POLITECNICO DI TORINO

Honors thesis

COURSE OF

ARCHITECTURE CONSTRUCTION AND CITY

Abstract

Chamois Eco-Tech Comprehensive Plan: New Gate to

Environmental sustainability in built alpine landscapes: new environmental micro and macro-centralities in mountain areas for accessibility, loisir and hospitality.

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by

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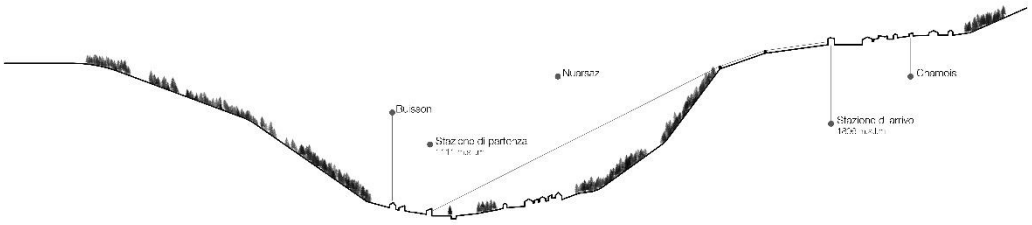
The thesis project "New gate to" is part of the wider redevelopment framework of the municipality of Chamois. The thesis workshop "Eco-tech Chamois comprehensive plan" has developed new micro and macro-centralities for accessibility, loisir and hospitality aimed at enhancing the village's tourist attraction.

The municipality of Chamois, located in Valle D' Aosta at 1811 m a. s. l., was the protagonist of a significant ecological choice during the' 60s with which the possibility of building a road was excluded and access to the village was limited to the use of a cable car starting from the nearby village of Buisson. This link, as well as being emblematic for the identity of the local community, also helps to preserve the significant environmental quality of the reference context.
Chamois is facing the depopulation and climate change problems that lead to a rethinking of the village's image. The inclusion within the sustainable tourism paradigm with the limits dictated by the economic availability of a municipality that has opposed heavy transformation interventions, which could have indelibly distorted the territory, is the conceptual premise of the thesis work.
These reflections are at the centre of the research carried out by the masterly thesis workshop which, through the understanding and architectural study of the locality, aims to provide a coherent design that investigates the relationship between environmental sustainability and signs in the built landscape.

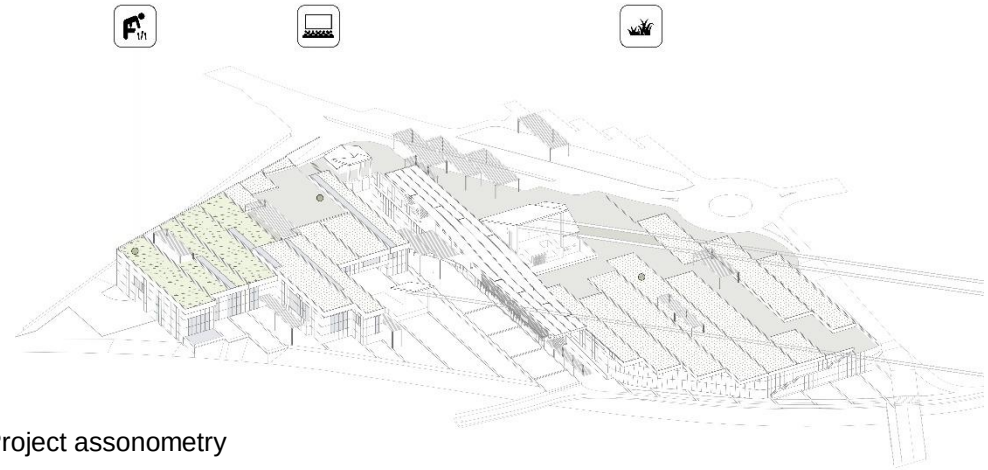
The accessibility to the village is the thesis project focus. The need for a dimensional adaptation of the car park linked to the cable car starting from Buisson, was the chance for a rethinking not only of the access to the village but of the entire road system of the Valtournenche.
The site is conceived as an intermodal center that facilitates the exchange between different means of transport and provides users with comfort and services of various nature. The paradigm of sustainability has led the project not only to the technical solution of the Buisson node, but to the conception of a system of links that characterizes Valtournenche as a valley aware of the needs of modern tourists and the sustainability of its movements.

The design process of the Buisson node followed the detailed methodological procedure of the thesis workshop. A close partnership with local population and institutions of Chamois and of Valle d' Aosta has been established through a cycle of meetings and debates. The sharing moments allowed a more articulated reading of the themes and an in-depth analysis of the expectations, problems and requests of residents and holidaymakers. an initial response to the needs was given during a first intensive workshop that led to the realization of the first project hypotheses on which the thesis project is based. Prior to the workshop, an exploratory step-by-step trip to the Alpine areas of Valle d' Aosta and France was also carried out, which led to the collection of a sample of scenarios and solutions on planning in the Alpine area, decisive for the elaboration of the common strategy and individual focus studies. The last stage was the works exhibition developed during the workshop, which allowed a further comparison and an evaluation of the residents' moods based on graphic

presentations. The entire methodological process, structured in stages and for direct confrontation, has made it possible to draw up and constantly refine proposals in order to respond in the most correct way to the needs identified.



Territorial section



Project assonometry

View from the village of Chamois

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