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Master of Science in Architecture (Rehabilitation and Revaluation)
Honors theses

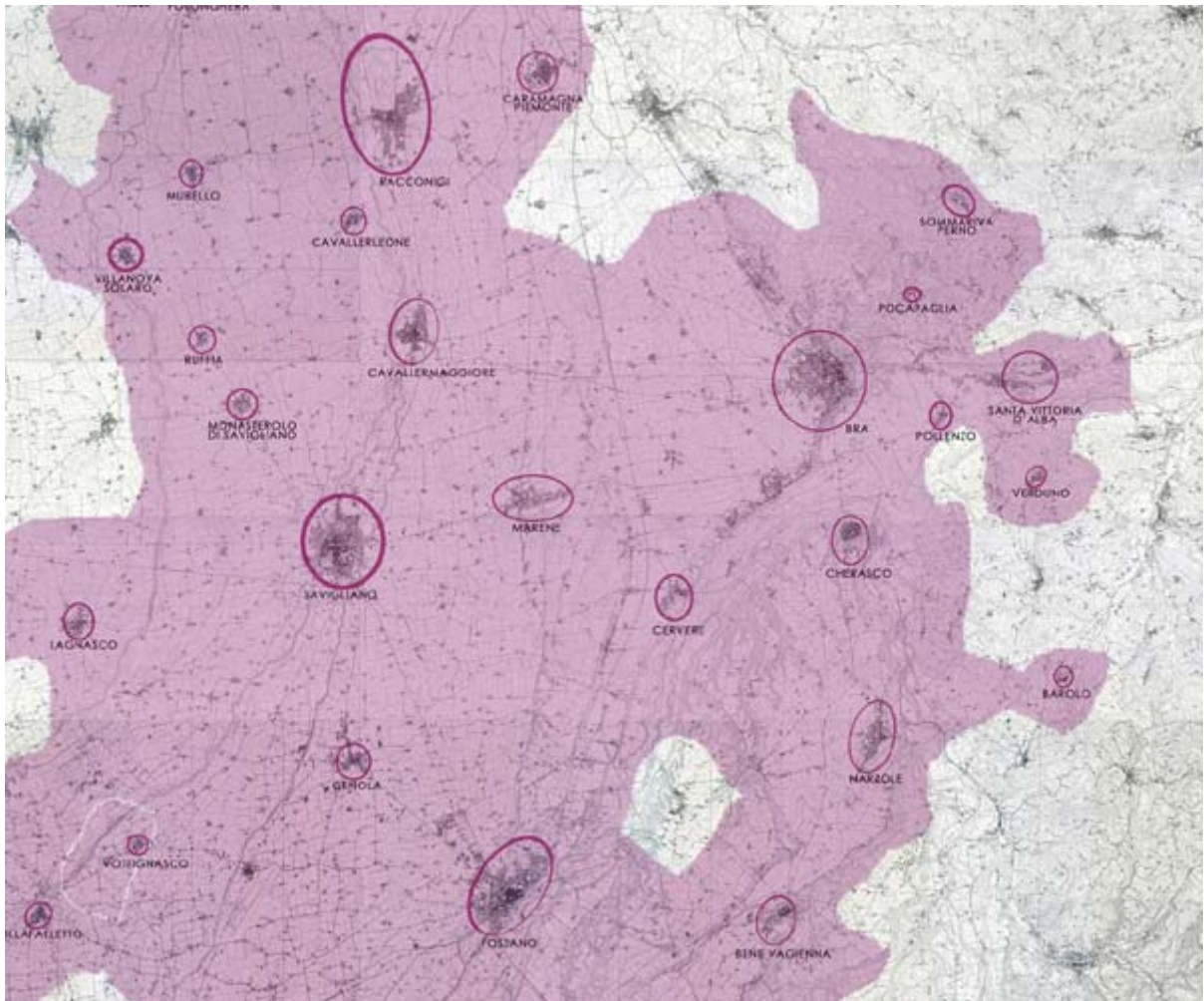
The Canonica of Villanova Solaro: hospitality for a sustainable tourism

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Villanova Solaro is a small town in the district of Cuneo, about between Racconigi and Saluzzo; it belongs to "Terre dei Savoia", an association born at the end of 90's from 21 small cities (now 33), with the aim of revaluating and promoting the territory, not through important architectures, but through attention to landscape, local traditions, culture, oenogastronomy.



The building under discussion was built at the beginning of XVI century, but probably the nucleus already existed (so that the strong geometrical and stylistic juxtaposition between façades); it has been out of use since about ten years, and so it is, now, in bad conditions.



During his life, it has undergone many restorations and little transformations, but it has never lost its general volume, in particular in the indoors; works before the 90's have been extremely disomogeneous, mainly as occasions has required. Afterwards, new projects have followed strict necessities, and they have been planned to defend the structure, but not with the aim of a complete intervention of conservation and possible reuse, sometimes even conditioned by economical restrictions.



In consequence of a bibliographic research and of a creation of a sort of documentary, founded on data processing from previous studies, has carried out a new research, to be faced up with building requirements and potentialities.

The aim of this thesis was to complete the knowledge of the building, in particular from the point of view of the structure, to outline its conditions, and consequently to suggest a possible restoration.

There was the will of revaluating a part of territory by the rehabilitation and the reuse of the building, considered not as a single entity, but as an integrant part of the territory where it lays, looking beyond university requirements, trying to make it complete even by cooperation with real societies that work in the territory.

In consequence of the study of local reality, limits have been extended to the whole territory of "*Terre dei Savoia*"; about touristic section, has been studied the supply and the demand in Italy, and in the specific of the area at issue.

The primal idea was proposing a receipting function, so has been analyzed Italian and European supply about alternative forms of hospitality to classic hotel, and structures accommodated in historical buildings: spanish *Parador*, *Charme&Relax*, italian *Albergo Diffuso*, and in particular Youth Hostels, widespread in all the world, but invested with many prejudices, in particular in Italy.

In the end, without going into project details, has been studied the new function for the building, after analyzing potentialities and critical aspects of the structure, in order to suggest proposals that could complete with the building and the territory, proposing three different solutions.

Studies performed in this thesis were born from personal knowledge and affection for the land, and would like to be a hint for the rise of the territory, in order to support planned and realized projects.

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