

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
 SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
 Master of Science in Architecture (Rehabilitation and Revaluation)
Honors theses

Industrial archaeology and restoration project: the case of the salt pans at Prestwick (Scotland, GB)

by Qian Du

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At the beginning of the 17th century, some structures and settlements were established for salt production along the Firth of Forth. Thanks to the advantage of the geographical position that favored the activity of maritime trade, the salt pan production was active for three centuries. The gradual decline coincided with the development of industry, so that during the 20th century most of the settlements were demolished. Today the some of the building in ruins still bear witness to how the economy was tied to the production and trade of salt in this area.

LO STATO ATTUALE DELLE SALINE SCOZZESI

Le saline rimaste in Scozia

Saline dell'area Firth of Forth

Orbit (Fife)

St. Monans (Fife)

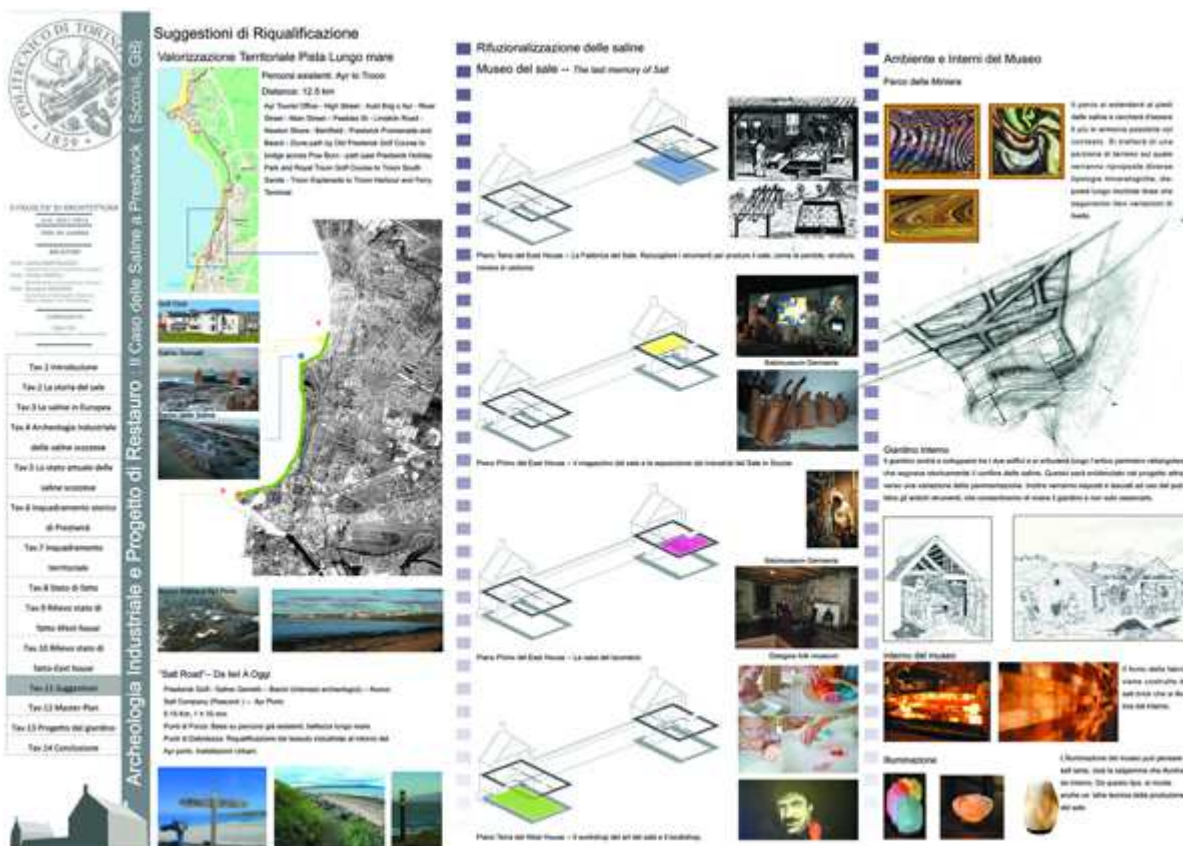
Preston Island (Fife)

Ayr (East Lothian)

Archeologia Industriale e Progetto di Restauro - Il Caso delle Saline di Prestwick (Scozia, GB)

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However, the research on the salt pans conducted up to now, still have weaknesses. Some associations, such as Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland have recorded geographic and historical data of salt pans in Scotland. But such information is fragmentary without specific research. Not only from the point of view of the study on the transformations of salt pans, but also the analysis of the transformation of local context. Problems also exist in strategies for landscape protection, evaluation and rehabilitation of the existing sites. Without any measure, the salt pans would become only a virtual historical memory and its fiscal remains would die out in the near future.



The aim of this thesis is, first of all, to conduct an industrial archaeology on the salt pans which existed and presently exist along the Firth of Forth. This part will integrate the geographical data and historical documents together. Based on the fundamental study, the thesis will discuss the value of the existing salt pans and try to give some suggestions for future territorial protection and development. In the end, the thesis will select one site to carry out a rehabilitation project.

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