



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

# Honors thesis

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## ARCHITETURE HERITAGE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

*Abstract*

**Diocletian's Palace of Split. Methods and instruments of  
sustainable conservation and enhancement.**

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## **The Historic Center of Split with The Palace of Diocletian, registration UNESCO 1979<sup>1</sup>.**

The Diocletian's Palace of Split is the genesis of the city of Split. Diocletian, Roman Emperor astride, from II to III century, built his residence in Split, near **Salona** (hometown of Diocletian) for spending there the rest of his life after his abdication. In the city center of Split, today, it is possible to find the remains of the ancient roman's civility in a very complex and stratified medieval context. Moreover, the country has more finds of considerable importance: the **Roman's Aqueduct** and the **historical area of Salona**.

In order to understand better the development of the Monument, an **analysis of the legislation regarding the protection of cultural goods in Croatia** has been conducted, from the Austrian to the contemporary one.

**My thesis focused on resolving the basic problems of the archaeological area.** It was made under the lens of the three architectural scales: territorial, urban and architectural; on these bases I thought about the possible solutions of the negative aspects of the Monument.

**In the territorial scale, I proposed to incorporate under the Word Heritage List the archaeological area of Salona and the acqueducts of Diocletian together with the Palace of Diocletian.** To increase the value of the territory, it was designed an upgrade of the informative system that could increase the interest of tourists and residents.

In the urban scale, I had analyzed the criticality and the potentiality of the historical center of Split. I had crosschecked the increase of tourism; to improve the vivibility of the city centre, I guessed to **pit the cabling and building system and to install a wi-fi free network and then adding a second reference point in the apogees rooms of the Palace.**



1. Split 2. Archaeological area of Salona 3. Roman's Aqueduct.

<sup>1</sup> <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/97>

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Particularly, the architectural design was focused on the requalification of the southern eastern wall of the Palace, through a **precise analysis** of the materials-degradation-intervention that noticed a **robust existence of biological-agents**. To enhance the readability of the monument a **new illumination for the wall** was designed. The new area will be free from the chromatic aberration with specific care on the **removability of the systems**. **The light** on the southeast facade **will have a didactic function**: it will include the roman remains and in the background the medieval ones; the installation can be modified by a dimmer, that is, to die down during the night hour.

Over the **est-facade, subject to a high anthropic decline**, mostly due to the bulky presence of souvenirs stands and a constellation of lights, it was proposed to open a sequence of **new stores**; the new buildings will have a **wooden structure**, with a **planar roof and windows** but that will not be in the front of the wall, so as to prevent a new light pollution.

The new installation will be installed on the roof of the new buildings and **the lenses Wall-washer will light the roman's wall for didactic purposes**, with particular attention to the **octagonal roman's towers**.

In conclusion, my thesis mainly focused on the studies and planning of accurate interventions, so as to enhance the Monument and its historic context, with particular interest over the **sustainability**.



The illumination's **project** of the south wall of the Palace.

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The illumination's **project** of the est wall and the roman door.