



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN ARCHITECTURE
HERITAGE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Abstract

**Cathedral of the Aragonese Castle: ruins to be
protected or a volume to be reconstructed?**

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The topic of this Master thesis is the feasibility study of the demands made by the "International Competition for the spatial reconfiguration of the Aragonese Castle Cathedral of Ischia", called by Isam in 2009,

After we having analyzed the objectives of competition and compared them with the solutions presented by the different participants, we decided to deal with the demands of the call by studying our project.

During the reflections and objections that have arisen from the debate with the professors, we concluded that every new construction in that place, in ruins, with no sufficient historical documentation, placed at a sensitive site beneath which lies a crypt (which makes difficult the creation of foundations that do not intercept the vaults of it) was absolutely inappropriate.

In this thesis, first run produced a "draft" of the project, which follows the guidelines of the call and will stop once learned what it would mean to make a wrap to cover and return a new function to the Cathedral, and secondly instead propose a intervention much content that fits between the Ruskin's idea of the total abandonment of the ruin to himself and demands of Isam.

The Cathedral of the Assumption, after the nineteenth-century bombing, the loss of all documentation relating to its architectural history and lack of maintenance over the years, has become "irreversibly ruin"; perfectly inserted in the context of the rock landscape of the isola minor, are to continue, albeit without a specific function, to be experienced as a lookout over the sea and fifth charming and fascinating for the construction of temporary events.

This is why taking a step back towards the demands of the competition, we have decided to suggest a new hypothesis of the project that follows, albeit with some minor modifications, the happy examples of pure preservation as Gino Chierici experimentation on the Abbey of San Galgano near Siena and similar examples scattered throughout Europe.

Our decision came at the time when all the results seemed grinding, starting in the first place from our first proposal, evince that the causes of such design inconsistencies were misleading the requests issued by the call.

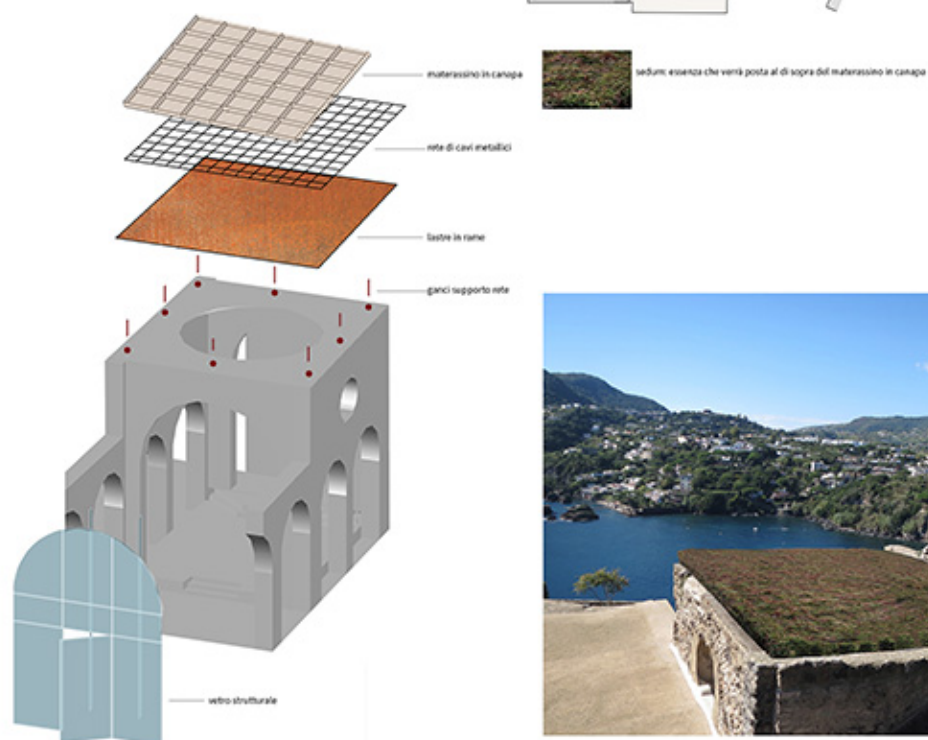
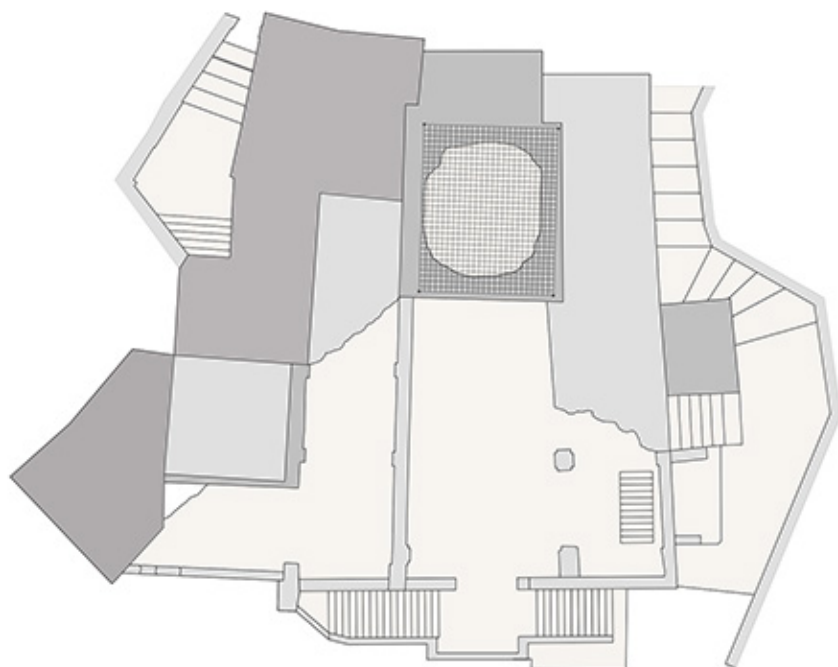
The final choice thus leave in ruins the Aragonese Castle Cathedral is given by taking the limits of this place awareness, "limits", not as "faults" but the starting point for an intervention that respects the way the historical values good to be preserved and that it fits harmoniously into the landscape to which the asset belongs.

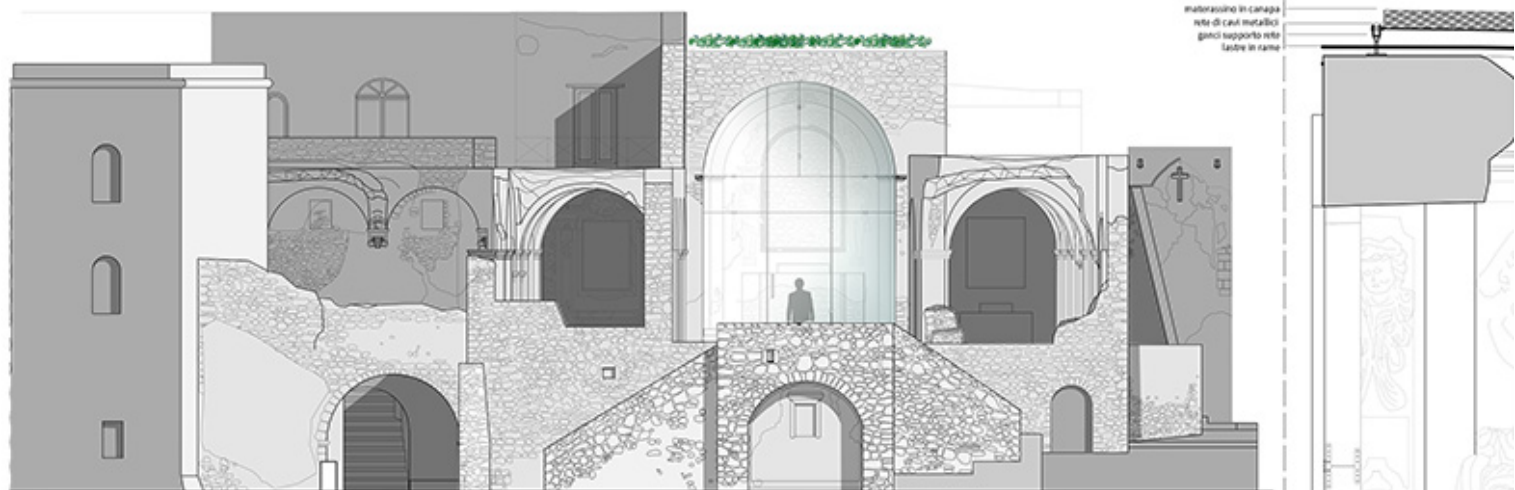


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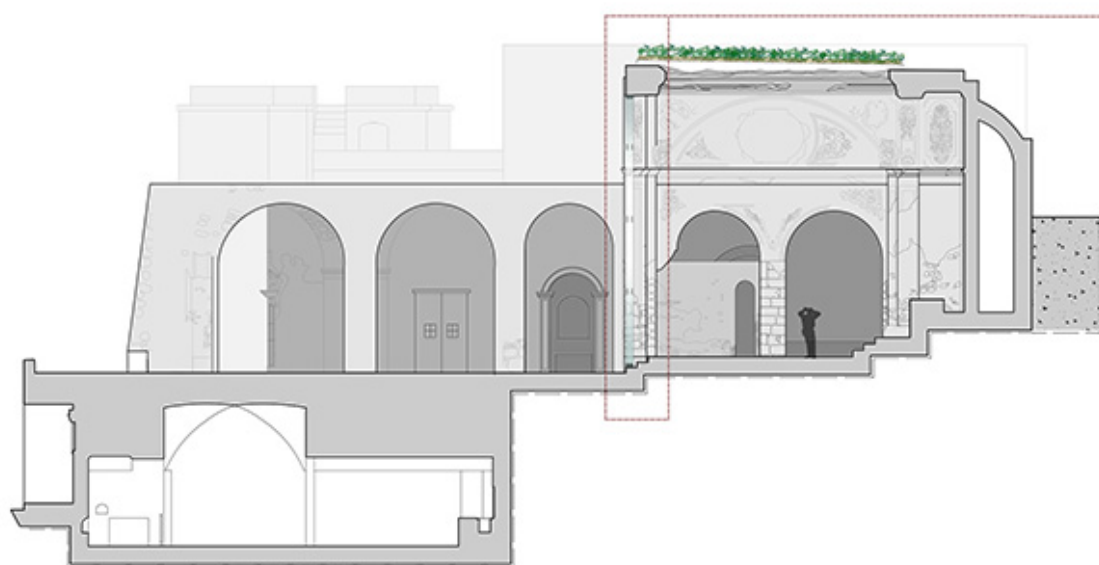
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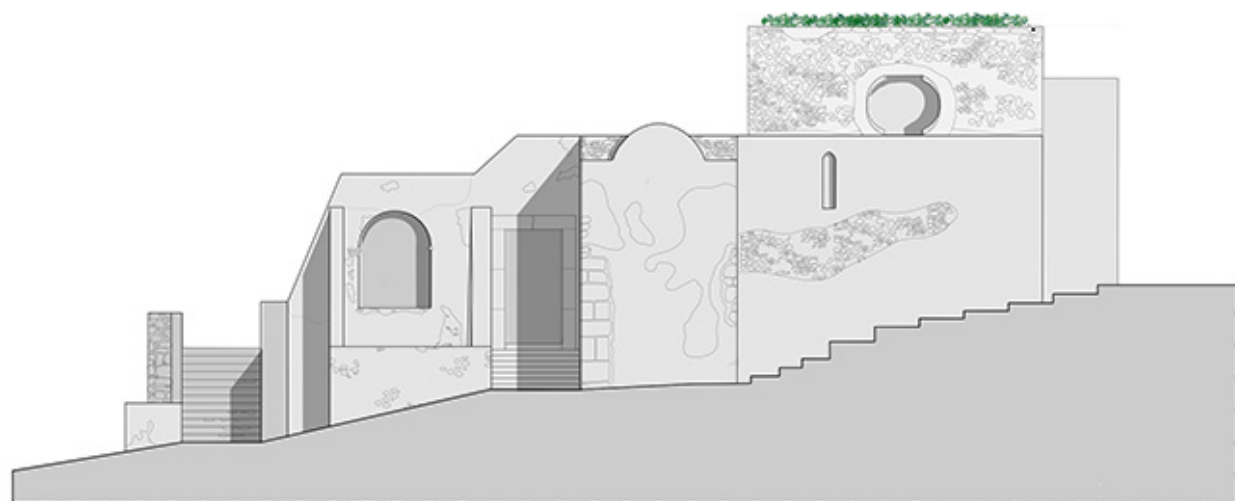




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