



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

# Honors thesis

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COURSE OF  
Architecture heritage preservation and enhancement

*Abstract*

**Brownfields as a resource for a new Turin  
The Osi- Ghia case study  
Yesterday's industries, brownfields of today, the project  
for tomorrow**

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The history of the city. This was the point from which everything starts for our thesis. Over the last few years of our academic experience, we have learned how to read with more understanding and consciousness the signs of the city, of our case study Turin, to grow our interest in his forgotten buildings, degraded artefacts, of the best know spaces such as urban gaps, brownfields.

They are, by the fact, integral part of the city, but most of all, they represent blind spots, places of insecurity, places of social drift.

Just from these voids, which are actually, full volumes within the urban grid and most of the time are close to the center of the city, we need to rethink, regenerate new connections, new functions to give new signs.

The thesis, discussed here, has the scope of retrieve the knowledge of the history of one of these brownfield of Turin, the Osi- Ghia factory.

This artifact, several times, has made part of our university courses because it is located inside the railway “triangle” defined by Torino Lingotto, Torino Porta Nuova and Torino Porta Susa stations.

People traveling around the triangle, by trains or on the roads, many times asked himself what could be behind the ivy-covered walls or in the buildings making like a backstage on the Corso Dante axis.

The curiosity, the will to know this part of the city, the idea of finding a solution is the starting point of the thesis. The knowledge of the artifact, of its composing parts, how they evolved in the time, how they grown and changed, his life in short. All this results in complete reasoned choices that could carry new marks, draw again new lines that take origin from the existing one, without making them disappear.

The yesterday's industries, what Osi- Ghia represented for Turin, the actor, the context in which the company has grown. Brownfields of today, what remains of this history, as it is inserted into the urban grid, as the city has grown around this area, because it is in shade compared to the rest. The project for tomorrow, because to regenerate means to start again, to give a new life, a new face to the gap, without distorting it. The first guide lines to re-connect Osi-Ghia to the rest of the urban grid.



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