

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
Master of Science in Architecture Heritage Preservation and Enhancement  
***Honors theses***

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**The Badiazza Valley in Messina: Rediscovery of a Pass Route between Peloritani Mountains**

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This study, initially correlated to analysis boards, is the result of research, observations, but also of the sensations felt while on the interested sites; these allow us to draw the outlines of the current conditions of a strip of land, located in the V District of Messina County, called the “Badiazza” Valley because of the presence of the namesake church. The choice fell upon the city of Messina, which presents numerous areas of urban decay caused by wartime and seismic events. These have brought about a numerous reconstructions, often by the hand citizens of different roots and with different cultures that don’t have a strong bond with the land and the surrounding environment, giving rise to the disdain for public property: gratuitous destruction and vandalism, the unauthorized occupation of state-owned and municipal land and roads, the indiscriminate and reckless construction of shacks, garages, warehouses and landfills... The material gathered will allow us to plan an ambitious intervention that will give this area a chance to assert itself not only as a residential neighborhood, but as a space for the community, with facilities, full of spaces for social gathering and green spaces.

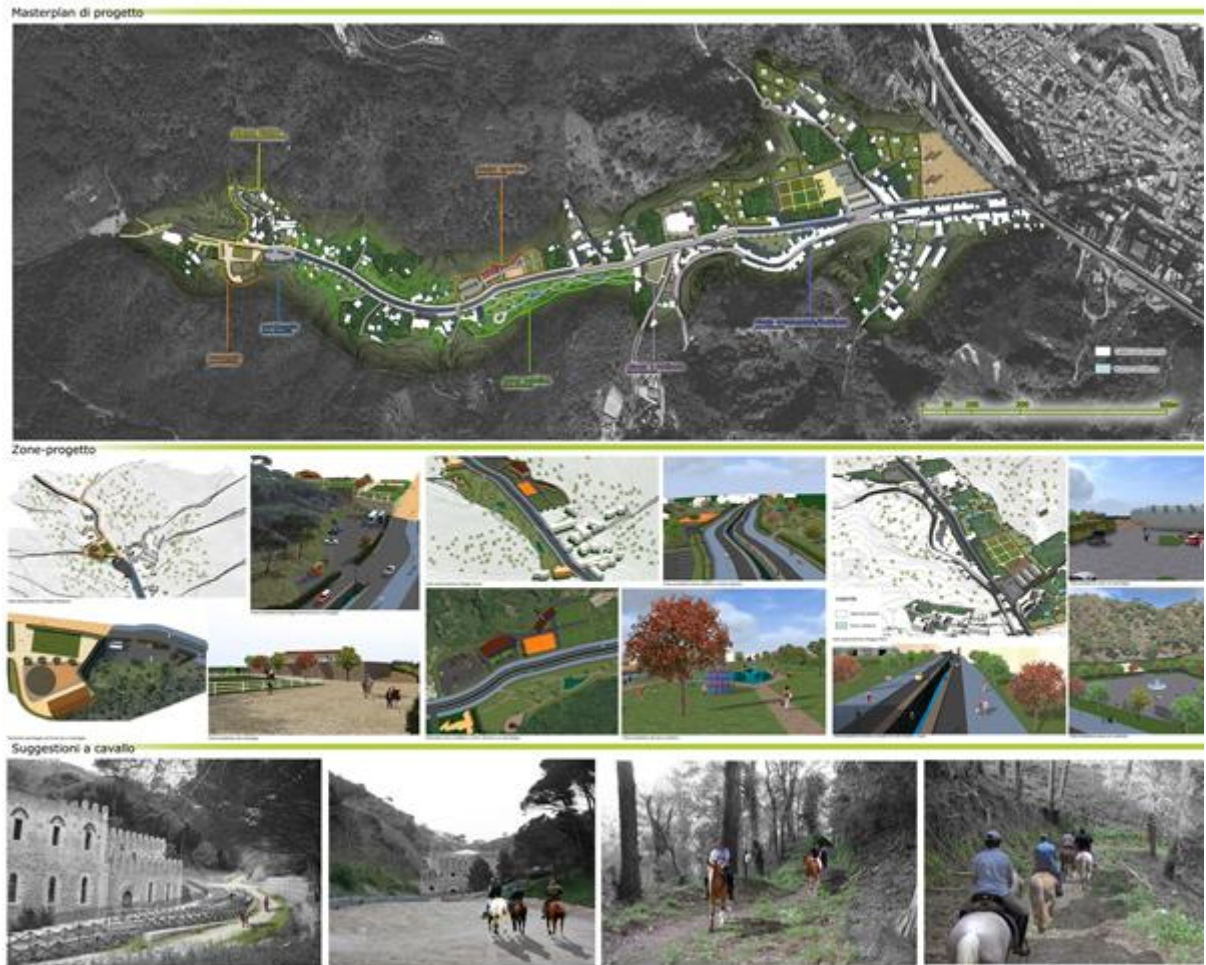
The aim is to show the existing territorial reality under new light, making us forget the decay and the neglect for a moment and giving back prestige and dignity to a land that has up until now been considered a symbol of alienation and often incivility, but which encases a historical, architectural and environmental worth of great significance.

The Badiazza, a church of Norman origin, is located at the foot of the Peloritani Mountains, conspicuously marking the ancient route that, from the port of the San Francesco Riviera on the Ionian Sea, through the road that bypasses the Badiazza Valley, led to the Tyrrhenian Sea. Since Roman times this area has been an important channel of communication between the Ionian coast, the Peloritani Mountains and the Tyrrhenian coast. For the Romans, the area Quattro Strada in San Rizzo (a crossroads on the Peloritani Mountains) was “*Milenses fauces*”, which literally means military gorge, mountain pass to Milazzo (Milenses) in Latin.









## Masterplan project and suggestions on horseback riding

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