

POLYTECHNIC OF TORINO
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE 2
Degree in Architecture
Honors theses

The Area Stella of Cuneo: hypothesis of requalification (University Sports Centre of Cuneo)

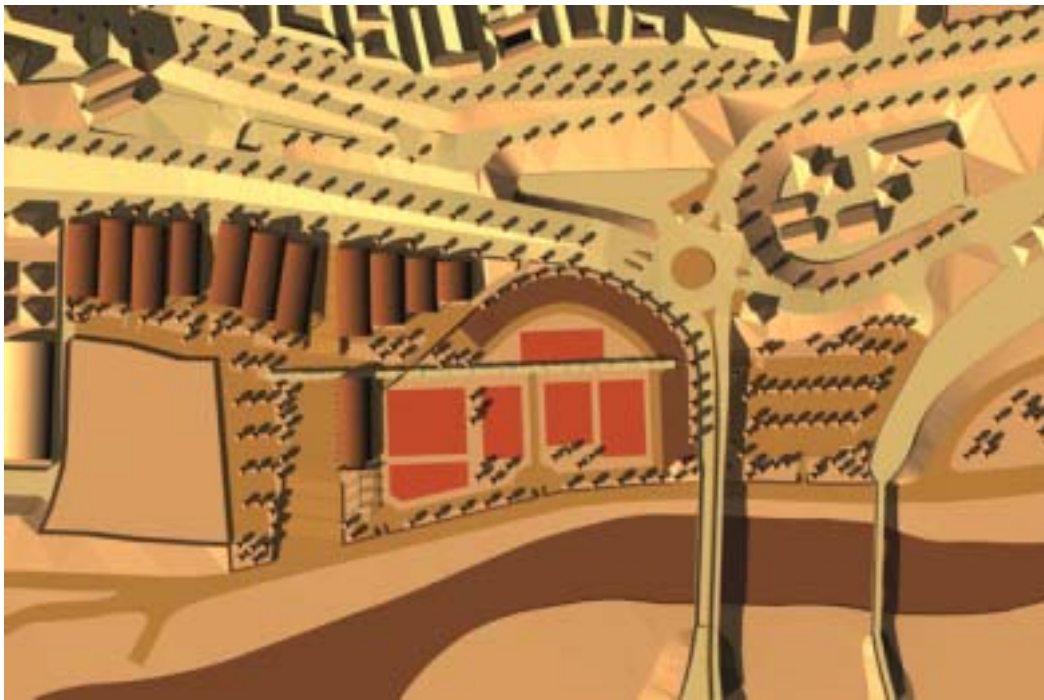
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The objective of this degree thesis is the renewal of the so-called “Area Stella” which is currently occupied by a pole factory, Stella S.p.a. This industrial site is extremely evident as it is located at the entrance to the city over the river Gesso.

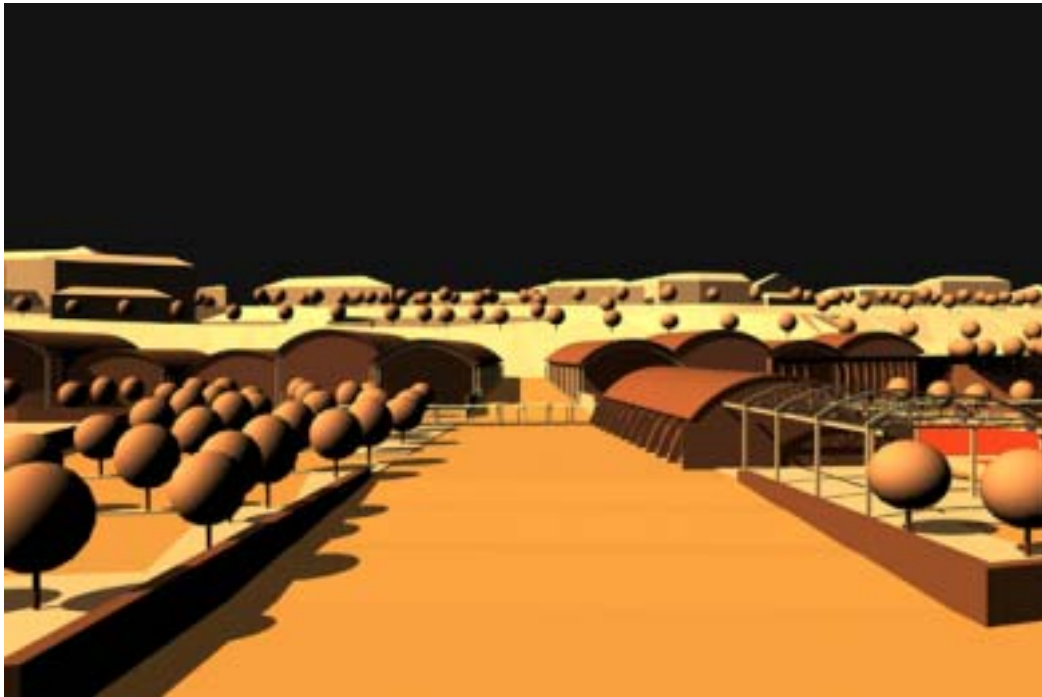
The project aims to give the area a new image, relocating the factory to an industrial area outside of the city, and completing the range of sports and cultural facilities available at the river valley park.



In the light of the above, and considering the fact that the city centre is increasingly destined to be a university centre, my proposal is to construct a university sports complex which will co-ordinate the various sporting activities already present and, at the same time, provide other facilities which are lacking at the moment in the Basse di Gesso area.

This complex would also represent a link between the plateau of Cuneo and the river area.

The project includes the construction of an indoor sports arena, the Pala Sport, for activities such as basketball, volleyball and handball. There would also be an indoor ice-rink, the Pala Ghiaccio, for ice-skating, figure-skating and all other activities of this type. Furthermore, the complex would include outdoor facilities, such as a skate park, a climbing wall and an outdoor ice-skating rink as well as basketball, volleyball and handball courts to permit outdoor competitions. The area is subject to planning laws, being near the river Gesso, thus the new buildings are sited 150m. from the bank.

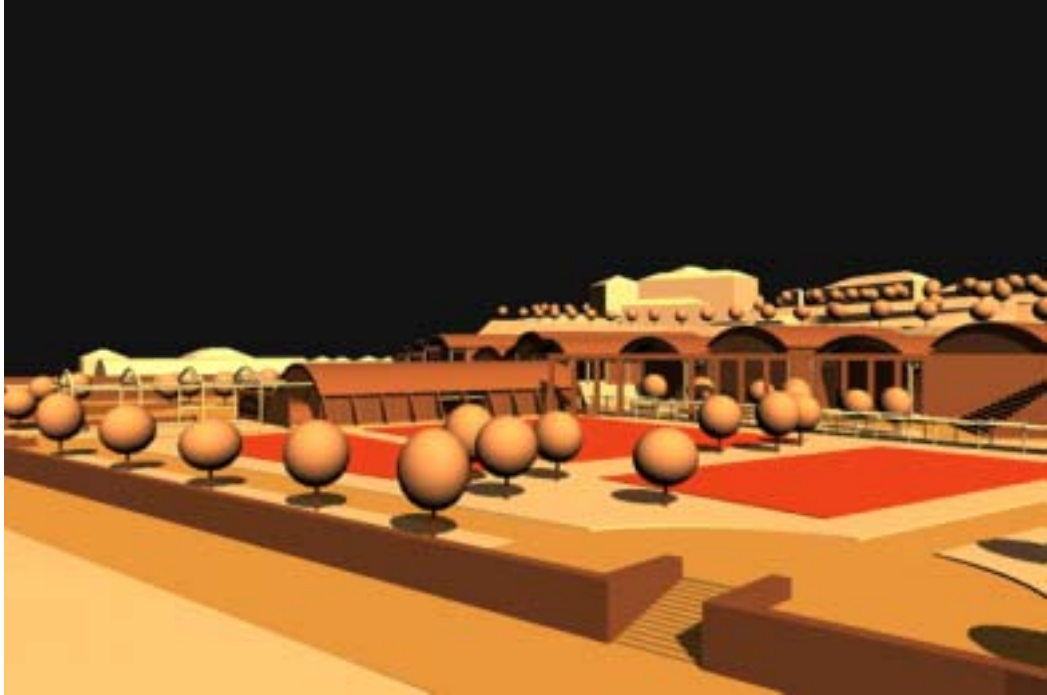


As well as the abovementioned buildings, the centre would also have an administration block, while the existing structures would be demolished apart from the treatment plant whose metal structure would be reused as the changing facilities for the outdoor activities.

The university sports centre would have an external visitors' car park with 140 places and an internal car park with 97 places reserved for employees and players. Visitors arriving at the centre would use a new road, linking the car park to the existing road descending to the old train station. These visitors could also make use of two flights of steps, situated between the two buildings, to access the sports centre from Via Porta Mondovi.

Other ramps would link the complex with cycling paths. Wheelchair access of the area would be assured by means of ramps with gradients of no more than 0.8% and level areas at a maximum distance of 10m apart.

The rail line section would be surfaced and covered by a pedestrian walkway, in corten steel, to link the visitors' car park to the various facilities, ensuring, moreover, a sheltered passage in case of bad weather.



Another important element of the project is the large steps alongside the bridge. It is 8m high and formed of 16 steps, which would act as seating for spectators for the outdoor events. From here, the various sports areas are clearly visible. The heart of the new area is the square in front of the former factory building. A number of poles are planted in the ground at a slight angle in memory of the former activity in this area. From the point of view of the style, the effect is to give the complex the air of an industrial building and utilise curved roofs, the design of the supporting structure and the materials used also have this intention.

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