MASTER DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE

Abstract


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One of the fundamental purposes of the project was to highlight the special role of centrality of mountain areas and their potential also as a "laboratory areas", on which you can apply new theories and methodologies with the aim of finding a new balance and new lines of development.

In particular, the purpose of the study was the development of a critical reading of the territory of the Waldensian valleys - the Pellice, Chisone and Germanasca - unique and first of its kind because it made through the method of structural invariants. The intent was to set a specific search method by applying it to the particular case study, choosing some preferential themes on which focus the study.

Preparatory to the exhaustive study - the first part of the thesis focused on "alpine question" in general terms, and especially on the Western side of the Alps - where the valleys are contained. The analysis showed the character of centrality of these territories, both from a geographical point of view, that of the "stories" that have affected them over time, as well as from a strategic point of view. Indeed, the Alpine territories are revealed as a unique space, located in the heart of a densely populated continent, and high levels of economic and cultural development, as well as the center of the network of the most important economic and cultural centers of this region. An area full of images and able to arouse meaningful messages, who lived a unique peculiar development, with European dimension.

Subsequently, the analysis of the study of the Waldensian valleys has allowed to show the central character that even these areas have had and some still have over other territories and supralocal scales. In particular it has emerged as this area is characterized by multiple "added values", linked to a strong local identity and associated with the particular historical events and dynamics that have crossed over time. In these valleys, there is still strong potential today, connected with the existence of a strong local heritage, whose complexity and richness is partly returned by some internal tables to the thesis, especially the synoptic table.

For its implementation and the theorical and methodological approach of the study, it is explicitly referred to the “Scuola Territorialista” (in particular the experience of the Florentine A.Magnaghi and D.Poli) and the territorial biography is used as instrument of knowledge and investigation - a tale of the territory made through time and space, identifying invariants and permanences, that is, those "rules" that guide the transformation and may provide useful information (also) for the current development, addition to a greater comprehension of the area and its dynamics. Also, to operate some themes readings within the vast territorial heritage this was used for the “coremi” representation method, with the production of many synthetic maps.

Finally, this research has revealed the centrality of the Alps, as the Waldensian valleys and, in general terms, the strategic value of the mountains. Also, the study for invariants, has allowed to identify several guidelines for the development of these areas. Among these should be noted, on one side, the great richness of the territorial heritage of the Valleys, from which is reasonable to start new projects in the area, with a view for valorization of its specificities (also cultural); and, on the other side, the need to reconsider relationships with supralocal networks and the city of Turin, especially in view of the new Metropolitan City, with all its possible potential.
Schematic of the territory and its components and the role of invariants. Own elaboration.

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The territorial heritage of the Waldensian valleys. Own elaboration.