

INFOLIO 40

RIVISTA DEL DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN ARCHITETTURA, ARTI E PIANIFICAZIONE
DELL'UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO - DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA

INNER AREAS

INFOLIO

RIVISTA DEL DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN ARCHITETTURA, ARTI E PIANIFICAZIONE

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Il borgo di Gangi, Luisa Lombardo



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**DOTTORATO DI RICERCA
IN ARCHITETTURA,
ARTI E PIANIFICAZIONE**
DIPARTIMENTO
DI ARCHITETTURA DI PALERMO

La Rivista

In folio è la rivista scientifica di Architettura, Design, Urbanistica, Storia e Tecnologia che dal 1994 viene pubblicata grazie all'impegno dei dottori e dei dottorandi di ricerca del Dipartimento di Architettura (D'ARCH) dell'Università di Palermo (UNIPA).

La rivista, che si propone come spazio di dialogo e di incontro rivolto soprattutto ai giovani ricercatori, è stata inserita dall'ANVUR all'interno dell'elenco delle riviste scientifiche dell'Area 08 con il codice ISSN 1828-2482. Ogni numero della rivista è organizzato in cinque sezioni di cui la prima è dedicata al tema selezionato dalla redazione della rivista, mentre le altre sezioni sono dedicate all'attività di ricerca in senso più ampio. Tutti i contributi della sezione tematica sono sottoposti a un processo di *double-blind peer review*.

Per questo numero il tema selezionato è:

"Inner Areas"

Inner areas, as defined in the Italy's National Strategy (SNAI), are part of the territory that plays a central role in the cultural and social fabric of our communities, are an essential component of our society, economy, and environment. However, they are still often neglected and overlooked, resulting in deterioration, abandonment, and social exclusion. For this reason, it is crucial that the fields of architecture, restoration and architectural history and urban and territorial planning are committed to revitalizing and enhancing inner areas. These disciplines have the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary to create sustainable and innovative solutions that can transform these territories into vibrant and liveable communities. Moreover, inner areas are an excellent laboratory for innovation in these disciplines. These areas provide a unique opportunity to experiment with new approaches and techniques that can then be applied to larger-scale urban and territorial planning projects. The challenges posed by inner areas require innovative thinking and creative solutions, making them an ideal testing ground for new ways. The papers presented in this special issue of *Infolio* are the result of the conference "Inner areas' cultural, architectural and landscape heritage: study, enhancement and fruition. Potential driver for sustainable territorial development?" held in July 2022 at the University of Palermo. The conference brought together experts in the fields of architecture, restoration, and urban planning to discuss the central role of inner areas in our society and the need for innovative and sustainable solutions to revitalize and preserve them, being sometimes critical and some other prepositive. The papers explore a range of topics, including the use of technology in restoration, the importance of architectural history in urban planning and the role of

community engagement in revitalization projects.

The reflections that emerged at the conference highlighted how inner areas are a crucial part of our territory and society, and their revitalization is essential for the well-being of our entire community and the preservation of our cultural heritage.

DOTTORATO IN ARCHITETTURA, ARTI E PIANIFICAZIONE (XXIX-XXXVII CICLO)

Coordinatore del Dottorato: Marco Rosario Nobile

Collegio dei docenti (XXXIV CICLO-XXXVI CICLO)

Indirizzo in Storia dell'Arte e dell'Architettura

Fabrizio Avella, Paola Barbera, Maria Sofia Di Fede, Francesco Di Paola, Emanuela Garofalo, Vincenza Garofalo, Laura Inzerillo, Francesco Maggio, Marco Rosario Nobile, Stefano Piazza, Renata Prescia, Fulvia Scaduto, Rosario Scaduto, Ettore Sessa, Domenica Sutura, Francesco Tomaselli, Gaspare Massimo Ventimiglia.

Indirizzo in Progettazione Architettonica, Teoria e Tecnologia

Tiziana Campisi, Simona Colajanni, Rossella Corrao, Giuseppe De Giovanni, Giuseppe Di Benedetto, Cinzia Ferrara, Maria Luisa Germanà, Santo Giunta, Manfredi Leone, Luciana Macaluso, Antonella Mami, Antonino Margagliotta, Emanuele Palazzotto, Silvia Pennisi, Dario Russo, Michele Sbacchi, Andrea Sciascia, Francesco Sottile, Cesare Sposito, Zeila Tesoriere, Gianfranco Tuzzolino, Calogero Vinci, Serena Viola, Rosa Maria Vitrano.

Indirizzo in Pianificazione Urbana, Territoriale e Paesaggistica

Giuseppe Abbate, Angela Alessandra Badami, Giulia Bonafede, Maurizio Carta, Teresa Cilona, Barbara Lino, Francesco Lo Piccolo, Grazia Napoli, Marco Picone, Daniele Ronsivalle, Valeria Scavone, Flavia Schiavo, Filippo Schilleci, Vincenzo Todaro, Ferdinando Trapani, Ignazio Vinci.

Docenti stranieri

Pablo Martí, Andrés Martínez Medina, Enrique Nieto, Manuel Alejandro Rodenas Lopez, Adrian Iancu, Ionut Julean, Virgil Pop, Cristina Purcar, Vlad Rusu, Dana Vais, Alex Deffner, Konstantinos Lalenis, Pantelis Skayannis, Alfonso Senatore.

Collegio dei docenti (XXXVII CICLO)

Indirizzo in Progettazione Architettonica

Antonio Biancucci, Giuseppe Di Benedetto, Santo Giunta, Manfredi Leone, Luciana Macaluso, Antonino Margagliotta, Giuseppe Marsala, Emanuele Palazzotto, Michele Sbacchi, Andrea Sciascia, Francesco Sottile, Gianfranco Tuzzolino.

Indirizzo in Rappresentazione, Restauro e Storia: studi sul patrimonio architettonico

Fabrizio Avella, Paola Barbera, Zaira Barone, Maria Sofia Di Fede, Francesco Di Paola, Emanuela Garofalo, Vincenza Garofalo, Francesco Maggio, Marco Rosario Nobile, Stefano Piazza, Renata Prescia, Fulvia Scaduto, Rosario Scaduto, Ettore Sessa, Domenica Sutura, Gaspare Massimo Ventimiglia.

Indirizzo in Studi Urbani e Pianificazione

Giuseppe Abbate, Angela Alessandra Badami, Maurizio Carta, Teresa Cilona, Chiara Giubilaro, Barbara Lino, Francesco Lo Piccolo, Grazia Napoli, Marco Picone, Daniele Ronsivalle, Valeria Scavone, Flavia Schiavo, Filippo Schilleci, Vincenzo Todaro, Ferdinando Trapani, Ignazio Vinci.

Indirizzo in Progettazione sostenibile dell'architettura e Design: Human centered

Emanuele Angelico, Tiziana Campisi, Anna Catania, Simona Colajanni, Rossella Corrao, Giuseppe De Giovanni, Cinzia Ferrara, Tiziana Firrone, Maria Luisa Germanà, Antonella Mami, Dario Russo, Cesare Sposito, Vita Maria Trapani, Calogero Vinci, Serena Viola, Rosa Maria Vitrano.

Docenti stranieri

Beatriz Blasco Esquivias, José Calvo Lopez, Javier Ybanes Fernandez, Vincenzina La Spina, Jorg Schroder, Jordi Bellmunt, Yolanda Gil Saura, Pablo Martí, Andrés Martínez Medina, Enrique Nieto, Manuel Alejandro Rodenas Lopez, Adrian Iancu, Ionut Julean, Virgil Pop, Cristina Purcar, Vlad Rusu, Dana Vais, Alex Deffner, Konstantinos Lalenis, Pantelis Skayannis, Alfonso Senatore.

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Inner areas' cultural, architectural and landscape heritage: study, enhancement and fruition.

Potential driver for sustainable territorial development?

Emanuela Garofalo, Filippo Schilleci

The problems generated by the processes of gradual abandonment of inner areas that have been triggered since the second half of the 20th century, for over ten years have been the subject of a wide-ranging scientific and multidisciplinary debate aimed at developing focused political and planning strategies.

At national level, it is enough to mention in 2013 the SNAI, Italian National Strategy for Inner Areas, and later specific actions activated by the Territorial Cohesion Agency, which aimed at the reactivation of areas defined as "remote", based on their distance from basic services, with the intention of mitigating territorial marginalization.

The focus given to the phenomenon and the potential opportunities and operations to be put in place to curb or even invert the depopulation of the inner areas has further increased in coincidence with the COVID-19 pandemic. The status of health emergency COVID-19 on the one hand, given the need to actuate social distancing and other assessments related to the rapid and inexorable spread of the virus in urban settings, has produced a disaffection for the "metropolis"; on the other hand, the proliferation of remote working and the use of online mode for meetings and conferences in a wide range of fields have produced a re-evaluation effect of human-scale man-made settings.

A relevant example in this direction is a renewed re-discovery of villages - initiated even before the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in some contexts, in an almost exclusively touristic key - which has thus encountered a qualitative as well as quantitative revival. However, when mentioning inner areas, the reference is not only to villages, nor only to areas which are far from the coastline. Because of precisely their own definition, when speaking of inner areas, the reference is to all those urban centers falling in areas that are marginal with respect to the major territorial infrastructures or in

a disadvantaged location with reference to the services available for the population and by the vulnerable economies, as stated by SNAI.

In the wake of the concept defined by the Italian National Strategy for Inner Areas, as well as the above considerations, what strategies can be adopted to encourage a new interest in the centers of inner areas? Which ones to support and increase a trend toward their rehabilitation and repopulation? Can the study and enhancement of cultural, architectural and landscape assets offer an answer to design a fruition capable of generating sustainable development?

The PhD program in Architecture, Arts and Planning has long been wondering about this issue both through the research conducted by PhD students and participating in national and international scientific debate through the organization of specific seminars on the topic. Recently, thanks to some funding granted by the University of Palermo in the framework of the CoRI (Commission on International Relations) 2021 program, within the training activities of the PhD program, Study Days have been organized in which researchers and PhD students, as well as graduate and postgraduate students, have discussed some concrete experiences. The Seminar, with its international and interdisciplinary dimension, was attended both by Professors of the above-mentioned PhD board, who have long been particularly involved in the study of Sicilian inner areas from different disciplinary points of view and by four Professors from foreign Universities whose presentations of best practices in an international perspective have provided important contributions to the debate. Foreign researchers involved in the seminar were Professor Sandrine Françoise Victor and Professor Ygal Fijalkowr, from Institut National Universitaire Champollion - Albi, who presented the case of *Albi, son quartier épiscopal, et l'effet Unesco*;

Professor Pablo Martí Ciriqian, from Universidad de Alicante, who reflected with the participants on *El papel del patrimonio cultural y la infraestructura verde como revitalizadores del territorio y la ciudad* reporting some case studies; Professor Montserrat Bosch González, from Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, with a communication entitled *Appropriate construction techniques for the reconstruction of housing after a seismic disaster in a rural and heritage context. Case study Colca Valley, Peru*; Professor Pablo Manuel Millán, Universidad de Sevilla, who debated on *Spaces and Project in the historical city centers*.

This issue of the Infolio journal continues and develops the reasoning initiated at the seminar by collecting the contributions, in forms that are sometimes extended and developed in depth from what was presented and that take into account the reflections that have arisen in the discussions. All the contributions focused mainly on cases of contexts with vulnerable economies, where the enhancement of cultural heritage constitutes a strong economic potential for development. The focus on such areas, which are often marginal to the more usual circuits of fruition, is also due to the often very high concentration of cultural assets in a very wide sense. The key principle for the enhancement of these assets is to be found in the systemic and strategic vision as well as in the networking of resources, which can enhance their economic and use potential while bypassing the fragility of the single episode.

The topics addressed in the seminar presented the conclusive or partial outcomes of research conducted according to a wide range of targeted actions. These actions range from surveys on the consistency and

qualities of cultural heritage in the examined areas to the study of best practices in the management of cultural heritage; from design scenarios for maintenance, conservation and integration, including those aimed at accessibility, to the study of compatible, low environmental impact and short supply chain materials and intervention techniques.

Linking the considerations proposed by the foreign professors with principles and objectives of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), the emerging themes of innovation and green were the subject of specific attention within the programmed interventions charged to the professors of the Board of the PhD in Architecture, Arts and Planning. According to different disciplinary points of view, the professors interpreted the two themes by declining, through specific case studies, the issues of repopulation and enhancement of inner areas, launching a fruitful and interesting debate that involved all those who attended.

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Fig. 1. A moment of the seminar



Opening Image: Sclafani Bagni in the Madonie inner area, Sicily (photo by the author, 2021).



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IN QUESTO NUMERO:

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Rethinking inner areas.

A multidisciplinary approach to the revival of the territories.

Luisa Lombardo

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Case study Colca Valley, Peru

Montserrat Bosch González

Spaces and Project in the historical city centers

Pablo Manuel Millán

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The contribution of involuntary participation through social media to sustainable development

Pablo Martí Ciriquian

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Federica Fernandez a Montserrat Bosch González

Emanuela Garofalo a Sandrine Françoise Victor

Renata Prescia a Pablo Manuel Millán

Modesta Di Paola a Pablo Manuel Millán

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Planning for the UNESCO WHL sites

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Federica Fernandez, Emanuela Garofalo Emanuela Garofalo

a Tiziana Campisi

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE & DESIGN

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Renata Prescia

Renaissance Itineraries between Nebrodi and Peloritani:

Architectural Heritage, History and Technology

Emanuela Garofalo, Armando Antista

Against Landscaping

Michele Sbacchi

Favignan Quarry Island

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Erica La Placa a Renata Prescia

Alejandro Gana a Giuseppe Marsala

Postfazione

Inner Areas between theories and practices.

An ongoing laboratory.

Gloria Lisi