

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Rehabilitation and Revaluation)
Honors theses

The “silken thread”: a GIS application for the discovery and the enhancement of the cultural heritage of province of Cuneo

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The university run has been characterized by the sensibilization towards the conservation and the enhancement of the cultural heritage, with particular attention to the analysis of the context in which they become part. So, the theme studied is about a net of goods still existing in the province of Cuneo, which historical memory today has been disappeared: the factories of the “silken thread”, a system of production which characterized the historical-cultural and partner-economic context, at the beginning of the industrial development of the province of Cuneo.



Silk factories: Filanda Odetti to Frabosa Soprana, Setificio Nuovo to Verzuolo

The thesis want to discover the potentialities of the silk factories and their context through evaluation techniques in order to create a geographical information system.

This GIS can be a support turned to the decision-makers, in order to identify a new system of “lighthouse” assets: containers of activities aimed at the rediscovery of silk production in the past and that has a strategic role in the dynamics of development and promotion of cultural and environmental resources of the province of Cuneo. This research is a part of the project of European Cultural Routes of the Silk, formed in 1988 by the Council of European Cooperation, which has identified a key role in the area of Cuneo in the reconstruction of events linked to the production of the silken thread, suitable to rediscovery the European cultural identity. This work has been the first step of a cooperation project between Italy and France: “The Silk between Italy and France”, which relies European funds from the Program ALCOTRA 2007-2013, builded to the use of FESR funds.

The studies conducted till now have concerned the historical and architectural analysis, the thesis wanted to develop the reason since the themes of the spatial analysis, fundamental component to understanding the potentialities of the area and of individual assets. In this way it can be added a card to the study of knowledge for the enhancement of the routes of the silk in the province of Cuneo.

The work is begun from the collection of the historical information, then are followed inspections in order to verify and update the state of fact of the silk factories going back to the census of 1993. These first steps have shown the factories still existing and have been made some models in order to collect the information through the silk factories.

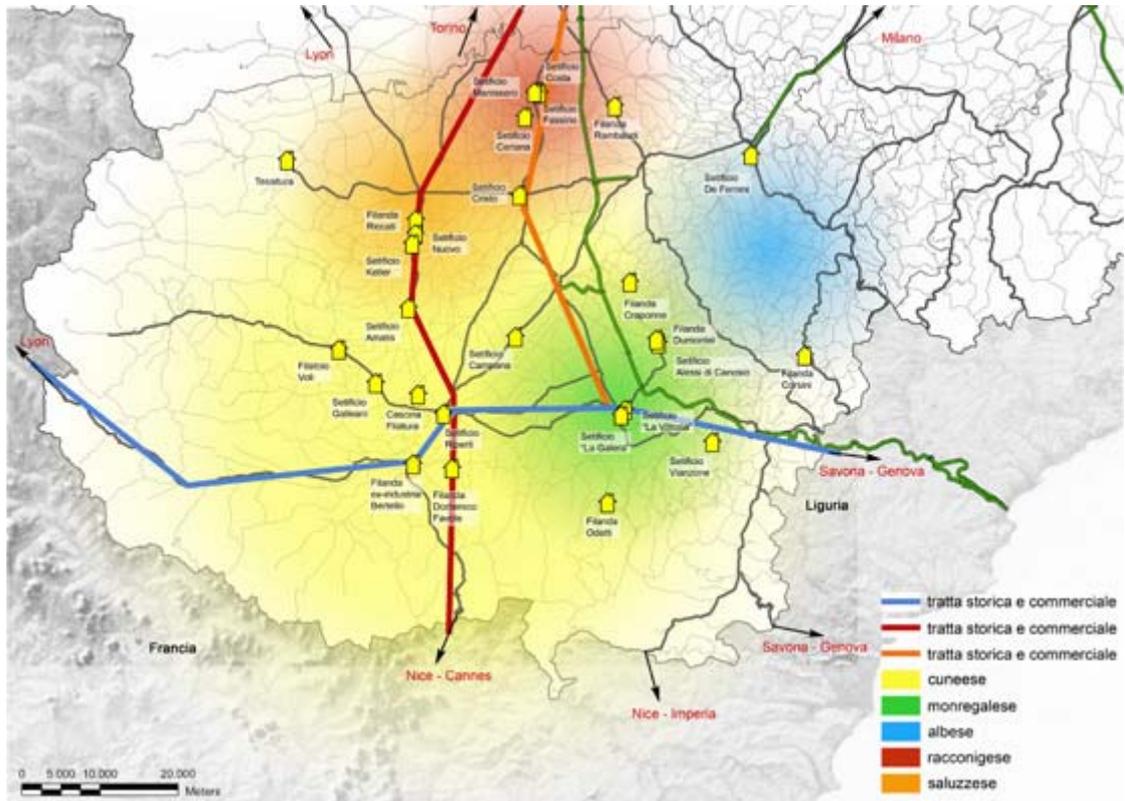
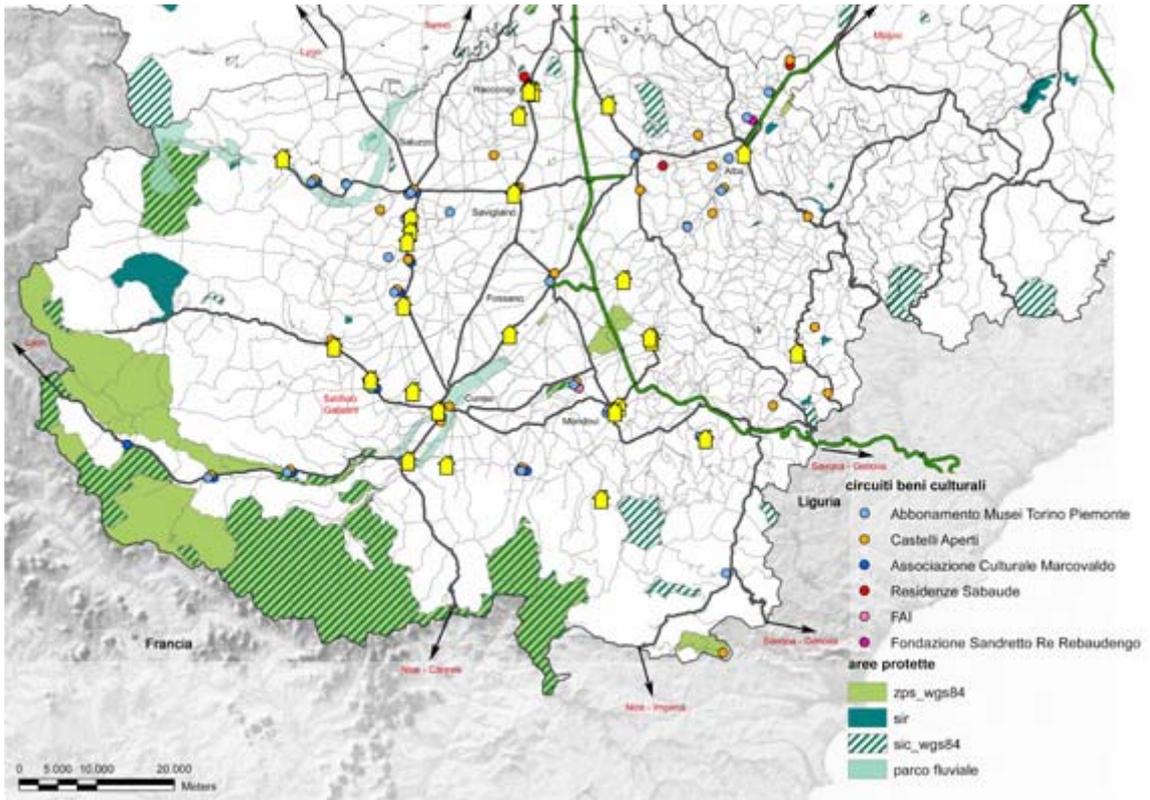
Then, the thesis was followed by the study of the whole province of Cuneo with the Geographical Information System opportunely planned, to obtain themes useful for planning. Information management has allowed a comparison of data and display the results immediately on cartography thanks to georeferencing of the same.

The realization of the database has involved the collection of geomorphological, demographic, educational, employment, tourist and cultural information of each municipal entities in the province of Cuneo.

The planning of the application GIS was based on several components who constitute the territorial area: the province, the municipalities, the silky complexes, water's courses, the cultural-environmental goods, the shelters and the cultural goods observed by the OCP.

The study has been structured in different phases, due to the complexity in the management of all the information:

- _territorial analysis of province and municipalities;
- _territorial analysis through the influence of the entities: water's courses, cultural goods, environmental goods, shelters and cultural goods observed by the OCP;
- _historical, architectural and cultural analysis of the silky complexes;
- _critical observation of the results of the preceding analysis.



Examples of GIS' application

Observing the results it was possible to draw up guidelines for provincial plan addressed to local governments, interested in producing a draft recovery and utilization of one or more silk factories joined to nets and territorial systems, close to the lines of the Program ALCOTRA.

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