

**Chatel Argent conservative restoration and his functionatity in Villeneuve (Aosta)**

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Chatel Argent, fortified castle overlooking the Dora's Valley and Villeneuve in Aosta's Valley, is one of the place which draws a greater interest both under the point of view historical-architectonic, and tourist and glamour.

The name comes from the place where "the coin was minted"; the Romans were living in that period and Chatel Argent was the key position for the trade in the valley too.

The castle is surrounded with a double boundary walls which even contains a plateau on which a tower is situated in the highest point.

The chapel with apse, situated into the boundary walls, is the most ancient part of the castle, it rises on east side and dated back, by the historigraphers, at the end of XI century.

The charm of the place and the interest of the people living in Villeneuve push me to study a conservative restoration and functional project in conformity with the administrative requirements.

These requirements are acting to improve the territory in which is placed Chatel Argent, besides the industrial buildings, very little out of Villeneuve.

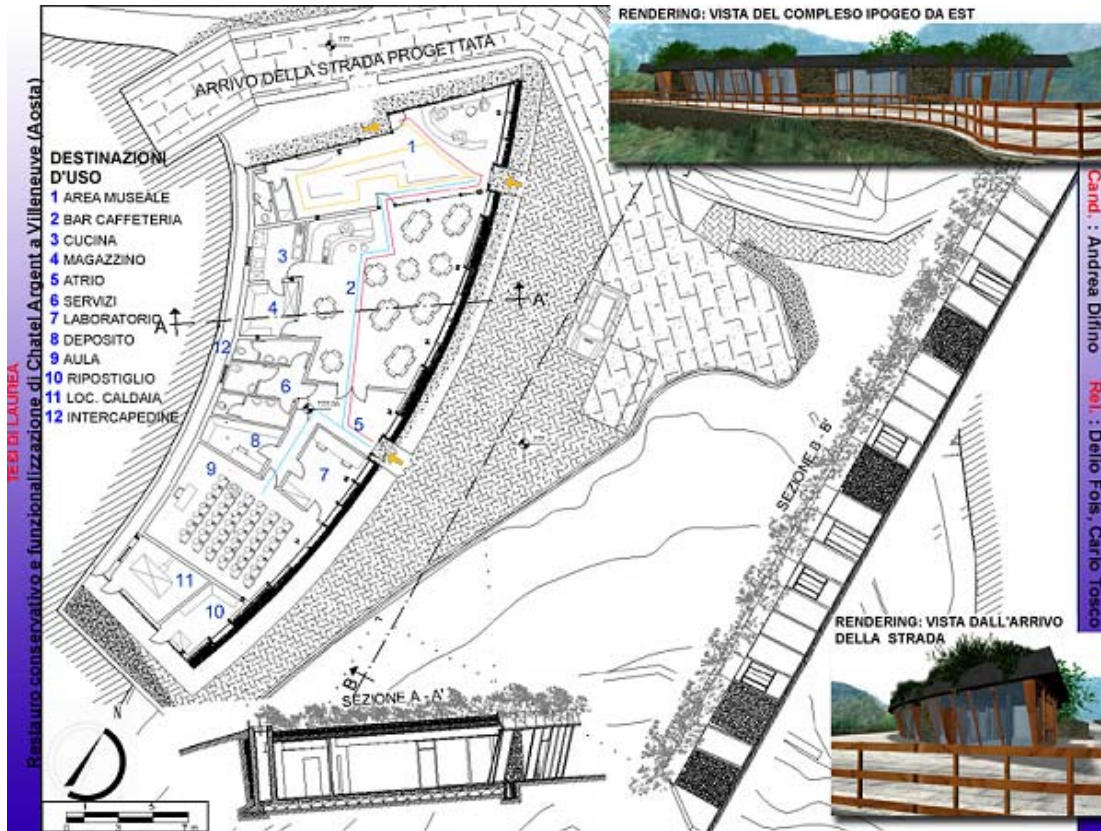
Referring to the castle, the project is to improve its accessibility, to value its position with a fine view and consider it as a cultural and meeting place.

Chavonne, probably, will be a restoration school specialized in the recovery of medioeval walling.

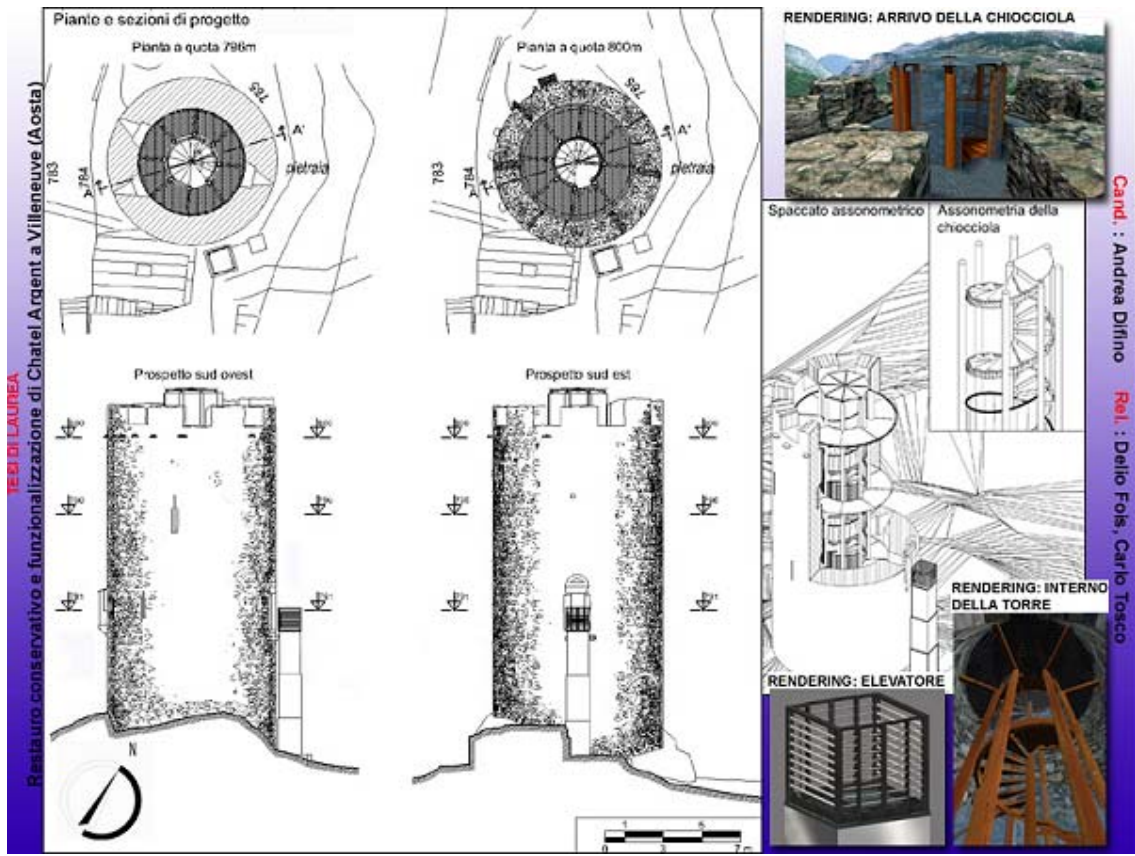
My thesis explains, as regards the accessibility problem, how to use the road from the centre of Villeneuve to the group of houses of Champlong-Martignon where there is an area which presently is not utilized, but could be used for parking for the future.

A bus service may be used from the parking and, through a minor road presently inexistent, but now planned, may reach the castle where an underground plant is studying to be realized without changing the neighbouring environment.

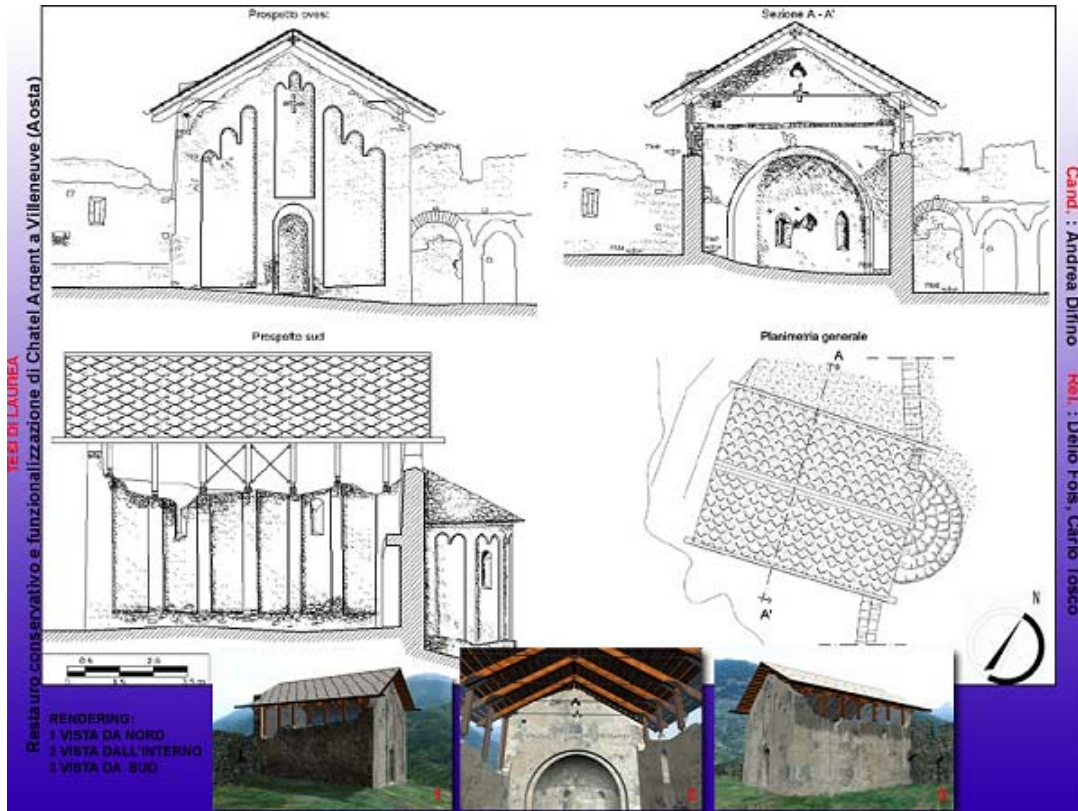
This building may offer information, explain the history of the place and in addition it may be realized as a museum. Furthermore it could be used as a refreshment-room with baths and even a school room with laboratory may be projected for the students of restoration school.



The tower would be accessible with a disappearing external elevator that bring at the only aperture situated at 6.50 metres from the ground, the walkig way of rounds that has the function of piont with a fine view, is feasible with the help of an inside laminar stairs maded out of wood, this stairs join the three restored floors on wich are exhibited on the walls some informative panels.



Regarding the church, for the purpose of her preservation, is provided a wooden laminar covering with some stones, this covering uses again original materials interpreting them in a modern way.



The intervention on the massonries concerne their reinforcement and their protection from the atmosferic agents with tecnologies and suitable products, in this way we don't loose important elements of Chatel Argent's history.

I can conclude affirming that this project must be assisted by a careful managment of the city-council or the region to assure the preservation of the castle during the time.

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