



**POLITECNICO
DI TORINO**

Honors thesis

Master of Science in Sustainable Architecture

Abstract

LA VIA DEL MARMO

**Restoration of Pietrasanta factories between art and
nature.**

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by

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The Via del Marmo, founded by Michelangelo, is historically recognized as the connection created between 1518 and 1521 to connect the quarries of Seravezza and the harbor of Motrone, so that its marbles could reach Florence for the facade's construction of the San Lorenzo's church, remained unfinished. Despite the failure of project, this road has preserved a significant symbolic value. The territory has maintained the legacy of this axis as a historical-cultural route, made up by a series of excellences, such as Pietrasanta, the "Italian Athens", the Medici Palace, Unesco heritage, in Seravezza and the Forte dei Lorenese of Forte dei Marmi. Parallel to it flows the Versilia River, companion of a landscape area marked by profound critical issues.

Inside this region it is possible to find upstream, still today, those white walls and those massive blocks that have been chosen and touched by the greatest artists in the world. While downstream there is the ideal term of a cycle, founded on a centuries-old tradition of artistic manufacture.

The need arises for a general strategy based on the development of local historical culture, where the Via del Marmo works as a connection for the entire system, based on the restoration of a series of abandoned spaces. The thesis project is based on the strength of this connection, which unites the whole Versilia territory.

The industrial area of Giorgini & Maggi, in ancient times known as "Pago Selvato", located at the entrance of the Apuan Alps Park and close to a network of roads and historical events that influenced the evolution of the whole Versilia area, has made it obvious the choice of this place as the heart of the project and the key element from which it was possible to start the entire territorial redevelopment, which can be composed in a series of micro-interventions.

This first step was designed as a place for art and artists, who have always seen the potential of the area, both for the presence of material and for the skills of local workers.



