

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
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Master of Science in Gardens, Parks and Landscape Design  
***Honors theses***

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**Oslera farm and its garden. The recovery of a project by Pietro Porcinai inside La Mandria Park**

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The subject of the thesis is the formulation of a proposal for the recovery of a private garden, near the Oslera farmhouse, located inside the Regional Park La Mandria, a large protected area near the city of Turin. This garden is a project of the second half of the last century by Pietro Porcinai, internationally renowned Italian landscape artist. Following a short period of use by the family who commissioned the work, over the past three decades the garden and the buildings fell into a state of total abandon. Due to restoration work on the building, by the regional authorities of Piedmont (which aims to transform it from a private home to an accommodation facility including a restaurant, a guesthouse and recreational and learning spaces), now is necessary to intervene also on the garden, in order to recover it in full. In this context an intervention was therefore proposed, taking into account its environment, which is the result of a complex system of interactions that need to be analyzed.

The proposal considers the original project by Pietro Porcinai, and also the new needs related to the change of use, and is based on careful research of the landscape, history, climate, waterways, geological and morphological characteristics, fauna, flora, etc., which were analyzed in specific chapters.

This research work has been necessary to understand what the evolution of the site has been, which has changed through different uses, owners, developers, planners over time.

Previously unpublished documents have been brought to light through archival research, conducted in the State Archives of Turin, in Druento local archives and in the first instance Pietro Porcinai's archives in Fiesole, near Florence.

Parallelly the life, the *modus operandi* and the work performed by the landscape artist has been analyzed, in order to formulate a proposal respectful of the environment and the compositional and stylistic aspects of Porcinai's work.

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