



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's Degree Architecture for Sustainability.

Abstract

Regeneration of industrial areas in the Italian Alps. Transformation scenarios for the former Italcementi in Borgo San Dalmazzo.

Tutor/Correlator

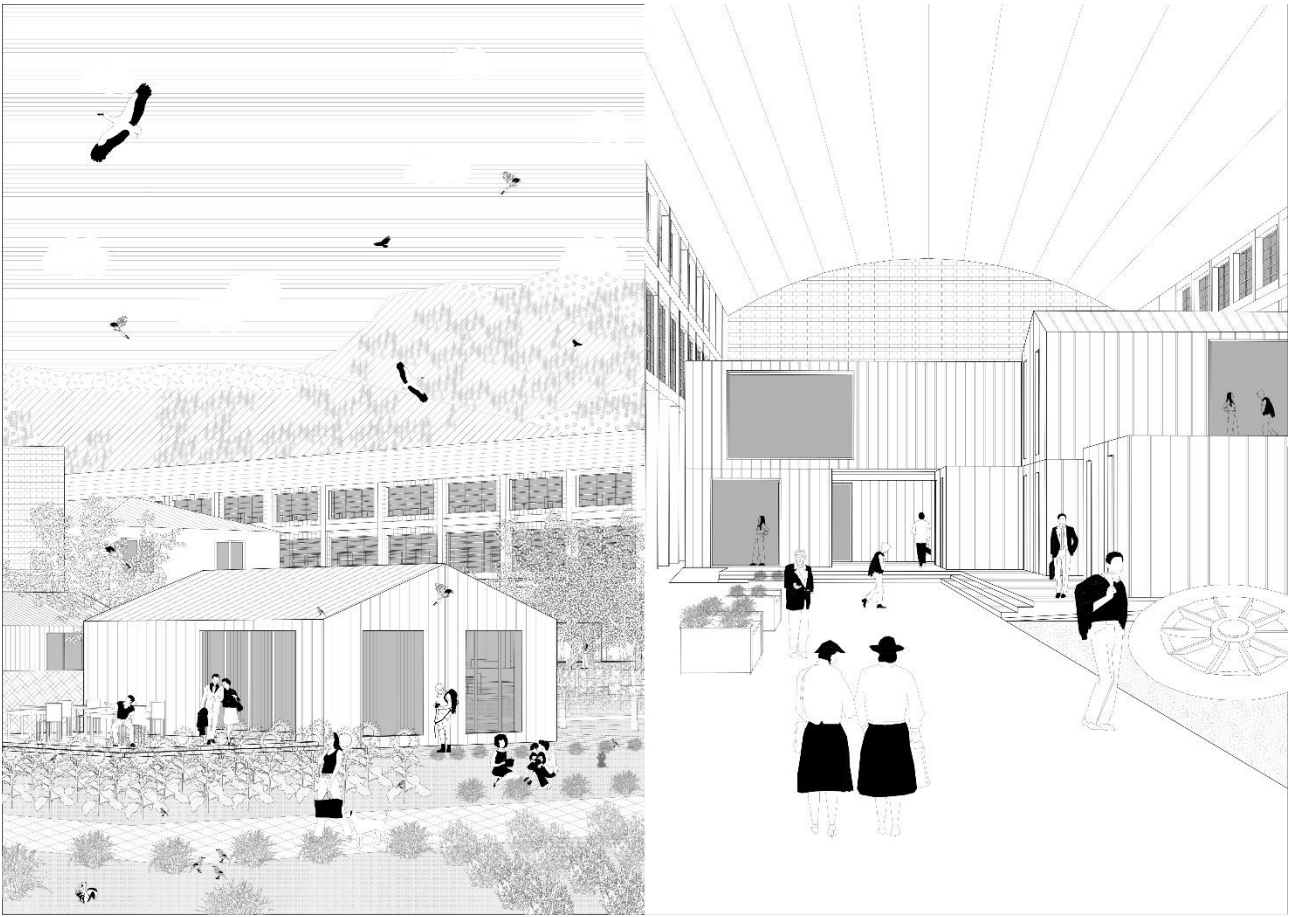
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The Italian Alpine arc currently has a large quantity of abandoned industrial areas, understood as real voids within the mountain and piedmont system. These sites today appear disconnected from the surrounding context, which they strongly characterize due to their considerable size, the introverted character that defines them and the urgent environmental issues they raise. The thesis work started from the desire to rethink them, which appears necessary, in order to provide them with a second life through the use of actions that allow them to restore their quality and identity. Outlining a project strategy for the future transformation of abandoned complexes allows us to start a territorial development perspective, not only on a local scale, but also on a provincial, regional and cross-border scale. The main objective was therefore to investigate and understand the dynamics and tools through which the activation of regeneration processes of abandoned industrial sectors is made possible, hypothesizing the definition of a design approach capable of providing future visions to encourage local administrations to participate in funding tenders. This topic, in particular, was treated according to two different steps: a cognitive one and a planning one. The first involved the consultation of bibliographic sources, archive photographs and gis databases, from which it was possible to outline a cognitive framework of the phenomena of industrialization and decommissioning of Alpine industrial sites, to understand the main tools that can be used in the implementation of the individual design strategies and, through the creation of maps at different scales, observe and analyze the approaches adopted in the development of regeneration dynamics of some factories located along the entire Alpine arc. The second, in relation to the tools previously investigated, focused on the definition of a strategic proposal for the reactivation of a real case, on which there is currently a strong desire to recover on the part of the local administration: the former cement factory owned by Italcementi in Borgo San Dalmazzo (CN). The comparison with local actors, the analysis of the surrounding territory and the understanding of the potential of a production complex located in a strategic position, have allowed us to adopt a design approach based on an incremental process, capable of guaranteeing real feasibility and sustainability of the project. The work carried out therefore aims to outline a strategy to reconnect the cement factory with the neighboring urban and natural environments and with the socio-economic context of the valley, through the construction of schedules of solutions and design drawings at different scales, from the technological to the architectural one, which can represent the first step towards the realization of recovery actions not only limited to the case examined, but capable of raising useful reflections for the rethinking of similar cases present on the entire Alpine range.



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