



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's degree Science in Sustainable Architecture

Abstract

**VALUING FORGOTTEN MILITARY INFRASTRUCTURE.
Multifunctional park project for the former Fuel Depot in Monteu da Po.**

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The thesis project "Valuing forgotten military infrastructure. Multifunctional park project for the former Fuel Depot in Monteu da Po." wants to tell the story of the path taken in an attempt to highlight the feasibility and possibilities related to the valorization and functionalization of a former military area located in Monteu da Po, a municipality of the metropolitan city of Turin in Piedmont; possibilities in which just few people currently believe.

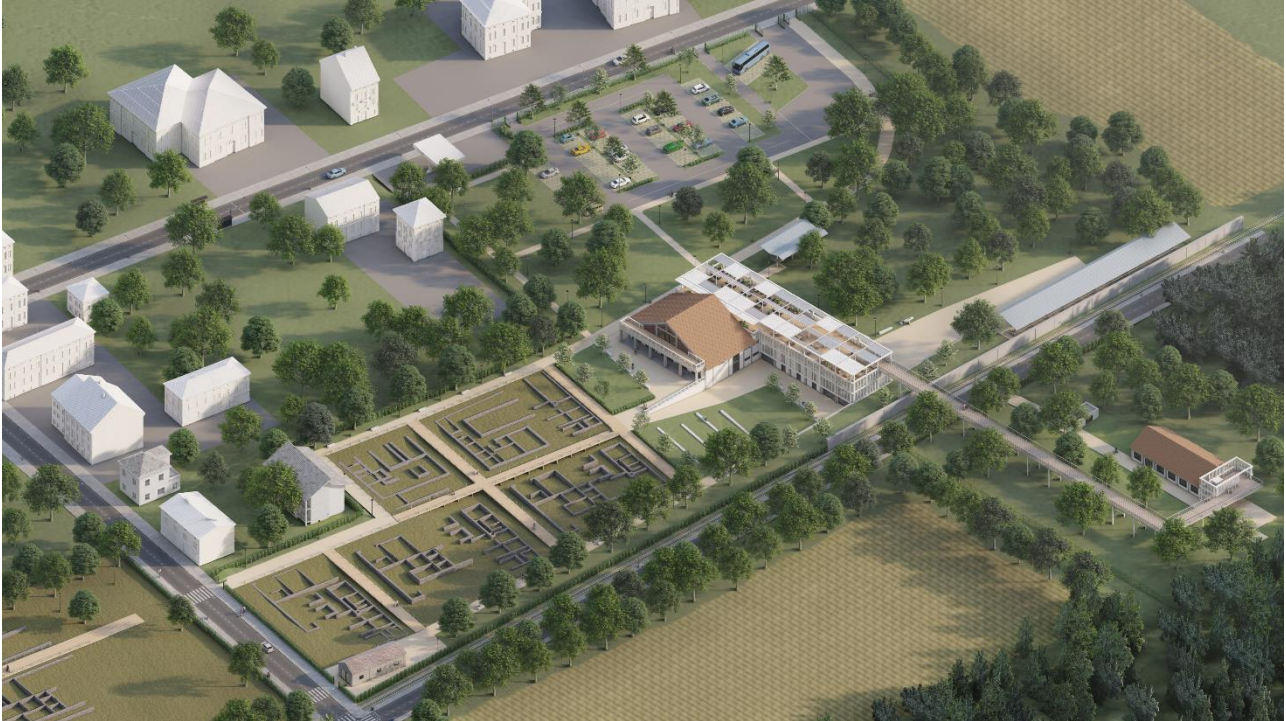
It is, in fact, a very peculiar reality because of the co-presence, on a territory of reduced dimensions, of an ancient testimony, such as the archaeological site of the Roman city of Industria, with which the already mentioned military area is intertwined and in dialogue, testimony, on the other hand, of a more recent history, all set among the green hills of northern Monferrato.

Moreover, the studies and research carried out, as well as the retrieval of documents and materials, have entailed not a few difficulties: information on the area is scarce due to the military secrecy to which the competent authorities have always appealed, keeping all the documentation within their archives and making it little accessible to the public. Similarly, the inspections in the area of interest were difficult and unfriendly due to the conditions of extreme degradation in which it is located, due to the dilapidation of the structures, the presence of toxic materials and the uncontrolled growth of vegetation. Despite this, through such a cognitive pathway it was possible to identify its historical and testimonial values, which are fundamental for the development of a strategy aimed at giving a new life to the area, now in a state of abandonment and located in an inactive context.

The main challenge was therefore, how to resurface from oblivion this forgotten place and so difficult to manage in its entirety and the outcome of which turned into the search for a solution at the basis of which there was a close relationship between the values bequeathed by the history of this area and the production of new meanings, to be translated into an opportunity for recovery.

With the goal of creating a public park, the concepts of art, inclusion and well-being were studied and declined in such a way as to think of a typology that could take new forms and adapt, not only to the context in which it is inserted, but also to share spaces with other functions, such as paths and exhibition spaces, workshops, cultural associations, sensory experiences, musical and theatrical events. An experimentation born in the wake of other successful examples present both in Italy and abroad, which sees the coming together of a variety of artistic languages, sensibilities and inspirations, united by the aim of giving life to a continuous dialogue between creativity and the natural world, with all the benefits that come with it. Moreover, this is a social initiative that will have to draw on the support of an important network of partners and contacts with local cultural institutions, the population and Italian and foreign artists.

Thus, the protection and enhancement of the landscape becomes only one of the elements that characterize a larger project, aimed at the creation of unique spaces whose main objective is to provide an attractive hub not only for locals and that allows the area to be reactivated, thus leading to an improvement in the quality of life of those who live there.



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