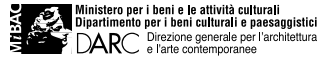


Area 263,76 km²

Resident population
52.318 inhabitants



TITLE OF THE PILOT ACTION

Proposal for the recovery of landscape of the emergency post earthquake areas in Umbria.

Institutional coordination: Erminia Sciacchitano

Responsible: Paola Eugenia Falini

Workgroup: Monica Sgandurra (coordinator), Antonino Terranova, Marco Antonini, Sabrina Cantalini, Roberto Capecci, Adriana Feo, Simone Quilici, Raffaella Sini, Fabrizio Toppetti

Text edited by work group

Translation by Marco Antonini - Agenzia A.I.T. S.a.s.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Formulation of guidelines for rehabilitating and reintegrating landscape for areas used by the Civil Protection for emergency post earthquake.

TERRITORIAL AGENCIES AND LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali:

- Direzione regionale per i beni culturali e paesaggistici dell'Umbria,

- Soprintendenza per i beni architettonici, per il paesaggio e per il patrimonio storico, artistico ed etnoantropologico dell'Umbria,

- Soprintendenza per i beni archeologici.

Regione Umbria

Provincia di Perugia

Comune di Foligno

Protezione Civile

MBAC ITALY - DARC - Municipality of Foligno

1. METHODOLOGY AND ANALYSIS OF ISSUES

The pilot project relates to three of the 41 areas in the municipality of Foligno that have been equipped with temporary accommodation following the 1997 earthquakes. These areas, that were made necessary by the emergency situation, have a very critical impact which has been heightened by the gradual replacement of the original containers by prefabricated wooden structures.

The specific issue that this raises, within the guidelines underlying the whole project, is how to transform the present precarious and degraded situation into an opportunity to give the place new roles and new meanings. The objectives of this programme not only relate to reintegrating the area into its environment in terms of landscape and the original settlement, but also to defining design solutions that can be used in other areas where there are temporary dwellings in Foligno, and in similar situations marked by their temporary, reversible and flexible character.

There are two main objectives that mark out this pilot action:

- defining a rehabilitation project, designed to re-establish relations with the features of the environmental landscape identity and with the benchmark towns (the smaller hamlets) and defining a plan which is capable of permitting flexible use in relation to the "expectations" both of the temporarily settled inhabitants in the study area, and those living in the town itself;

- identifying, in the light of the experience gained with the project, criteria, policies and guidelines for designing and building emergency areas that are ap-



Areas of the Civil Protection of the pilot project: top San Giovanni Profiamma, Casenove, Pisenti.

appropriately and properly incorporated into the existing landscape;

- mitigating and offsetting the existing impacts and those that are predicted in relation to the areas already present in the municipal boundaries of Foligno;

- “specialising” and giving new meanings to these areas according to the definition of a series of possible new uses that are not alternatives to those already planned;

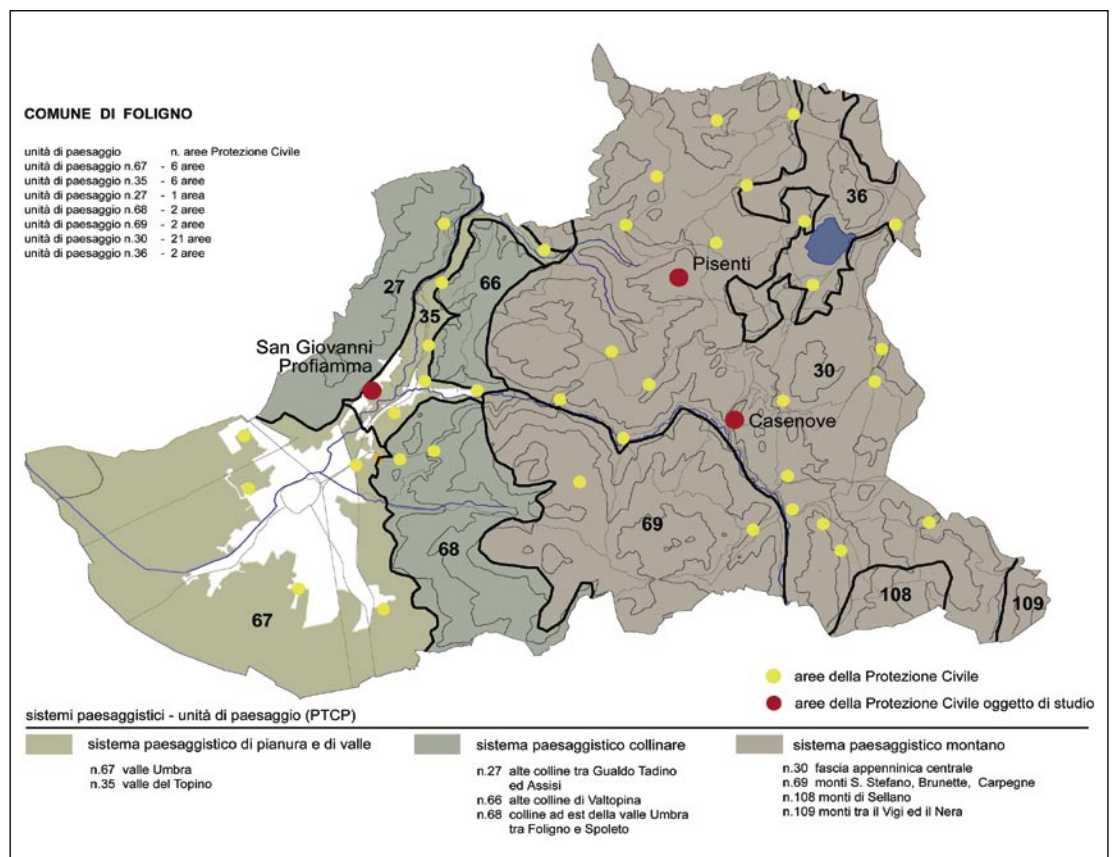
- in more general terms, designing and creating different types of areas which will, as already indicated, have the features of being temporary, reversible and flexible.

This reasoned panorama of possible design approaches has been built up through individual case studies, with an iterative scheme (three pilot projects - San Giovanni Profiamma, Casenove, Pistenti - chosen from among the 41 sites identified by the Civil Pro-

tection department within the municipal territory) in order to identify issues and problems that can also be applied in general terms to other sites in terms of the specific features of this case.

The present situation in all three cases has made it necessary to work simultaneously on three scales: the territorial or contextual scale (the landscapes of 41 Civil Protection sites in the territory of the municipality of Foligno), the area of attention (that is to say, the benchmark environment in which the operation will take place) and that of intervention (corresponding to the area intended for Civil Protection, which represents the object of the pilot project). It has led to the identification of solutions to address specific critical environmental situations in the light of an analytic and interpretative process, and to the reintegration of the areas into their own context.

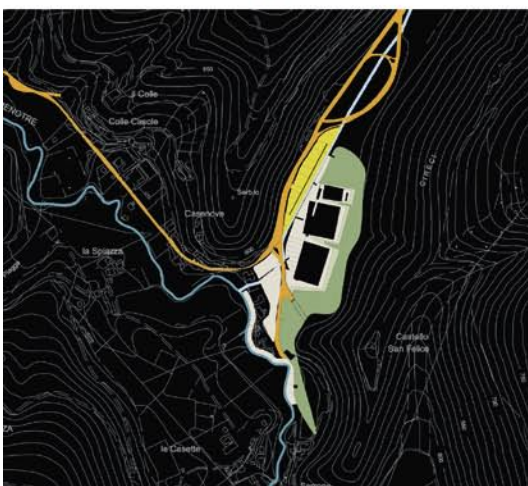
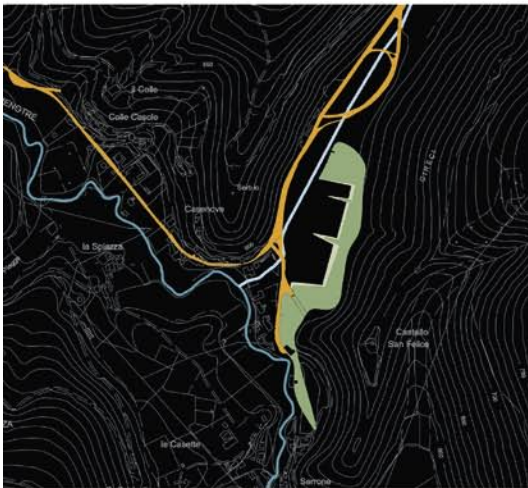
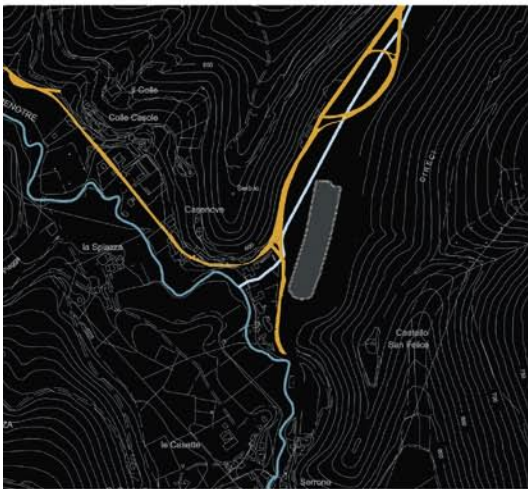
Starting with the existing situations on a small scale



Municipality of Foligno - the 41 Civil Protection areas.

Casenove - area of the Civil Protection.





in the three sites defined by the civil protection department, we identified a number of environmental reintegration and rehabilitation plans. These plans have been identified on the basis of the particular conditions of the three civil protection sites, using criteria based on the maximum level of abstraction and elements, making them replicable in individual circumstances. By continuing this exploratory work it will be possible to extend the principles for interpreting and acting in other, wider, territorial environments, and to undertake further checks and studies. However it should be stressed that the study has emphasised the highly transformed character of these places, and therefore shows the importance of taking on board this specific character of the artificial nature of the settlement and recognises it to be a feature of all the 41 operations, even though each of them will naturally be designed individually according to the settlement principles of each of the sites concerned.

Casenove - left: project - topography, hydrography and infrastructure, vegetation and ground modelling.

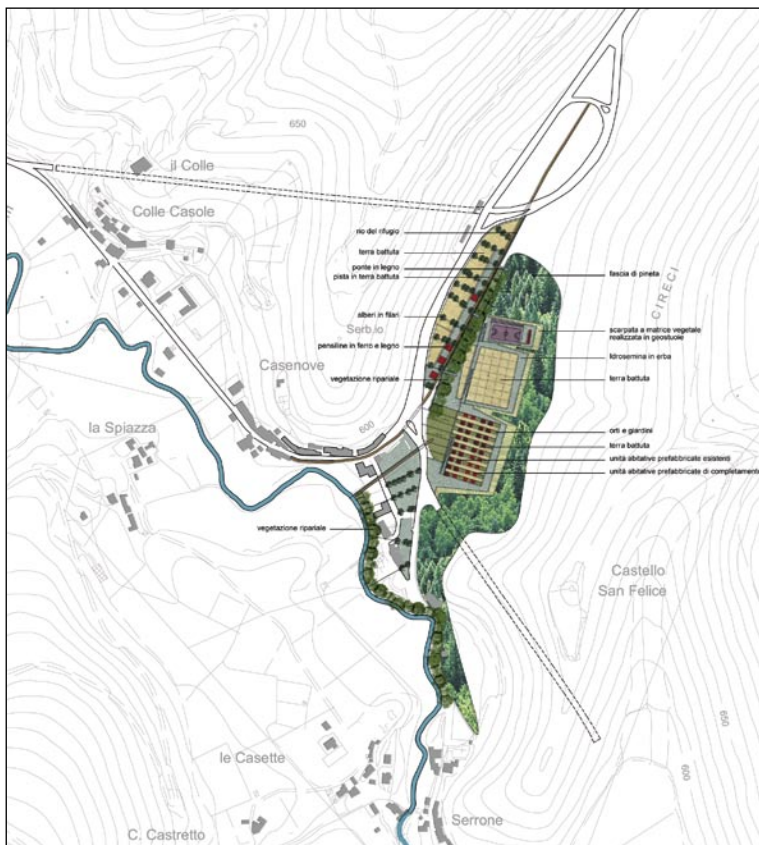
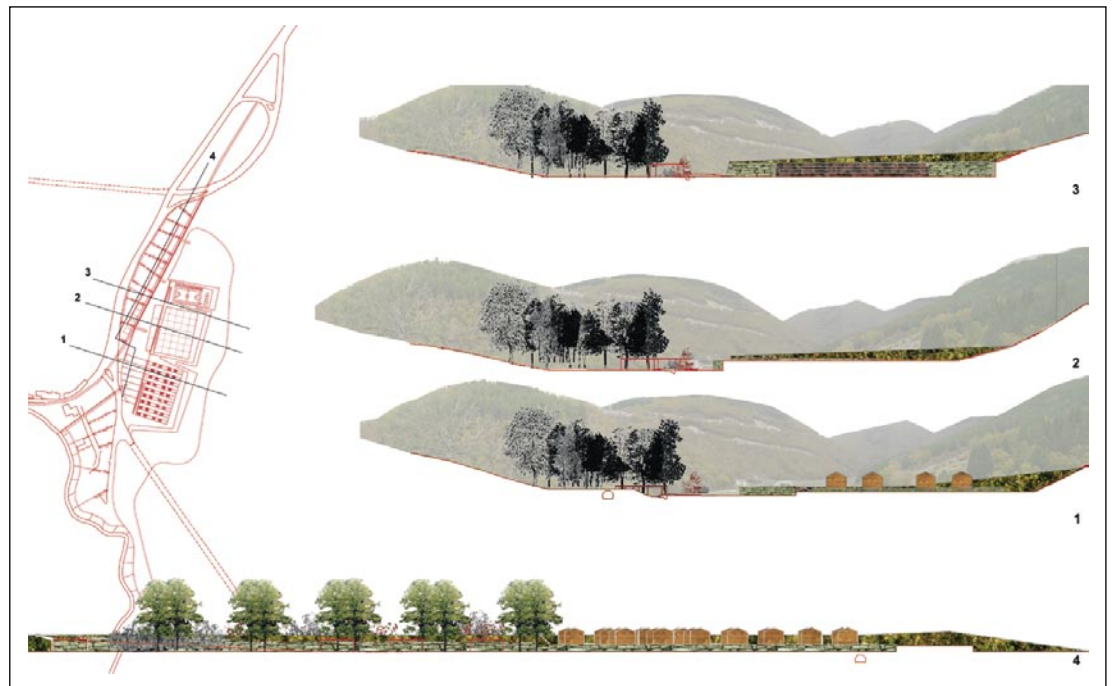
*top:
Casenove - View of the project.*

2. CHARACTERISATION, QUALIFICATION, EVOLUTIONARY TRENDS AND INTERPRETATIVE SYNTHESIS

Casenove

This area is at the bottom of the valley, at an altitude of about 570 m above sea level, in a "restricted" landscape, hemmed in by the system of natural headlands that create an area close to the hamlet of Casenove. The field, and with it part of the flat territory connected to it, is a kind of enclave bordered to the southeast by the State Road 79 which forms the morphological and functional margin (the southern margin is bounded by a tunnel forming part of the bypass around the town of Serrone on the same main road and is currently being completed) while to the east it is morphologically defined by joining the wooded hill system, to the north it is "closed off" as far as visual perception is concerned by the viaduct over the Val de Chienti State Road 319 which straddles the feeder road leading to the State Road 79.

Casenove - sections.

Casenove - project -
general plan.

Casenove, the town which gives the area its name, is built along the original road, and even though it is only a short distance away, it is actually far from the area both in terms of the infrastructure system and the particular geomorphological shape of the settlement site, which has been very strongly marked by the hill called "La Torre" which separates the two areas, creating a Y-shaped valley system. To the south, running along the SS 79, which is scheduled to be downgraded with the opening of the aforementioned tunnel, is the town of Serrone, which is also perceived as being quite distant, and provides yet another op-

portunity, and is a potential catchment area for this zone.

The Foligno PRG considers this to be a "civil protection emergency area" (A/EPC zone). In environmental terms the area is classified as part of an "agricultural, mountainous and highland landscape of valleys and grazing lands" (zone ECM/A) and a "wooded mountainous and highland landscape of valleys and grazing lands" (zone E/B). This area is not subject to any statutory constraints in terms of the landscape, and there are no protected natural parks. The pilot action forms part of the framework of the post-earthquake rehabilitation operations, and for this area the PIR (Recovery Operations Plans) are currently being completed to deal with the consolidated centres of Casenove and Serrone.

The large rectangular gravel-covered square running parallel to the road over 21,500 square metres is built on three terraces at 2 m intervals running northwards. The lower terrace is occupied by 24 timber-built homes which are currently occupied, and a number of modules for various public services: the rest is free, and derelict. Our proposal relates to the homogeneous zone of the field which the PRG has allocated to civil protection and a contiguous area covering an overall 65,000 square metres, bounded by existing elements: the road to the west, the viaduct to the north, the 600 m contour to the east, and the newly built tunnel to the south.

Within the area one senses a state of "isolation" which is one of the powerful features of the place. The need for a morphological and functional linkage with nearby towns is one of the priorities of this project. It will be pursued by maintaining the dominant sense of isolation.

The field cuts right through the system of the green and wooded areas which remain essentially in their natural state; it is easily recognisable, and is perceived as a "huge void".

Pisenti

The context of the civil protection area forming the focus of the pilot action is in the Apennines, with a high and hilly landscape characterised by woodlands and rangelands, together with small rural towns which in the past constituted the spatial and economic organisation of the territory, but which today is suffering from the gradual and general abandonment of traditional agricultural techniques and grazing which generated the landscape, and whose socio-economic structure is now altering the recognisable features of the territory in terms both of the settlement systems and the natural complexes.

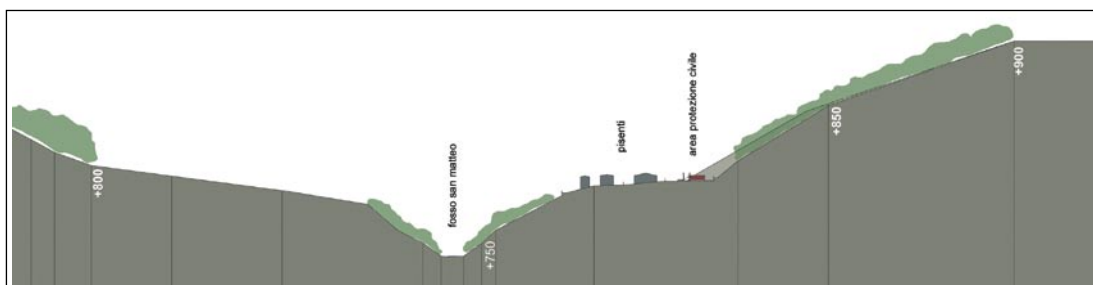
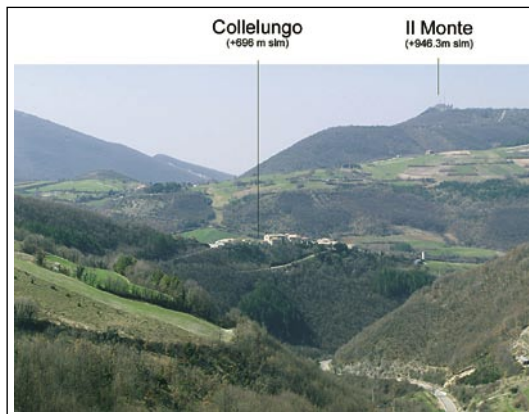
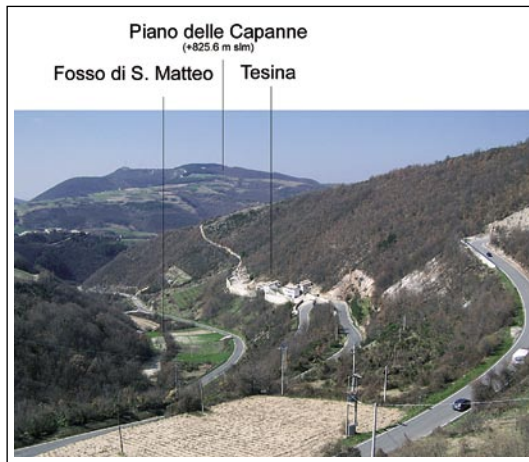
There are many complex reasons for this, not least the earthquakes and the ongoing changes taking place in the rural centres in places where previous residents only return home on holiday, so that the countryside is only "lived in" at weekends or for a few months during the year.

Pisenti, a hamlet belonging to the municipality of Folligno, which stands on the hillside to the north of Monte Gentile at an attitude of some 785 m above sea level, is a small rural nucleus, probably of mediaeval origin, halfway up the hillside, overlooking part of the narrow valley which links the town to Cadocacqua.

The village was seriously damaged by the most recent earthquake, and about 80% of its buildings have been destroyed, wiping out the small historic centre, where the few residents had the focus of their social life.

Before the last earthquake, the buildings in the village were mostly made up of a few houses with fewer than 20 households, and a number of agricultural buildings, stables and barns, which were used by the few residents that still worked in agriculture and livestock farming.

In the emergency situation, the civil protection department decided to use the area that had previously been occupied by quarrying activities as a temporary accommodation area for the displaced people from Pisenti. This is linked to the village on the other side of

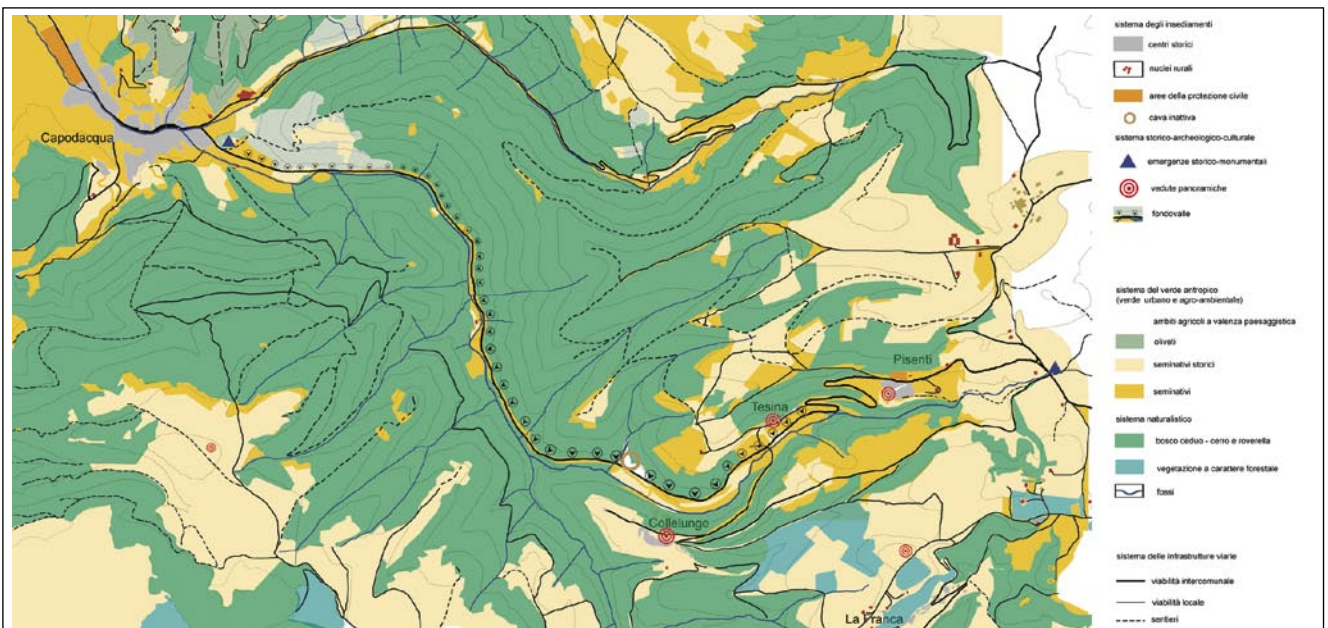
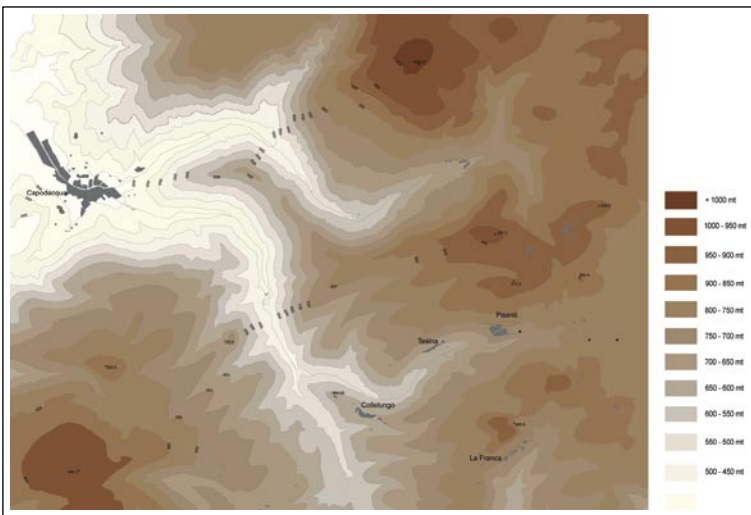
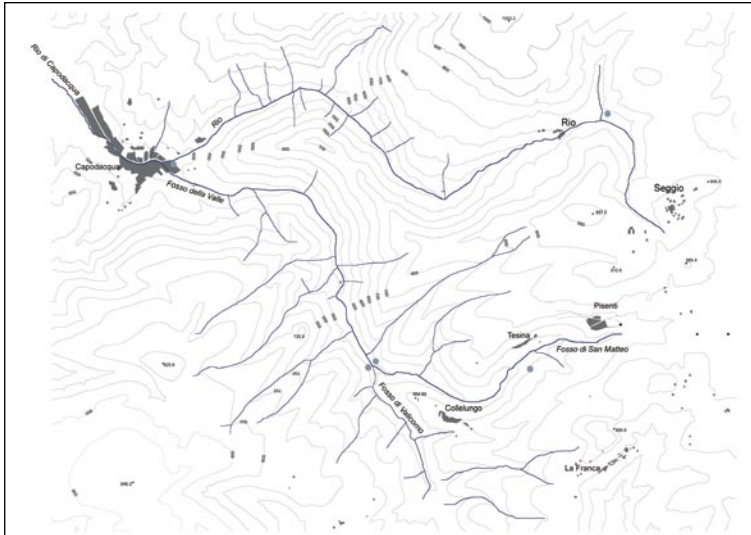


Pisenti - Village, panoramic views, area of Civil Protection, section of the area in the present state.



the provincial highway which links the plateau of Ricciano to Capodacqua further down the valley. At the present time, under the PIR (Rehabilitation Plan) which is currently being completed, the village has been rebuilt, and the terracing on which Pistenti stands has been consolidated, and the civil protection area is no longer occupied by containers but

Top:
Pisenti - hydrography,
altimetry
Resources plan.



by wooden prefabricated buildings, but has now been partially abandoned. The particularly broad front of the former quarry, which forms a kind of background to the village, is not only a physical gash in the landscape, but also in terms of people's perceptions, which further enhances the sense of degradation of the places and heightens the sense of the overall physical abandonment of the area.

Until today, the only place where the local people could meet was the Church, which used to stand in the lower part of the village, but has not been rebuilt. The lack of outdoor public areas that are properly equipped, with car parks, also raises the more general problem of "sewing up" the built-up area with the external space and its landscape.

The questions that are generally raised regarding this territory are not dissimilar to those emerging in similar situations in Umbria, which essentially are set out in the strategies of the Provincial Coordination Territorial Plan (PTCP).

The problems and the strategies that have to be implemented relate to:

- supporting the levels of personal services, to strengthen the presence of the resident population;
- recovering the historical settlement fabric by introducing services for cultural, nature and sports tourism;
- protecting the characteristics of the historical landscape by protecting and developing typical agricultural products;
- promoting forms of residential rural tourism with a wider use of the environmental resources.

San Giovanni Profiamma

The study area is located on a vast, low valley, inside an agricultural landscape mixed with residential areas. The case study and surrounding areas are part of the river valley landscape. The valley is crossed by many irrigation canals, historically linked to the activity of a number of mills located in the area.

The human settlement is placed along the main roads, in particular along the ancient via Flaminia, to which the origin of San Giovanni Profiamma is linked: the ancient Forum Flaminii of the roman times. Vesca is located at the beginning of the historical route leading to the Marches region. The town centres were originally connected by a certain number of roads crossing the Topino river. Today those roads still partially exist, as both the analysis and survey point out, although some of the bridges crossing the river have disappeared.

Presently in the project area, that has been transformed from agricultural use to a vast artificial land, two containers are used by the local elderly people's Association. Two 'boule' playing fields and other self-built structures show the use by residents of the nearby centres.

From a recent survey conducted for the landscape plan within Foligno's masterplan, issues concerning the Topino river have emerged. In particular the children's workshop pointed out the desire for water, nature and meeting-points, whereas the citizens' answers to the questionnaire stressed the need for environmental, recreational and cultural values.

Potential quality reduction elements for the area are the planned infrastructures, e.g. the new railway tracks and the high number of new urbanised areas foreseen in the city's masterplan. Potential elements of coherence between the project and the context of the area are the proposed enhancement of the green corridors and of the continuity of the historic agricultural pattern.

The general aim is landscape rehabilitation as a territorial and local resource for an area used in the post-earthquake emergency. Specific aims are: access to the Topino river park, enhancement of local services, node of cycle-pedestrian tourist routes.

3. THE OUTCOME OF EXPERIMENTS: GUIDELINES FOR PROJECTS TO REHABILITATE CIVIL PROTECTION AREAS

The experience acquired by designing pilot cases has made it possible to draw up design criteria and policies to build up guidelines designed for the following:

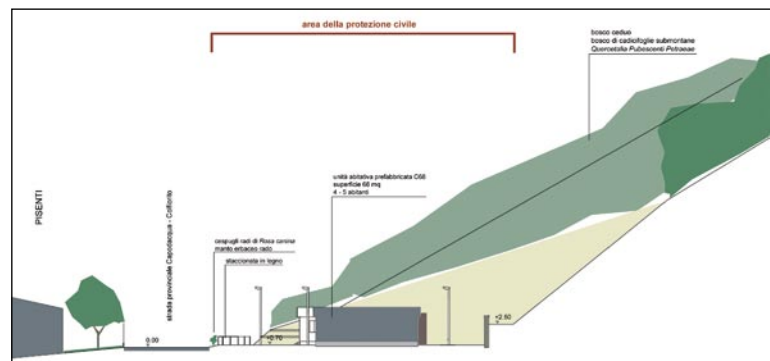
- the reorganisation, re-signification and incorporation of the existing civil protection areas into the Foligno municipal territory by introducing "other" non-alternative uses to those of the earthquake emergency;
- the mitigation of existing and/or potential impacts on existing areas and a series of rules for the proper environmental incorporation in emblematic cases;
- designing spaces characterised by elements that can be replicated elsewhere.

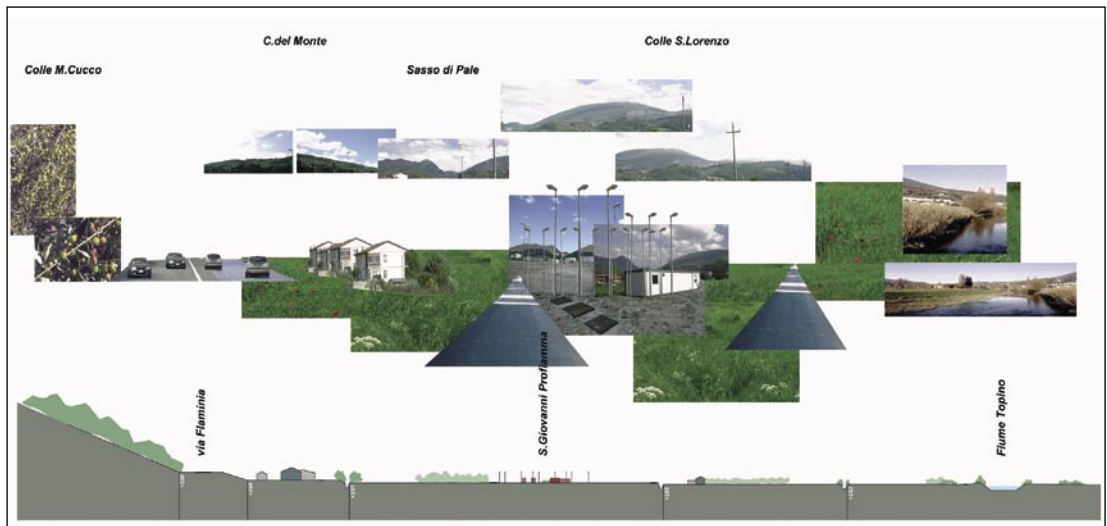
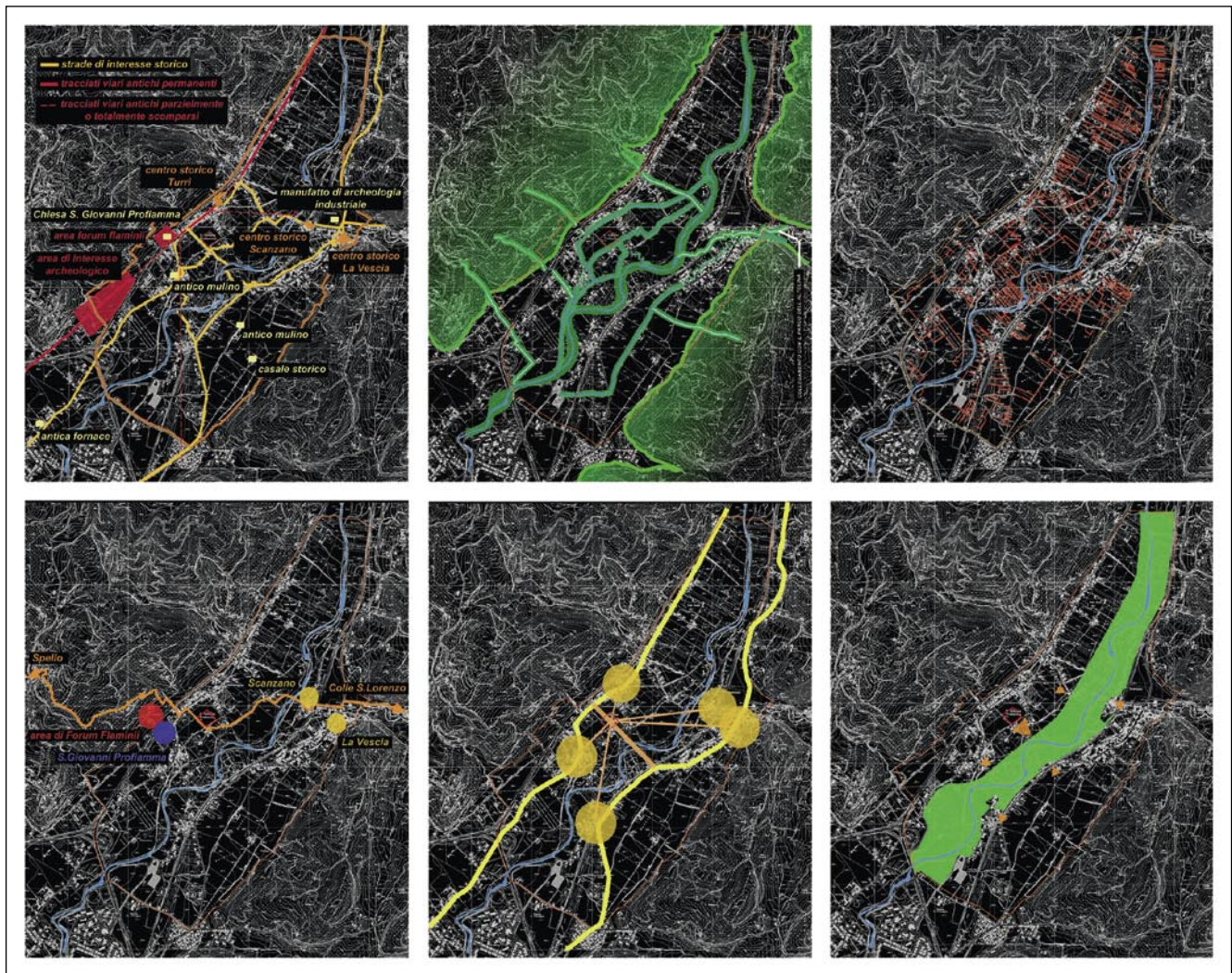
Top:

Pisenti: present land use.

Pisenti: section of Civil Protection area.

Pisenti: Project plan.





Top left: San Giovanni Profiamma - Historical-archaeological resources; Ecological resources; Landscape resources; Aims: node of cycle-pedestrian touristic routes; Aims: enhancement of local services; Aims: access to the Topino river park.

San Giovanni Profiamma - left: section of the area in the present state.

creating morphological continuity and replacing impermeable surfaces with permeable, eco-compatible materials;

- environmental regeneration through environmental engineering (soil stabilisation, regeneration of the vegetative stratum, the use of indigenous species for new plantings, reordering of surface drainage and re-naturalisation of ditch borders);
- restoration and upgrading of existing elements by means of returning functionality and specialisation to the areas comprising them, hence bringing them

more in line with the requirements for Civil Protection sites and increasing their possibilities for flexible, temporary use, this either with new fixed structures (car parks, equipped camper parks, information centres, visitor centres, equipped green spaces or squares) or temporary ones (pavilions, kiosks or other installations);

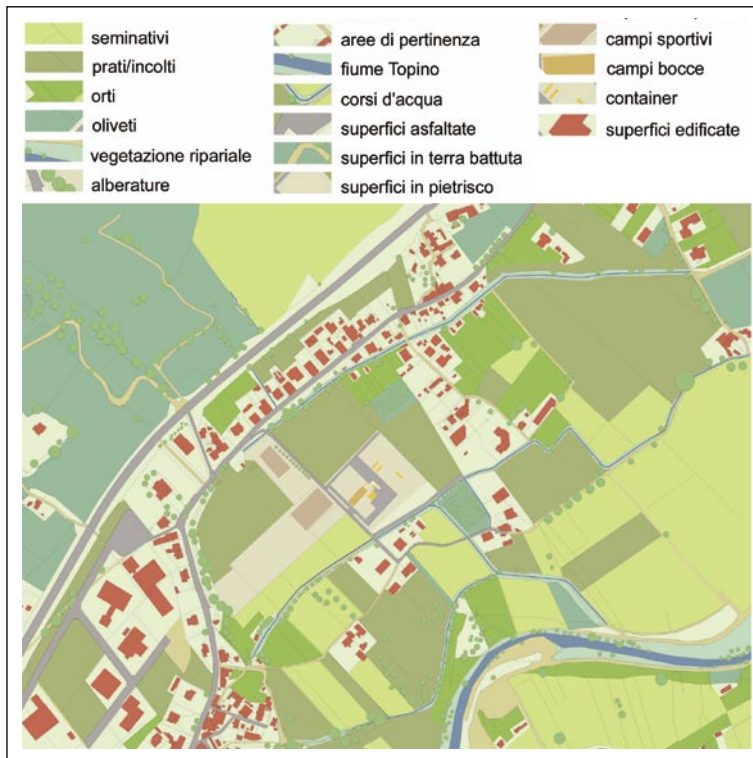
- characterisation of the whole, and of each part forming it, through the use of materials that are consistent with the settlement system to which it belongs.

Casenove

Seeing that this area has a void means that we have to work above all on modelling the margins, and placing any accessory equipment on the outside (car parks, elements defining accesses, service amenities and facilities) in order to keep the great esplanade, leaving it free, and above all recognisable, organised in terms of the three pre-existing terraces, "Free" in this connection also means occupied by temporary or permanent buildings (with the possibility of removing them subsequently). "Recognisable" means that the general appearance of the area will be retained, even though on the eastern side a kind of "controlled aggression" is being contemplated, using natural vegetation, whose infiltration will break up the hill margin, and thereby emphasise the morphological de-

Top left: San Giovanni Profiamma - present land use San Giovanni Profiamma: project plan showing grass and trees areas, coloured concrete (orange) and gravel (white, white former container perimeters) surfaces, the polifunctional building (purple).

Bottom right: San Giovanni Profiamma - Functional and material scheme.

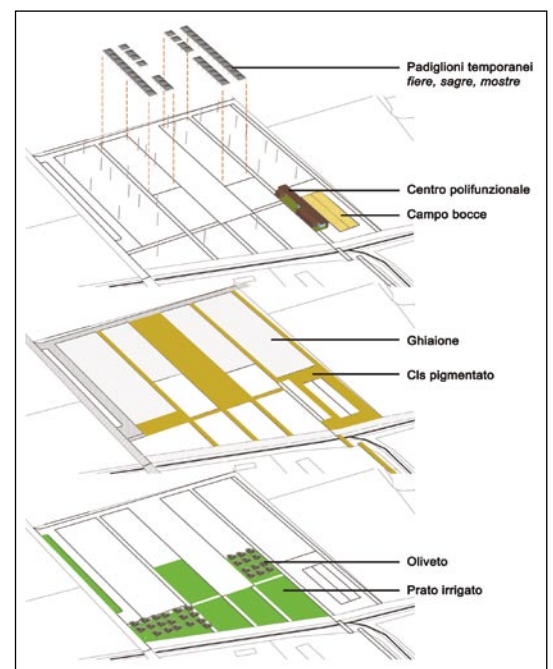


finition and the functional specialisation of the three terraces which will retain their predominant character as available areas that can be equipped for compatible purposes. The terraces therefore take on a recognisable configuration in terms of extension and height, and are held together by a track which, if necessary, can also be made available for vehicular traffic, marking out the margins of the valley, overcoming the differences in altitude. The area behind the State Road which is defined naturally by the track and the riverbed of the small "Rifugio" river which runs through the area, will be used as a car park, fully equipped for non-intensive use, with large areas of vegetation and rows of trees. Along the riverside a green belt will be created with large square-shaped hanging gardens, 100 square metres in size, as a filtering area in which service amenities can be placed, and from there will be pedestrian crossings linking the river to the terraced areas. The central part, whose layout will be determined by the proximity of the two 'strong' systems on its sides, has a free morphology and will be left mainly in a natural state.

Pisenti

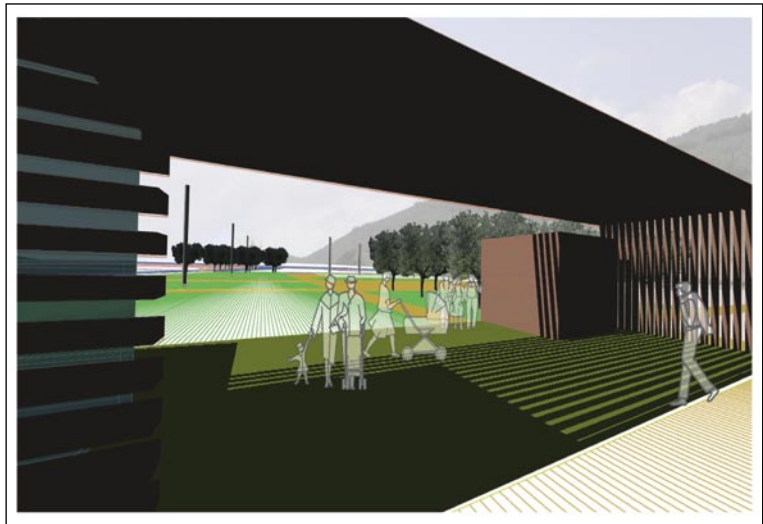
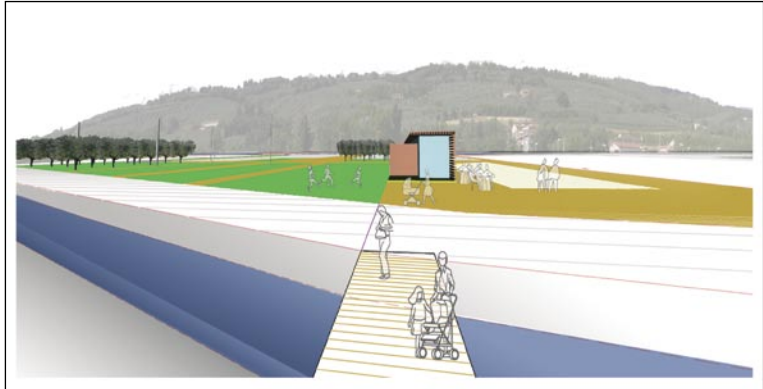
The proposed project sets out in general to give new meaning and to reorganise the area in terms of a series of possible non-alternative uses to those provided by the Foligno development master plan which has scheduled these "Civil Protection emergency areas" (A/EPC zone) and provided the possibility for the reorganisation of the surrounding areas, and for a number of operations to link it physically both to the village and the hill system behind it.

The possibility of finding a temporary use for the wooden prefabricated buildings gave rise to the proposal to transform the dwellings into accommodation for short-stay countryside tourists, or people who have chosen to visit these places as a home-base for excursions in the woods and in the immediate environs. A tourism information centre and a number of services





are housed in a small building which in the past was probably connected to the quarry and today is used as a warehouse. The rest of the former quarrying site is now organised to be used as a car park, an equipped trailer/camper site, and an area that can be turned into a fully fledged piazza for the village to which small travelling markets can come, while other equipped areas in the shade of small woods create continuity with the vegetation on the re-forested hillside through naturalistic engineering operations. The elements have been designed for the structural and vegetation components are benchmarks that can be repeated in similar situations both in terms of the materials used (draining and natural paving, dividing walls, furnishings) and of the functions incorporated into the environment which can truly become, if repeated, a network of points where different forms of touring visitors can stop over and experience these landscapes in a much more hands-on manner, revitalising the territory through their active presence there.



San Giovanni Profiamma

The project for San Giovanni Profiamma is aimed at integration of the area into the surrounding landscape and, at the same time, at the functional and architectural definition of the foreseen activities.

The design pattern which divides the area into parallel bands recalls the historic agricultural pattern of land reclamation. The attention to the recent com-



Top:

San Giovanni Profiamma - Section of the area: use scheme as fair/exhibition space.

San Giovanni Profiamma - Views of the project.

patible trends in the context's landscape transformation have led to the choice of planting new olive groves in grassed areas.

The issue of reversibility to its original use in the case of a natural calamity, has been dealt with by leaving the possibility of reinstating the containers in their original locations and of the existing utilities.

Asphalt surfaces are reverted to grassed areas, in particular towards the canal which borders the area on the south side.

The construction of new infrastructures and services have the following aims: the creation of an appropriate access to the Topino River Park, the integration of local facilities and the creation of a stop-over on the tourist itineraries. The existing social centre will relocate in a small new building alongside with a proposed information point for the River Park. The new

spaces will be physically and visually held together by a uniting canopy.

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Guidelines - Actions of the project.

