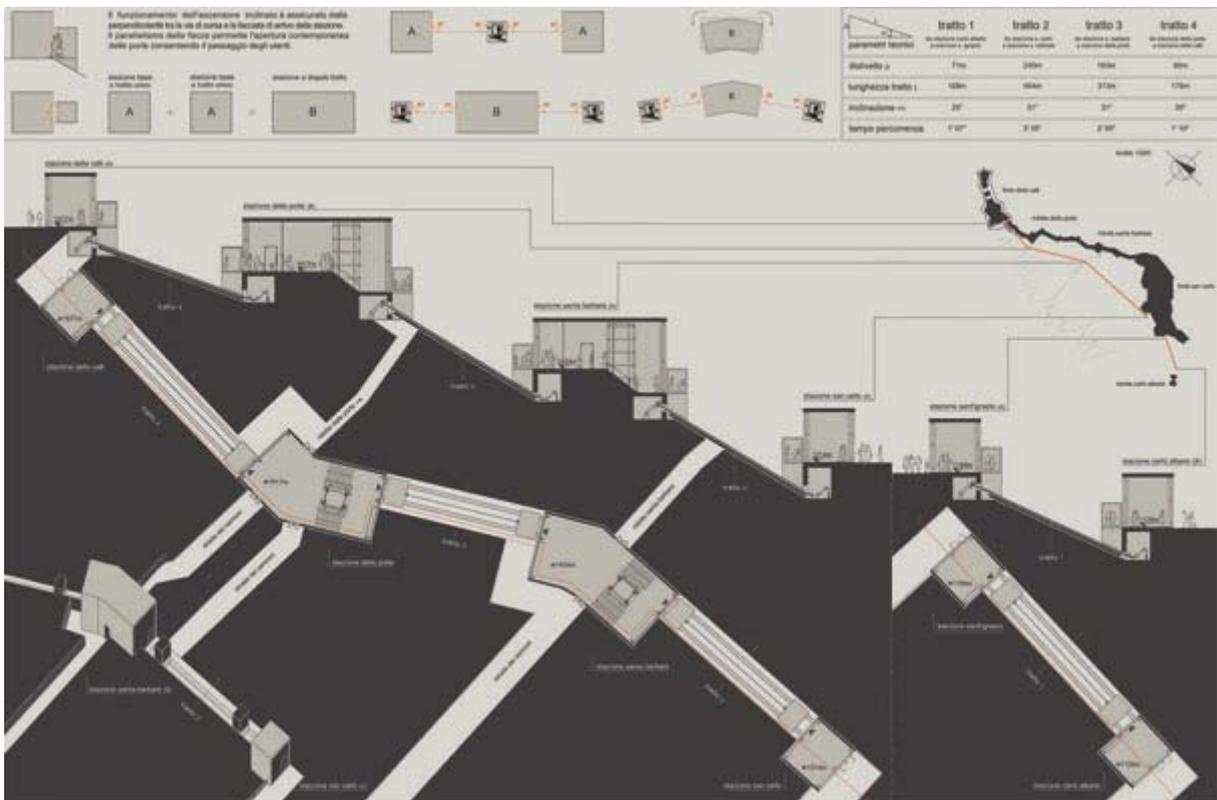
The existent connecting system becomes inadequate at the functional complexity induced by a project that would transform the fortress in a living and contemporary reality.

The lift system would allow the usability of the fortress, with it wouldn't have without it, but fundamental for its rebirth.

The suggested system is constituted by four ski lift tracts on tilted elevators with panoramic cabins.

Has been project with the idea to incise the mountain with a trench, were the lift rails would be installed.

This lift system would be seen as an artery giving life and mobility to the fortress.



The lift system

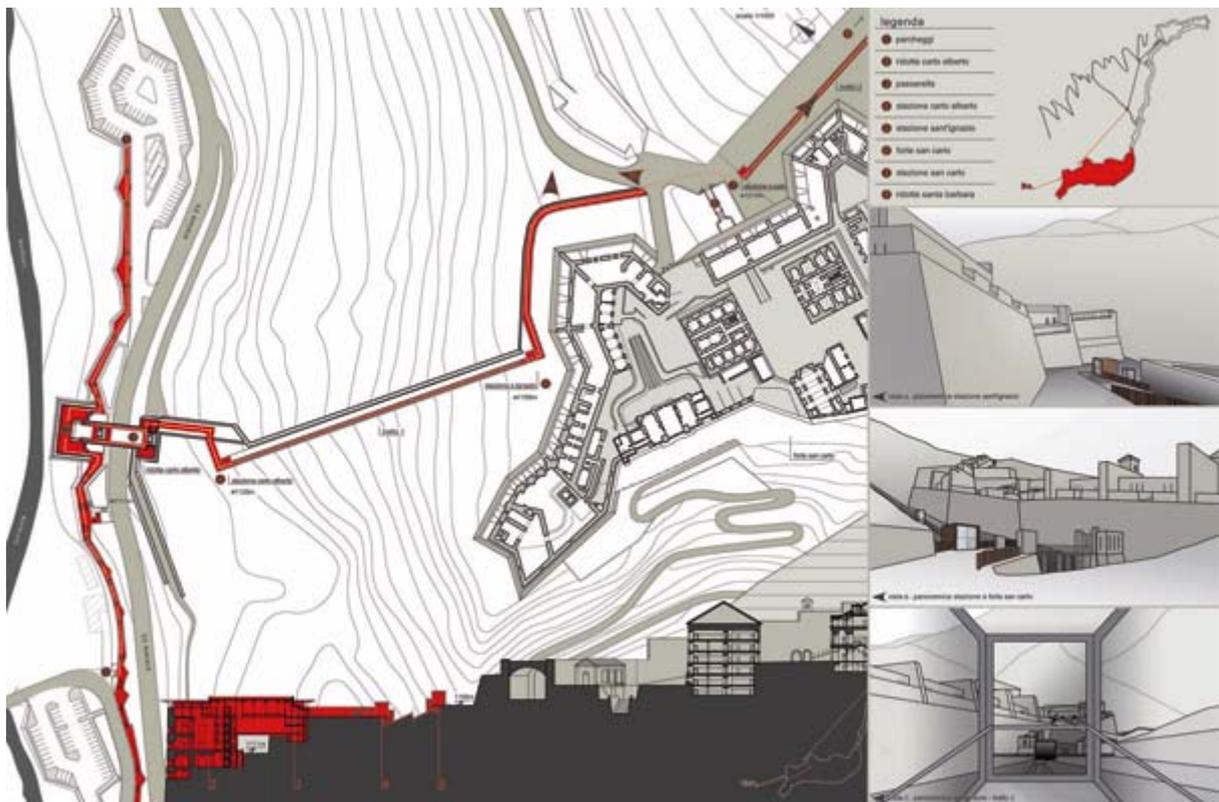
At each main area of the fortress there is a stop station, allowing one to have access to the fortress or the possibility to continue the ascent.

The lift tracts were projected so that landscape views from the stations and from the elevators are as interesting as possible.

The stations were projected as simple volumes made up of cor-ten steel, where the exposed, opposite, higher and lower faces are replaced by crystal glass. In this way the visitors are given the best possible view.

The new lift system cross the “strada dei cannoni” (the old lift system) this two systems could exist without change, thanks to the projected correspond between stations and road, which allow one to choose alternative routes: pedestrian and/or mechanized.

The routes from the station to the fortress are marked by cor-ten flat plates, that guides the visitors from stations to the fortress and, at the same time, help them to recognize the new interventions.



Routes and views

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