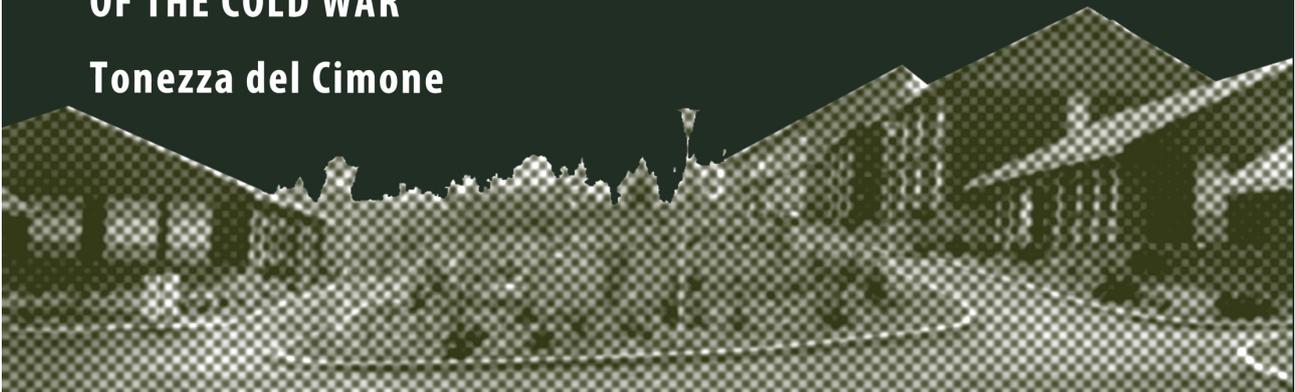


# 23rd June - 15th September 2023 INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL WORKSHOP DESIGNING SOIL AND SUBSOIL SPACES IN ARCHITECTURE ANALYSIS AND ENHANCEMENT OF DISUSED MILITARY SITES OF THE COLD WAR

## Tonezza del Cimone



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con il patrocinio di:





23 June  
3 July  
4-8 & 15 September 2023

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL  
WORKSHOP  
DESIGNING SOIL  
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Guardiano Silenzioso

Olivia Longo  
PRESENTATION



## PROJECT TOPICS

Starting from the verification of existing military cartography, the topics addressed will be:

- the question of landscape design.
- the issue of the accesses to the site.
- the re-use of the military spaces.
- the design of micro-architectures to support the planning programme.
- the design of visit itineraries with multi-sensory educational supports (also addressed to the blind people).

The military site will have as new destinations of use:

- Cold War museum.
- drone school.
- holiday homes.
- spaces for exhibitions.

## **EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

Structured as a hypothetical ideas' competition, workshop arranged with our mentors will provide the opportunity for students to discuss and produce their visions and imagine new scenarios.

The International Summer School will develop in three steps:

1. Two virtual lectures on 23 June and 3 July.
2. Workshop: face-to-face on 4-8 September
3. Virtual presentation of the projects on 15 September.

At the end of the ISS, the work done by students and graduates will be evaluated.

The final examination will consist in the description of the design process that led to the development of the architectural and landscape design, both relative to the reuse of existing spaces and to the drafting of new architectures to be combined with the pre-existing buildings, in order to accommodate the accessibility functions.

The projects will be described through posters with a predetermined format provided by the teachers.

Projects must also be described through a report of maximum five A4 pages, possibly accompanied by photos and/or drawings about state of art and of the project.

At the end of the course, the participants will receive an attendance certificate signed by the Scientific Responsibles and group coordinators.

The certificate for the advanced/refresher course will be achieved after the attendance of at least 70% of the classes.



## OBJECTIVES

This ISS is an advanced and refresher course and, consequently, it aims at providing the opportunity to gain professional experience, including scientific knowledge and empirical research on the themes of the course. In particular the aims are:

- to provide methodological and empirical tools related to architectural and landscape design, to survey and reuse recently abandoned buildings of cultural value, witnesses and bearers of an unstable and unconsolidated historical memory.
- to manage the planning strategies regarding the building heritage both at the architectural and urban scales, enriching the figure of the technical designer with historical and socio-economic humanistic skills, with reference to the relationship between intervention on the building and effects on the local economy.
- to encourage the exchange between participants both in cultural terms and in terms of personal experience and knowledge.
- to activate an interdisciplinary contamination both from a theoretical and methodological point of view also among teachers coming from different backgrounds and research institutions.

The reuse of disused military sites of the Cold War is a virtuous opportunity to understand the complexity that characterizes the contemporary urban landscape, both from a territorial and architectural point of view.

What are the possible readings of the contexts? What are the possible requalification proposals? What are the methods of intervention both on preexisting buildings and through new architectural hypotheses?

The ISS refers to the research carried out at DICATAM over a period of about ten years on the theme of giving new life to the abandoned military sites.

The initiative is the natural continuation of seminars and workshops realised in collaboration with Professors from other Italian and foreign universities (The University of Jordan, Curtin University Australia, Università della Svizzera italiana, Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena, IE University, Università degli Studi di Trento, Politecnico di Milano, Università IUAV di Venezia, Syracuse University in Florence).

The common denominator between academic figures and different experiences originates in the idea of a “weak and widespread” architecture (Branzi), where the “weak” concept indicates a creative act based on the knowledge and modification of natural and reversible processes, so that new design forms can be tested in order to take into account the continuous transformations of the territory, imagining an architecture that is not absolute but made up of open systems that are able to adapt to the evolving needs of the local community.

These landscape and architectural interventions work like flexible filters, that work on the empty / full relationship.

In particular this course aims at creating inclusive synergies between the spaces of the military sites and the highly anthropized naturalistic external areas.

Different disciplines are therefore involved, from territorial analysis to architectural and urban design, conservation and reuse of architectural spaces and landscape.

The question of accessibility to cultural heritage is at the forefront, as is the issue of managing future user flows.

The ISS wants to offer a didactic and research opportunity where experts from different disciplines can discuss these issues through seminars, lectures and laboratory activities.

The in-depth work on a real case study requires an interdisciplinary practice typical of the design and research activities of an engineering and architecture firm.



Davide Sigurtà  
THE MILITARY SITE

## TONEZZA DEL CIMONE

Before talking about the former military base of the Tonezza del Cimone Air Force, it is useful to make a brief preamble on the nearby Tuono base, of which ours represented the logistics area.

“Base Tuono” was part of NATO’s integrated defensive system which had deployed ballistic missiles in twelve Italian locations, all in the North East.

Overall, 106 bases were set up throughout Europe, from Norway to Turkey.

The base was built on the Folgaria plateau and there were never any nuclear warheads because, given the abundant winter snowfalls, it would have been difficult to evacuate them quickly in the event of the approach of the Warsaw Pact armies. However, the Nike-Hercules missiles, equipped with conventional armament, could have destroyed an entire formation of bombers from Eastern countries.

The dismantling of “Base Tuono” was started in August 1977, after the Helsinki agreements for the reduction of arsenals and for disarmament signed between the two Superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

From this date the two localities have taken different paths, the first becoming a museum, after decades of abandonment, and the second becoming an important vacation center for aeronautics. Commissioned by the five-time Prime Minister Mariano Rumor who used to come for summer holidays in Tonezza del Cimone, the Logistics Area of the NATO Base at Passo Coe - Monte Toraro was located in Contrà Pettinà and was 18 km away from the Launch Area and 10 km from the Control Area.

After the closure of “Base Tuono”, in 1977, the Tonezza structures were maintained by the Air Force with the function of a location used for mountain survival courses and a place of rest, vacation and relaxation for the personnel of the same Air Force.

Since 2009 the complex has ceased all activities and since January 2011 the Ministry of Defense has decreed the inclusion of the buildings in the available state assets and it has been sold for civilian use.

The site is located on the edge of the inhabited center of the town but is easily connected to the services thanks to being located on the main road network.

From the entrance, the grounds develop on the mountain ridge and are inserted in a natural environment with a prevalently wooded character.

The strong naturalness of the surroundings is also found inside the base where there is a very wide tree-lined avenue overlooked by all the main buildings.

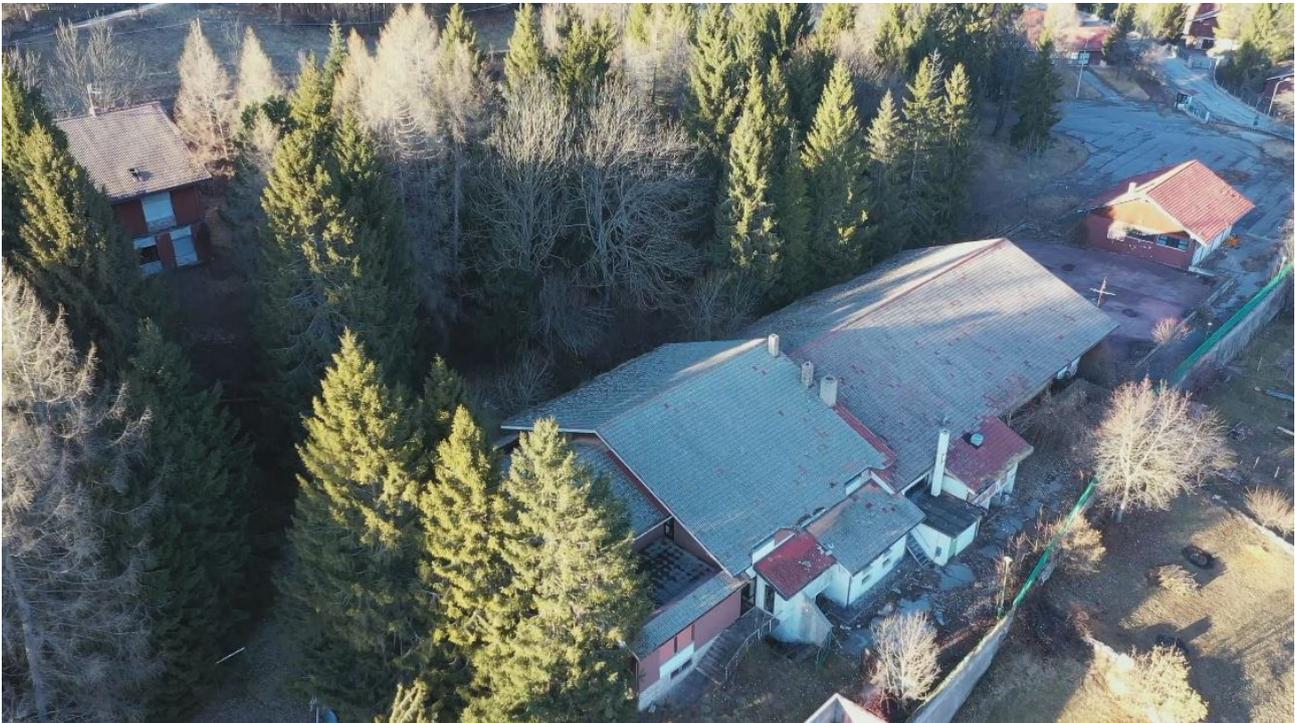
The base is made up of buildings whose function is well indicated in the attached maps; these have heterogeneous architectural characteristics:

we find well-made buildings with particular attention to detail alongside prefabricated “shacks”.

The general state of conservation is quite satisfactory with the exception, negatively, of the last buildings which have a collapsed part which, positively, is opposed by the buildings at the entrance which are in excellent condition.

Interesting is the helicopter landing area which is detached from the base on the top of the mountain behind it from which you can enjoy a beautiful view of the town and the whole valley.

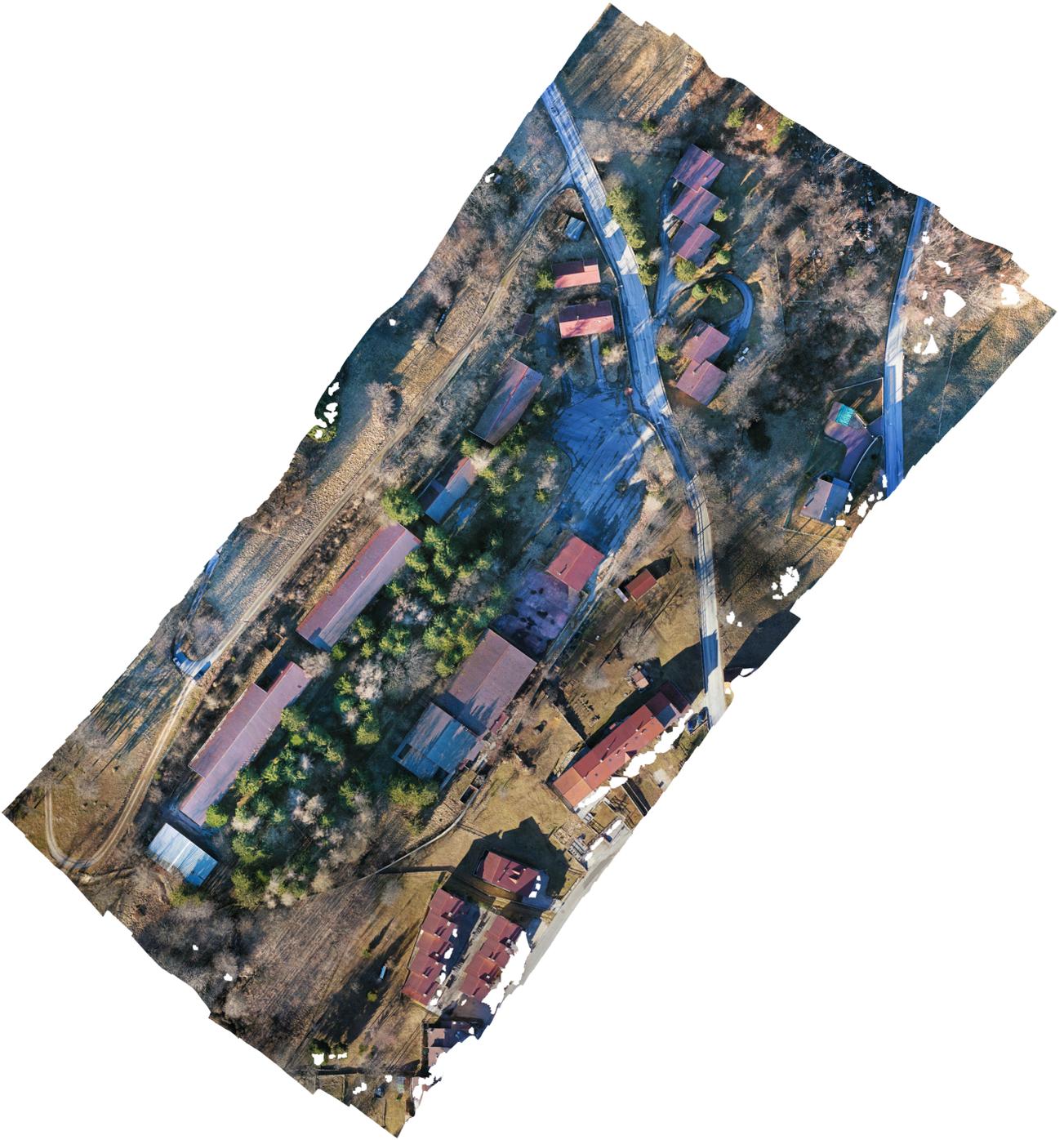












## **PROGRAMME**

### Types of intervention

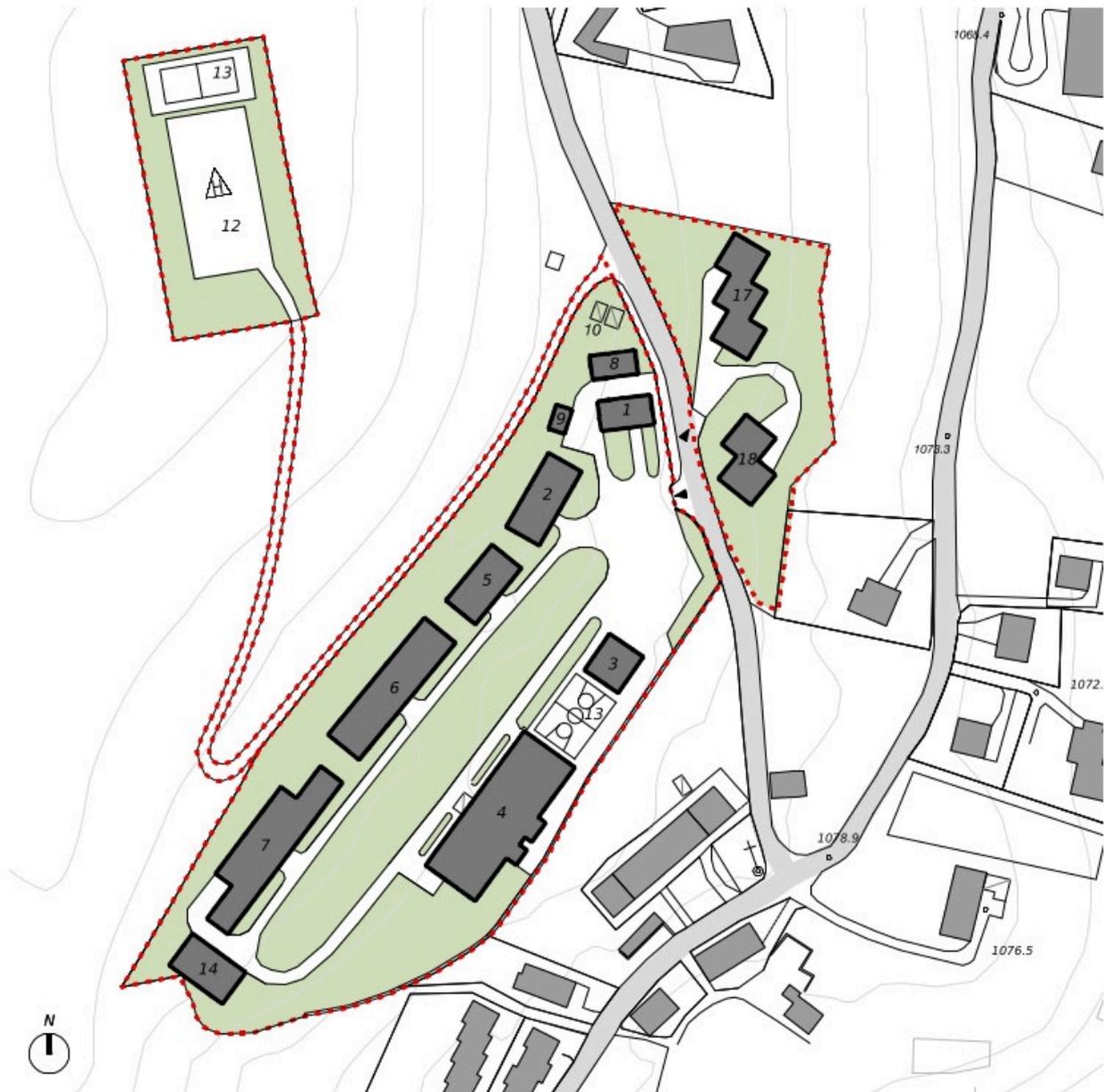
- Preservation of the existing.
- Modification of the internal distribution.
- Moving the horizontals.
- Construction of new buildings in the free spaces.
- Changing the colors of the buildings and adding new elements in support.

### Mandatory programmes

- Restaurant with bar (about 150-200 seats).
- Rest rooms for restaurants (minimum 1 for men, women and disabled people).
- Changing room for restaurant (10-15 employees).
- Kitchen.
- Deposit for the exclusive use of the restaurant.
- Museum space (about 200 square meters).
- Museum toilets (minimum 1 for men, women and disabled people).
- Deposit for the exclusive use of the museum.
- Toilets open to the public outside and connected to the winter bivouac with shower (minimum 2 man and woman and 1 disabled person and 4 showers).
- Drone school.
- Temporary residences.
- Runway for drone take-off.
- Garage for emergency vehicles and road maintenance.
- Technical room for black water management, aqueduct and heating.
- Enhancement without modification of the satellite dishes.
- Full energy autonomy of the complex.
- Use of ecological building materials.

### Optional programmes

- Infopoint with bathroom and storage (max 100 sqm).
- Guardian apartment (max 70-80 sqm).
- Complex management offices with bathrooms (max 3 offices for 20 square meters each).
- Rental of equipment for winter and summer excursions (max 50 m2).
- Local products for sale with refrigerated storage (max 70 sqm).
- Local products tasting room (max 70 sqm).
- Conference room (max 100 seats).
- Meeting rooms for associations (max 3 for 20 m2 each).
- Study center on the mountain (max 200 m2).
- Landscape observers (bird watching etc.).
- Workshop for small repairs of bicycles and small electric vehicles (max 50 sqm).
- Charging columns for bikes, electric vehicles and drones.
- Photovoltaic and thermal systems.
- Dry assembly techniques.
- Enhancement of visual links with historical, landscape and Cold War sites.



FUNCTIONS	Covered surface (m <sup>2</sup> )	Plans	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )
1 - Gatehouse	150	1	500
2 - Command	320	1	1200
3 - Survival training	160	1	650
4 - Canteen and clubs - Kitchens	1082	2	6500
5 - Officers's quarters	260	+basement 1	1000
6 - sub-officers's quarters	725	2	5100
7 - Airman's quarters	760	2	5300
8 - Thermal power plant	135	1	550
9 - Ski and items shelters	50	1	150
10 - Water supply	-	-	-
11 - Basketball court	-	-	-
12 - Heliport	-	-	-
13 - Tennis court	-	-	-
14 - Motor pool	300	1	1800
15 - Officers's quarters - command	520	2	3100
16 - Officers' villas	350	2	2000
<b>TOT</b>			<b>27850</b>

## **DOWNLOAD FILES**

Read the material usage information in this file before starting and download the working documentation (*click the title to open the link to the respective folders*):

### **- Instructions**

### **- Descriptions and presentations site**

- Presentation and objectives
- Site description

### **- Photography**

- Aerial Photos
- Current photographs
- Historical Photographs
- Photographs and functions

### **- Site plans**

- Master plans
- Plans and sections
- Site data planimetric
- Officer villas plan

### **- Redevelopment Preliminary Project**

- Proposals 1st
- Proposals 2nd









