



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE FOR
SUSTAINABLE PROJECT

Abstract

L'aBEEtare.

**From the architecture of the bee to the architecture for the
bee, a project to make Ferrere alive again.**

Tutor

Daniele Regis
Roberto Olivero

by

Roberta Chiabauda

September 2019

During the last century the climate has undergone dramatic changes, reaching today a critical situation for the whole planet; several conferences and debates express the alarm of the threat to survival, both for man and for the entire ecosystem. Particular attention is put to nature and how man has always drawn from its sources of inspiration and imitation to respond to specific needs, previously from an unconscious perspective, today trying to adopt specific strategies in perfect harmony with the environment. Among the various elements that are affected by these improvements, we find the bee as an emblematic symbol, because its work is fundamental for the environment and the biodiversity. The famous phrase "If bees disappeared from the earth, there would be only four years left for man to live", attributed to Albert Einstein, fully expresses the importance of these insects, which through the pollination of many plants ensure the production of a large part of fruit and vegetables, also providing honey, propolis, wax and many other by-products.

Based on these arguments, the aim of the thesis is to raise awareness of the issue of beekeeping, which currently is a great concern, and its relationship with architecture. By relating these two components we can observe the various elements that permit the development of these two themes simultaneously, allowing a progressive analysis from the architecture of the bee to the architecture for the bee.

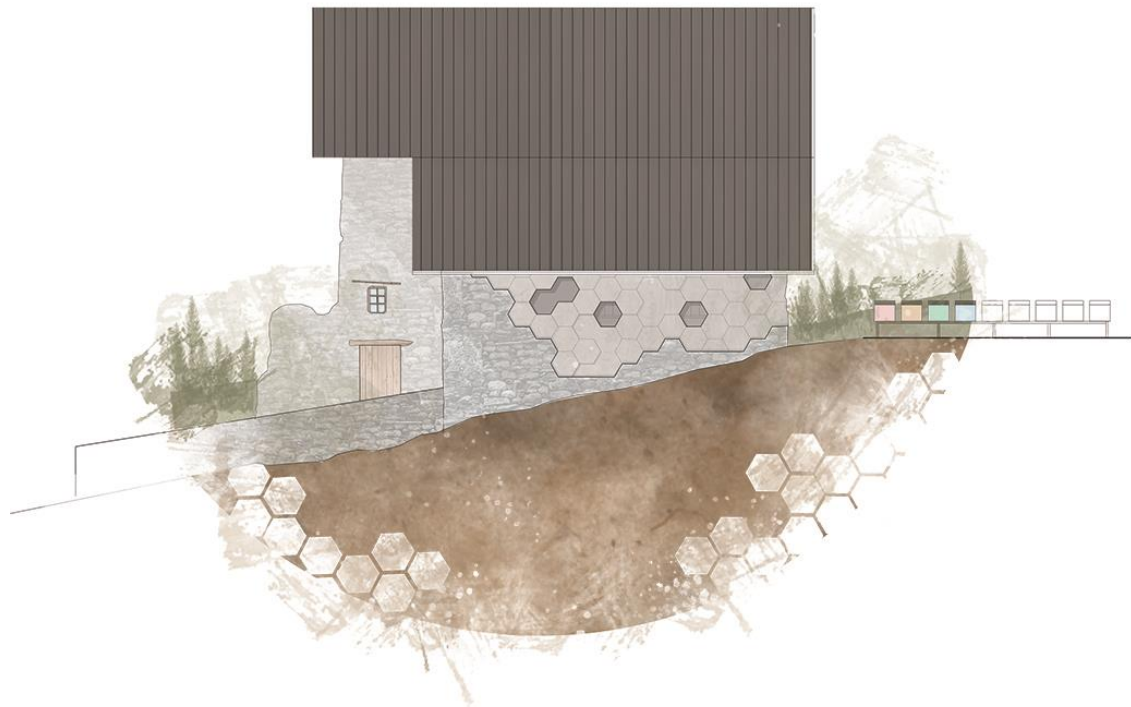
We find, for each dimension, different architectural types that can be considered as a "Matrioska": they present themselves with a specific identity but with the characteristic of being part of each other.

The key elements that assist this analysis are the attention to history and the territory, in particular, to that of Piedmont.

Considering the problem of land consumption, it is necessary to return to the inland areas of our country, redeveloping areas which have been subjected, over the years, to depopulation. In particular, it refers to the recovery of alpine villages, encouraging the repopulation of these areas almost totally uncontaminated and full of a varied presence of biodiversity, safeguarding the territory and focusing on the theme of beekeeping. In this thesis, we refer to the village of Ferrere, in the Upper Stura Valley, within the municipality of Argentera, almost totally abandoned if not in summer; it is not intended to be just a specific case but an example and an incentive to both the protection of the territory and the bees.



Territorial section, high mountain village, Ferrere



Prospect, integrated apiary

For further information please contact:
Roberta Chiabauda, robertachiabauda@gmail.com