



**Politecnico  
di Torino**

# **Honors Thesis**

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**Master of Science in Sustainable Architecture**

**Abstract**

**A recovery manual for the Borgata Campi in the Pellice Valley**

**Tutor/Correlator**

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**September 2021**

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The idea of developing this thesis in the form of a modern manual was born with the aim of bringing back, alongside tradition, architecture in its simplest and purest form. We have chosen to operate in a mountain context, characterized by green and silent places and uncontaminated alpine villages. The privacy of Val Pellice hid a timid hamlet called Campi. The choice of the object of study precluded some essential aspects, without which the application of the design exercise would have been difficult and not very stimulating, among these the peculiarities of the context, the morphology of the settlement, the state of conservation of the buildings and the small identifying characteristics. The approach to the different design scales, however, required a systematic procedure that could gradually lead us into the township. Therefore, the idea of developing these guidelines in five notebooks: "from general to particular". The "Quaderno uno" serves to contextualize the territorial, social and cultural situation within which Campi was born. The topics dealt with regard the natural characteristics of the environment, the socio-demographic classification of the municipality of Bobbio Pellice today through the vigorous history of the Waldensian Community, the dense network of paths that have branched out for centuries on the slopes of the valley and finally the immortal testimony of the agro-silvopastoral activity. The "Quaderno due" focuses on the settlement characteristics of the hamlet using the actual state of affairs as a starting point. This step had as its objective the reconstruction in stages of Campi's evolution in order to identify its development principle. The observation, the interpretation of the traces and the study of the ancient land registers have represented in this delicate phase of research indispensable tools to be able to understand something apparently confused and illegible. The "Quaderno tre" is developed in the first part in the form of an abacus, transforming the manual into a large architectural sample that lists all the accessible buildings of the village. The second part, on the other hand, aims to indicate more specific aspects by introducing the concept of "state of conservation" (prelude to the design phase). Finally, the architectural typologies related to the intended uses that once housed the buildings have been categorized. The "Quaderno quattro", similarly to what was developed in the previous one, pays attention to the architectural elements by proposing a large, ordered collection of photos for each of them. The objective selection of the most recurrent elements and the critical exclusion of the inconsistent ones made it possible to determine one or more "typical" models. The "Quaderno cinque" is the finish line of this great project. The proposed guidelines follow the logic of the three previous notebooks and therefore operate on three different scales: the planimetric project, the building project and the architectural elements project. The set of contents of this manual are nothing more than a design exercise that aims to highlight the applicative functionality of a METHOD. A method that is not based on the architect's tastes, on his artistic flair or on mere technological experimentation, but which wants to demonstrate that research and

study are the pillars of a conscious project. We didn't invent anything; everything was already written.

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