

POLYTECHNIC OF TORINO  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE 1  
Degree in Architecture  
Honors theses

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**Riverside: for a requalification of Bardonecchia's mountain landsacape, Italy**

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Wisdom of the nature.

We can't return back. It has never happened in the history. Two hundred thousand American citizens won't abandon the United States to give back to the Indians the country that they have taken off. The Inuits of Greenland won't climb on their kayak to go back the tide of the history with hits of paddle.

It is not possible to let reappear wisdom with which those people, whom we call wild, have filled their world. Nevertheless there is a lot to learn from them, for instance this: at the thresholds of the third millennium, as can we live in a world without exhausting it? The pedagogues tell that children's need some elements of wild life and disorder to become psychically healthy adults. A child which plays in a cave remember unconsciously the safety that our ancestors felt in their caverns at the beginning of the history of the humanity. The wild life as a remedy.

The proposal of some researchers that the whole big cities should have a wild landscape near them, punishment the fall in depravation of their inhabitants, rose about 150 years ago and it is actual, as it can be noticed by the frustration caused by the monsters of cement that we have created.

It is necessary to put end to the predominance of the straight angle. The wild places protection programs have as main scope the preservation of the enchantment of the unviolated nature. A real magic as never! The world, which believes to be very progressed, has considered for long time the medical knowledge of the Indians of the jungle magic - black magic! - until it has been understood, at the sight of the pluvial forests in flames, that we were going to destroy the better pharmacy of the world. But the personal interest cannot, and should not, constitute the only motivation of the saviors. If we decide to protect earth only when our conditions of life are threatened directly, we will be soon between the ruins of a devastated planet. In effects we cannot even say (unfortunately, say somebody) that the man will die immediately after the trees.

The Mongolic steppes are deprived of trees, but they are not died. It could happen instead what foretold by an Indian boss: after the death of the animals and the plants you will die for the loneliness of the heart.

A sentence to death that is currently in phase of appeal.

This thesis takes sprout from a series of studies developed inside the course of the Final Synthesis Laboratory "Landscapes of the Insediative Dispersion."

This has been the occasion to analyze and to deepen the complexities of the territory of Bardonecchia, considered as landscape of the architectures, of the infrastructures, of the natural and artificial runs, and understood as territorial organization of a social-cultural historical system.

Bardonecchia, note mountain community of strong tourist character, positioned geographically in one basin produced by the confluence of three valleys and crossed by three rivers, currently seems to have lost the identification signs of the place, up to the point to become unrecognizable and not correlated to its territory.

In front of these observations our job, since from the first elaborated planning hypotheses started from the urbanistic side, has been concentrated on the attempt of give again a new identity to the city, therefore proposing a better landscape quality.

The continuous operation of restitching of the various relationships between the sedimentation of the signs of the built territory and the naturalistic landscape of which Bardonecchia makes part has been essential for the final result of this experience.

After having conducted different surveys in "situ" and analyzed the historical developments of the aforesaid area, it has been possible to individualize a more specific zone of intervention which owned valid requisite of base necessary to transform it in an urban door, unrestrained image and consequence (effect) of a mountain community; this zone occupies a strategic position towards the general urbanistic development, both from a geographical point, since it is situated in **an head area** for people coming from France through the Frejus tunnel and for people arriving from the Turin - Bardonecchia highway, both from a point of view of the functions of infrastructural connection, because it is situated between the railway line, the state road and the highway.

Before of the whole intervention a lot of time has been devoted to the complexity of the infrastructures system, particularly to the connections between state road, highway, knots of entry in Bardonecchia. To succeed in letting emerge the latent character of inherent mountain identity in the town, we have realized since the beginning that this would have been possible only through a drastic intervention that foresaw a new rearrangement of the road net: working on the concept of "road of edge" and "mountain road", we have succeeded in defining a "hierarchy" between high speed road (the highway precisely), middle - high speed road (the state road), that in our proposal would pass externally respect to the residential tissue, but would not enter if not indirectly, through a further system of practicable mountain character roads.

In this way it would be possible to recreate a correct formality to visually perceive the change of the landscape, passing from an high flowing traffic road to a "mountain village" one. Such image of door immediately jumps to the eye.

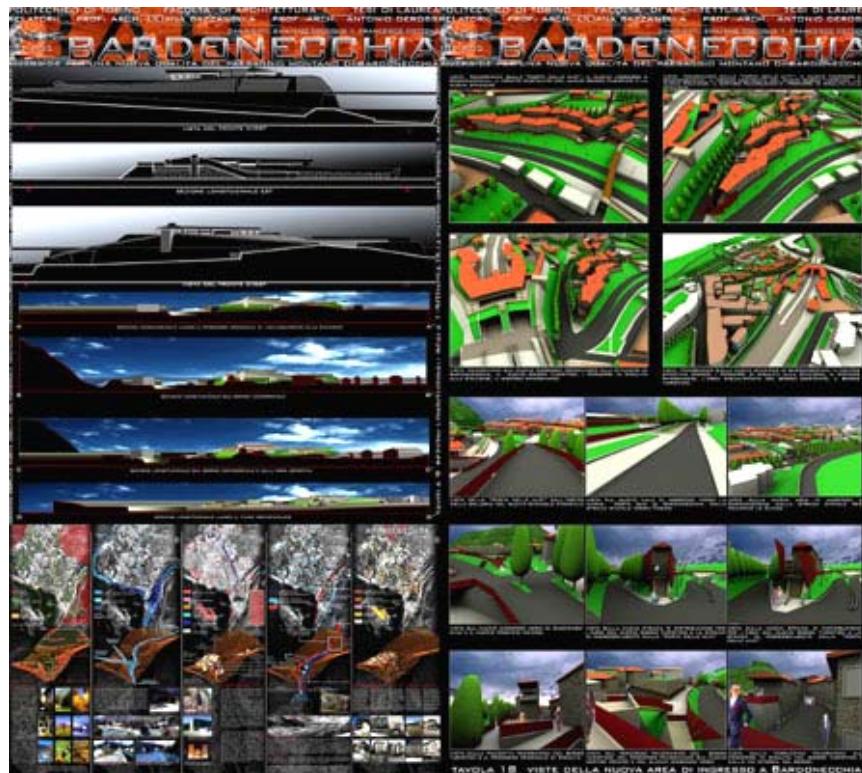
Contemporarily, a second operation, characterized by the afterthought of a new railway station according to the "bridge" typology, subject to the substitution of the actual one, has allowed to resolve the problem of the fracture - architectural barrier produced by the "clean cut" of the railway line, making possible a connection between two parts of the city. Subsequently it has been necessary to redraw a new building fabric, through an operation of restitching and integration with the existing urban tissue, to resolve the sense of functional and morphological desegregation which characterizes it.

It has been contemporarily keep track of the problems derived from a scarce presence of public and privacy services that doesn't favor a suitable "vitality" of the zone, either for the inhabitants that for the tourists.



The proposal of this "continuum building" is accompanied by a system of commercial activity, tourist - receptive, sporting activity, cultural and for the spare time generally.

In all our job it can be sensed a further interest toward the research of the most connected characters to the sense of the natural landscape: courses, walks on embankment, equipped green squares between the new small suburb and the new railway station define a **final** " binding tissue".



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