

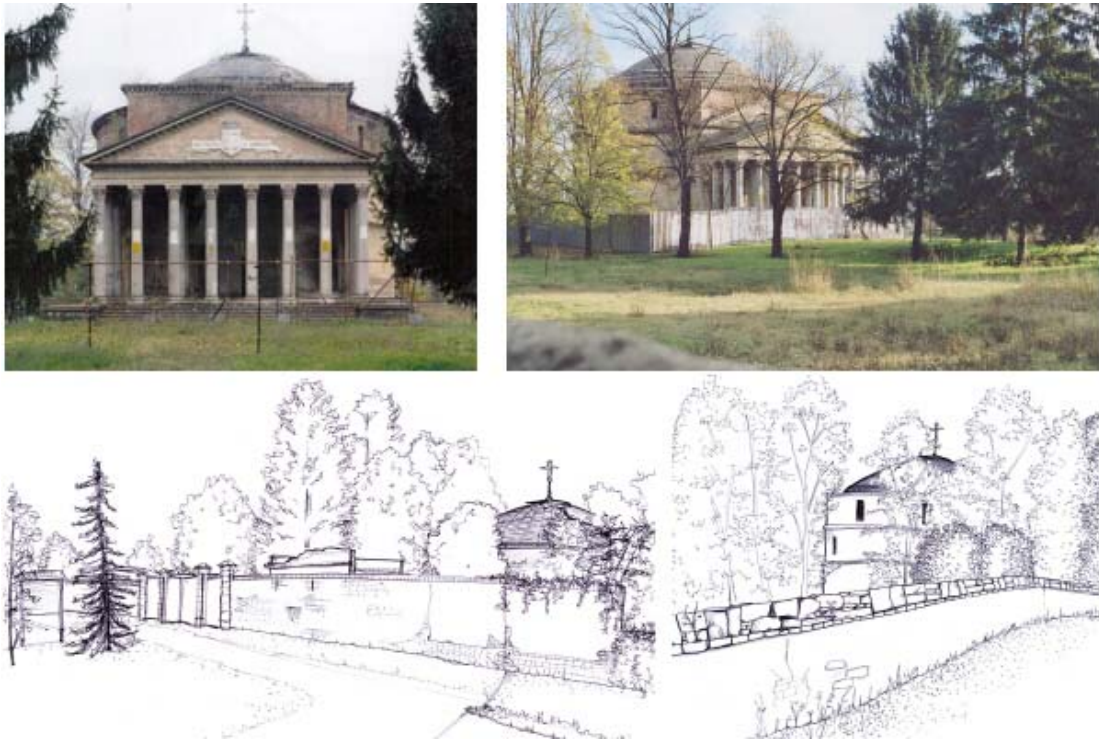
From Pantheon of Mirafiori to the system of surrounding green areas

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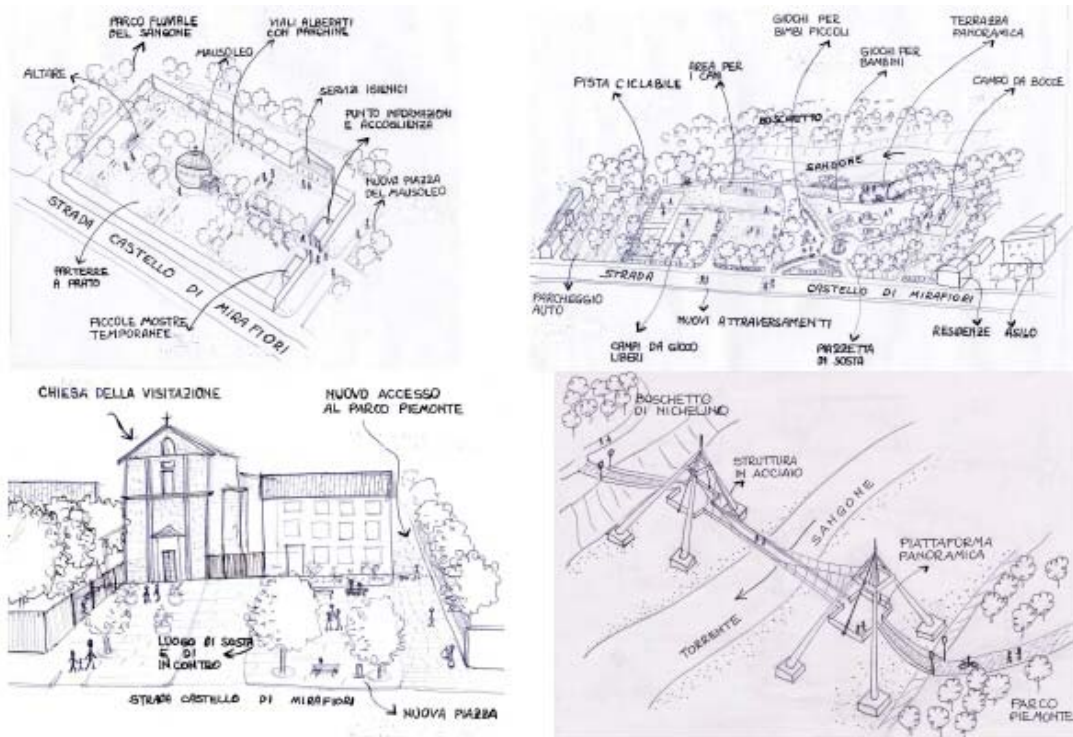
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This thesis proposes an urban project to restore a metropolitan area including three Municipalities (Torino, Nichelino and Moncalieri): the aim is to exploit the possibilities of this territory with its architectural monuments and environmental resources, and insert them into entertaining circuits to create a “green system”.



Pict.1 - Photos and sketch of Mausoleum

This work originates from the Pantheon of Mirafiori (picture n. 1), a small mausoleum analysed during Synthesis Laboratory. This building was abandoned for decades and now it is under refurbishment, thanks to a restoration and static consolidation project; it rises along the left bank of Sangone torrent and it is one of the main elements of the project. It is a so-called “museum of itself” to be valorized with its garden, inside the historical territory of Mirafiori; it rose on the ruins of Mirafiori royal palace, near the village nucleus and the Church of Visitazione.



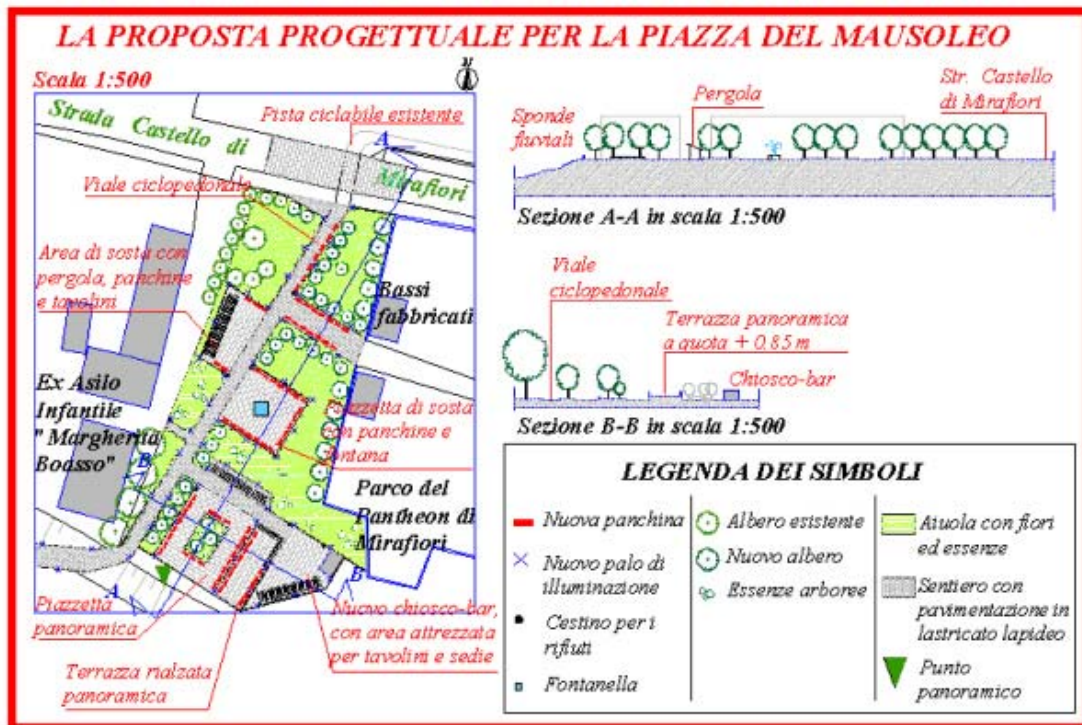
Pict. 2 - Sketches of first planning proposals

The survey of this portion of territory, made by maps, bibliographical sources, direct recognitions on the site and pictures, allowed to highlight the actual territorial situation and formulate the design proposals (picture n.2).

There are a lot of critical aspects: low-level public housing, social hardship, main roads crossed with difficulty, no access zones, deterioration of Sangone torrent banks because of spoil areas and illegal kitchen gardens, lack of recreative facilities etc. however, there are also various positive aspects: on one hand, the historical and architectonic patrimony (the hunting Royal Palace in Stupinigi, Nichelino's, Drosso's and Moncalieri's castles etc.), that sometimes is not very valorized, and so it is not very much exploited; on the other hand, there are wide parks with few appliances and not very frequented, but with high potentialities. Furthermore, this analysis concerns the rivers and the transport network (pedestrian pathways, cycle-paths, vehicle accesses, touristic river navigation etc.).

As far as the urban territory is concerned, there are some projects and plans actually in progress or in approval stage, aimed to revise the public housing, to create a new scientific pole and the Sangone River Park, the latter included in the wider project named "Torino Water Town". Planning proposals respect these existing projects, proposals, initiatives, previsions and indications of approved town-planning schemes.

The proposal for the "green areas system" is based on different alternatives: strengthening of existing activities, intervention on the transport network, links and accessibility, introduction of new activities by means of equipments and services, aimed to form a system made by equipped and different areas, pedestrian and cycle ways, that link parks, architectural monuments and environmental resources, exploited and emphasized by cultural and recreative circuits.



Pict..3 - Project proposal for Mausoleum Square

Particularly, the project concerns Mausoleum and its square (picture n. 3), the link between Colonnetti park and Sangone torrent, the new garden along Castello di Mirafiori street, Piemonte park, the Church of Visitazione square, the Thicket of Nichelino, the torrent banks. For each area arboreal species, play and sport facilities, urban design, pavings were suggested.

Finally, the elements of the system had been analysed for a social and economic evaluation of the project, by means of the Community Impact Evaluation (CIE) approach. CIE is a monetary technique that considers a community impact, and it permits to verify descriptively the achievement of the aim of the different project alternatives and the choice among them: at first the elements of the system and the project alternatives are recognized, then the impact are classified, finally the groups of interest are detected. Then the impacts on the groups for different alternatives may be assigned and associated into impacts (picture n 4 Tables for CIE approach). The degree of achievement of the target in different scenarios of various impacts is estimated by means of matrixes. In this case, the target is to give value to green areas and parks, creating a system and recreative circuits: so the project alternative that produces the greatest value will be chosen, that is the option with a greater number of positive impacts for the greater number of involved groups. In this way, it is shown that the “system option” is the best option.

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