



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

# Honors thesis

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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE  
(CONSTRUCTION)

*Abstract*

**The opening of the ghettos. Rehabilitation and urban  
regeneration of the old ghettos in the XIX century.  
The ghetto of Verona.**

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Fig. 1\_ Popular tradition during Rome's carnival, the rolling of the elderly Jew.

The wandering Jew, foreigner in a foreign land, forced into segregation by religion and prejudice. With their troubled and discontinuous presence since the Middle Ages, the Verona Hebrews, greeted with jubilation the establishment of the “new ghetto” by the Venetian administration in the seventeenth century. It will begin a period of architectural development characterized by precariousness and insecurity in the small cutout of city granted to them. Two hundred years after, the ghetto gates will be destroyed by Napoleon's troops, erasing symbolically (and in fact) the strict dwelling regulations that weighed on the Hebrews.

So far in the documentation produced to explain the phenomenon, the ghetto of Verona has not been subjected to an analysis according with architectural or urban point of views. The aim of this master thesis is to analyze the changes in the urban fabric of the

city of Verona between nineteenth and twentieth centuries, taking as example the case of the Jewish ghetto, near Piazza delle Erbe in the historic center of the city, in an area between the current via Mazzini and via Pelliciai, via Quintino Sella and via Portici, from the beginnings until its full disemboweling during the fascist regime, through various sources, designs and historical drawings available today. Will be analyzed the several attempts at redevelopment; competitions and projects drawn up to replace the old ghetto in the urban palimpsest, its final demolition and the new layout of urban grid, the case of via Portici demolition, the construction of the new synagogue in the nineteenth century, and the completion of its lateral façade on via Quintino Sella in the first decades of the twentieth century.

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