



VILLAGE OF CASTELLAZZO ARCONATI

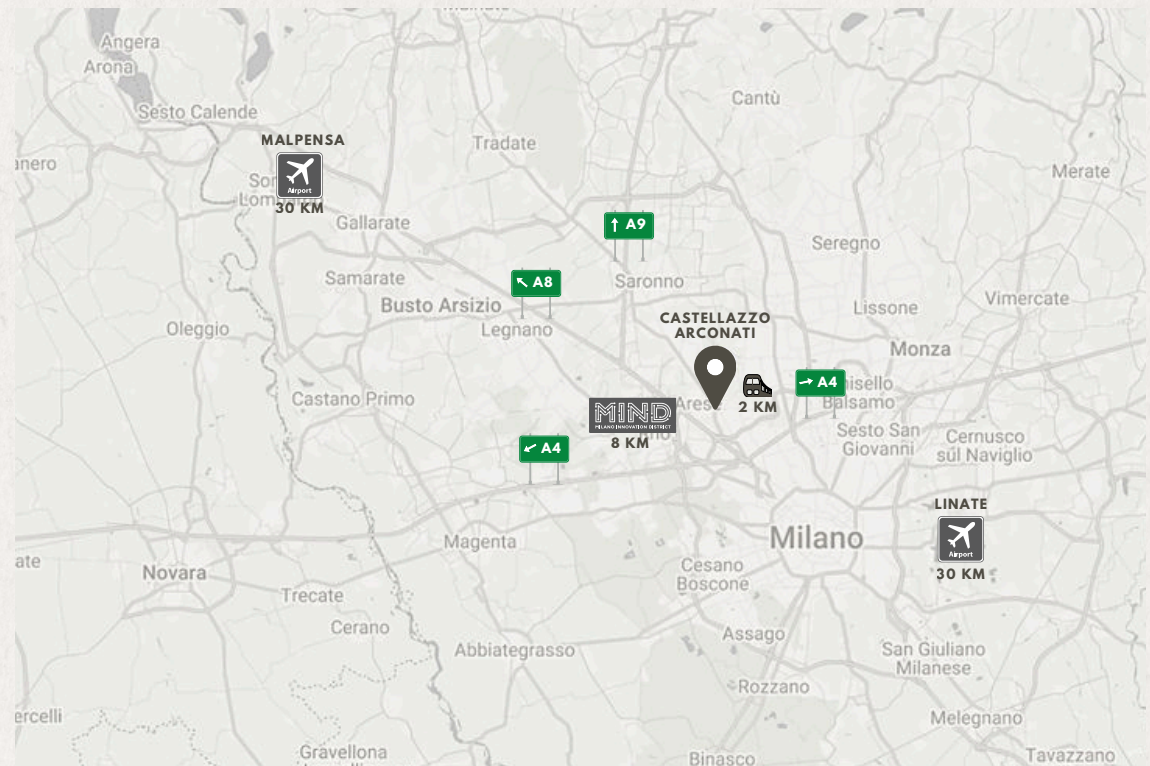
Castellazzo di Bollate (Milano)





A country village on the outskirts of Milan

A few kilometers from Milan, nestled in the greenery of the Groane Park, lies Castellazzo di Bollate, a small hamlet that seems suspended in time. It is an agricultural village, gathered around the splendid Villa Arconati, also known as “il Castellazzo,” which gives it its name and has been the heart and symbol of the village for centuries.



A village steeped in history and nature

When you arrive in Castellazzo, you immediately feel as if you have stepped back in time. The narrow, cobbled streets wind their way between farmyards and charming rural houses. The surrounding countryside is dotted with fields, canals, and rows of trees, reminding visitors of the area's agricultural heritage and long history of rural life.

The village is located in a privileged position, not so far from the centre of Milan and very well connected to the network of highway around the Lombardia Region, in a flat area rich in water, once perfect for cultivation and livestock farming.

Today, the landscape retains its rural identity, and much of the surrounding land is still cultivated or protected as natural areas of the park.

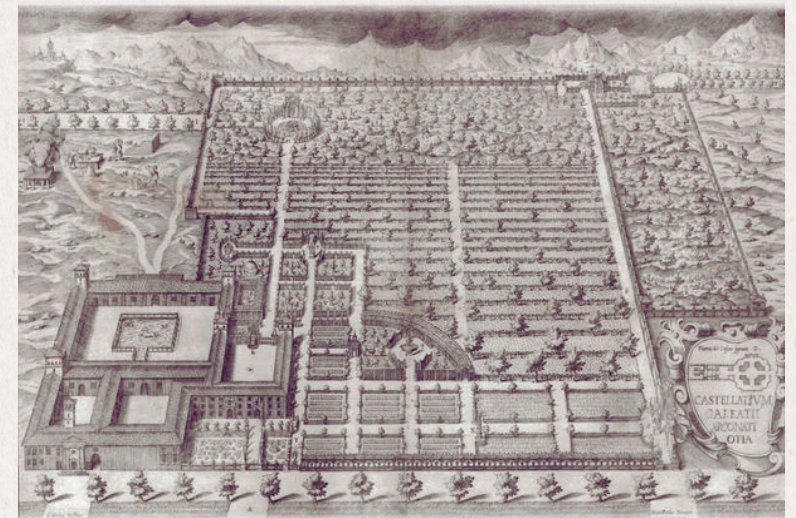
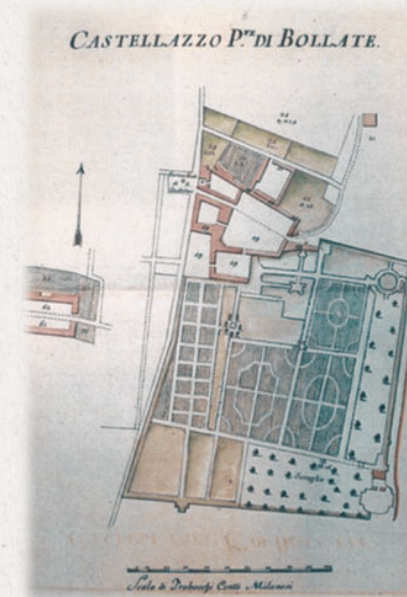


Origins and history

Probably founded in medieval times, in the 16th century the village of Castellazzo Arconati developed as a rural settlement around the "Villa Franca del Castellazzo," comprising farmhouses, stables, cottages, and dwellings for farmers and artisans employed in the nearby furnace, in an area covered with heathland and woods, with land used for plowing and grazing.

Count Galeazzo Arconati purchased the estate in 1610 and began the project of transforming the "noble" part into his Villa di Delizia, a residence dedicated to pleasure and leisure during the summer and hunting seasons. Galeazzo created an impressive and admired collection of ancient and contemporary works of art at Villa Arconati.

Over the centuries, Castellazzo was also an independent municipality: in 1771, it had just 240 inhabitants. Then, between Napoleonic rule and Austrian restoration, it was repeatedly united with and separated from Garbagnate and finally, in 1841, it was definitively annexed to the municipality of Bollate.



Villa Arconati: the noble heart of the village

Dominating the village like a Baroque jewel, Villa Arconati is one of the most beautiful villas in the entire Milan area. Built in the 17th century and enlarged in the 18th century, it was for centuries the residence of the noble Arconati family and a center of artistic and cultural life.

Also known as “the little Versailles of Lombardy” for its grandiose architecture, Italian and French gardens, and rooms decorated with frescoes, stuccoes, and ancient statues, the villa is now managed by the Augusto Rancilio Foundation, which opens it to the public for visits, art exhibitions, concerts, and cultural festivals, restoring a lively and contemporary soul to the village.

The numerous cultural, artistic, and scientific activities promoted by the Foundation have restored Castellazzo's central role, transforming it into a center of attraction for a national and international audience.

The project to restore and revitalize the village of Castellazzo is part of this virtuous dynamic, strengthening the bond between the village, the villa, and the community.



The village today

The village of Castellazzo retains the authentic atmosphere of a rural Lombard village, with historic buildings, internal courtyards, and open spaces with great potential.

On weekends and during the summer, many people come here to take a walk, ride a bike, or simply relax in the countryside.

Walking among its courtyards, brick walls, and farmhouses, you can still feel the slow pace of the Lombard countryside, the memory of those who lived and worked here over the centuries.

Despite the passage of time and partial disuse, the architectural structure is solid and flexible, suitable for residential, craft, and cultural functions, fully respecting the historical buildings and the surrounding landscape.

It is a perfect place for those who love history, art, and nature, but also for those who are simply looking for a corner of silence and beauty away from urban traffic.





Studies and collaborations

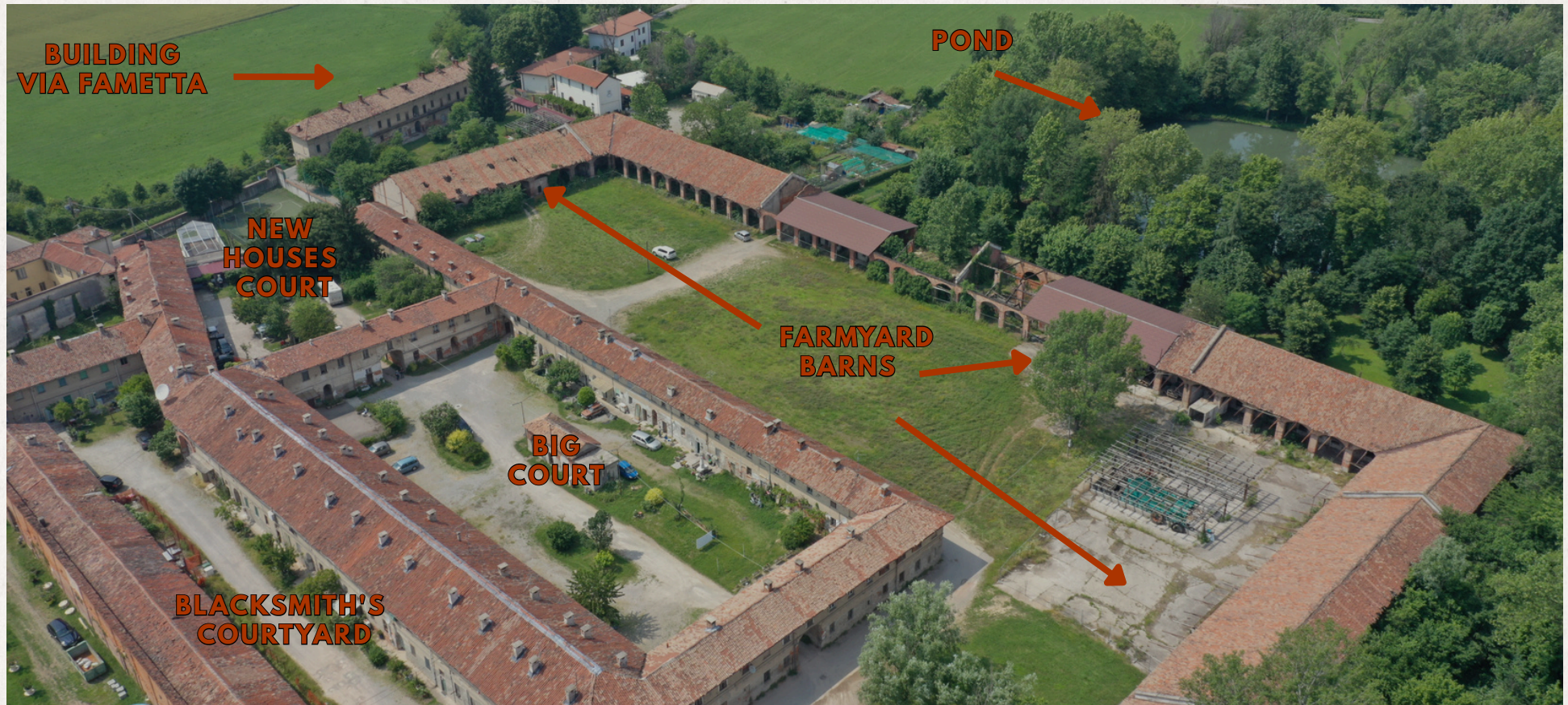
In recent years, the village of Castellazzo has been the subject of analysis and concept projects by students and teachers at the School of Design of the Politecnico di Milano, who have developed studies on living spaces, furnishings, and products for future redevelopment.

These academic collaborations have helped to define a contemporary and sustainable vision for the village, laying the foundations for an innovative intervention that is consistent with its historical identity.





The residential project



The village consists of a residential area where farm workers lived and an area used for stables, barns, and warehouses.

The residential section is built around two courtyards, while the barns form a “C” shape around the large farmyard. Along Via Fametta, there is a three-story residential building with entrances on both the ground floor and the first floor via a balcony.

The Company, by the technical engaged, is managing the urban procedure compliant to the rules of Urban Public Park in order to bring the permit to restore the ancient village.

Residential area surrounding the courtyards



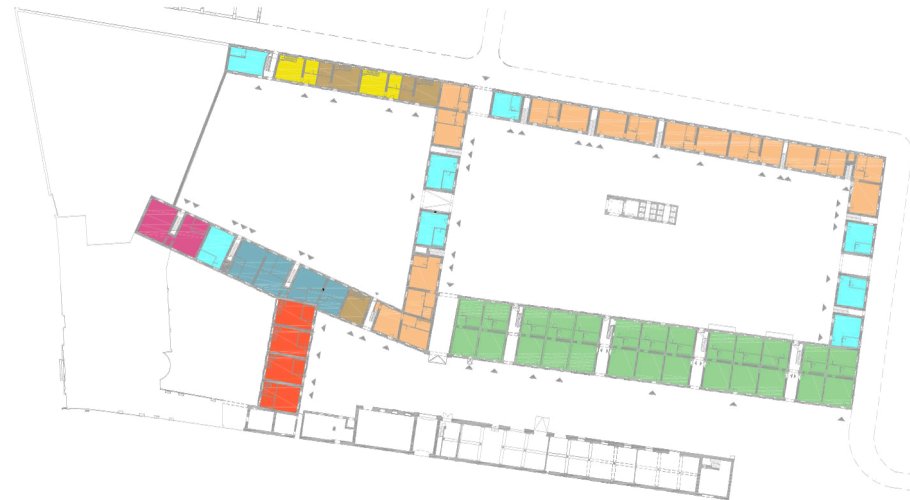
Key:

- Studio apartment (M1)
- Two-room apartment - type 1 (B1)
- Two-room apartment - type 2 (B2)
- Two-room apartment - type 3 (B3)
- Two-room apartment - type 4 (B4)
- Two-room apartment - type 5 (B5)
- Three-room apartment - type 1 (T1)
- Three-room apartment - type 2 (T2)
- Three-room apartment - type 3 (T3)

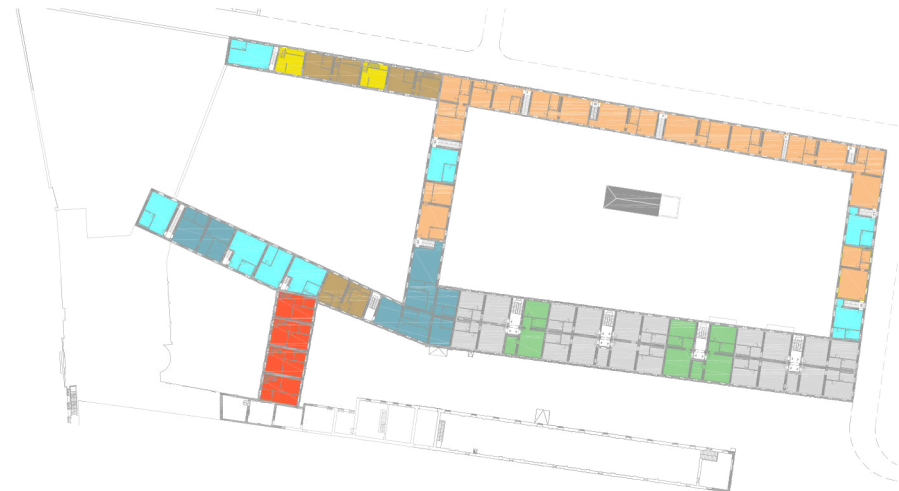
Total units: 16 studio apartments + 32 two-room apartments + 13 three-room apartments

Click [HERE](#) for more details.

GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



Residential section on Via Fametta

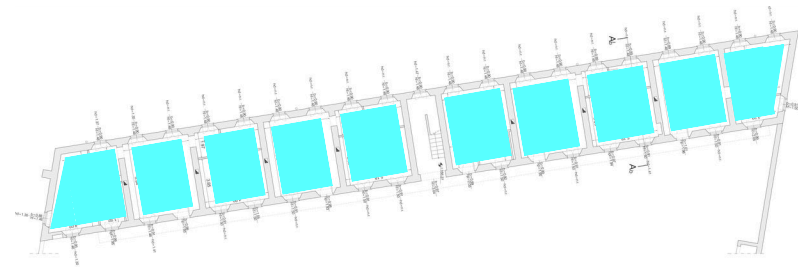


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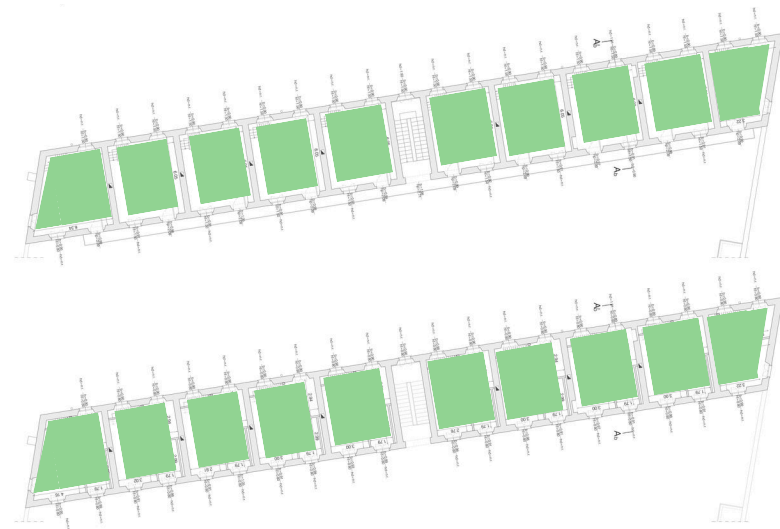
- Studio apartment (ground floor)
- Two-room apartment on two levels (first and second floor)

Total units: 10 studio apartments + 10 two-room apartments

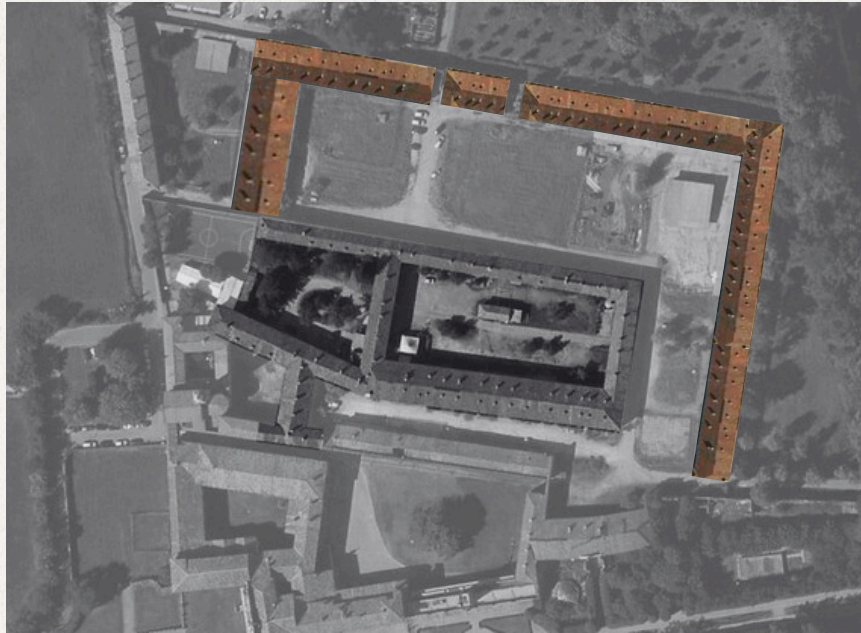
GROUND FLOOR



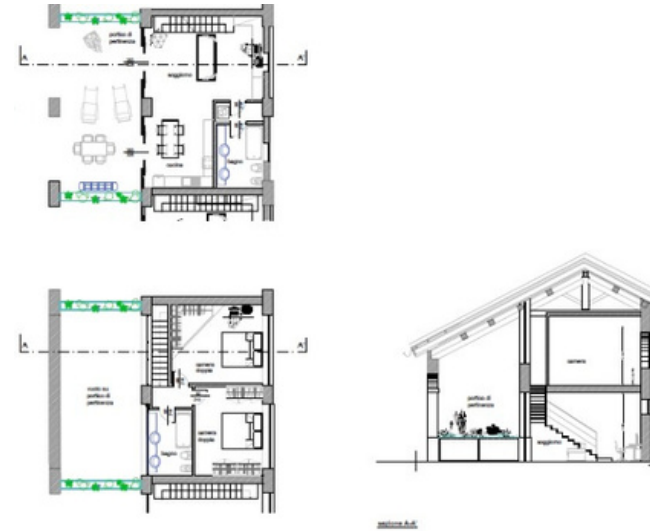
FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR



Barns



SOLUTION N.1



SOLUTION N.2





The garden courtyards

Transformation of existing courtyard spaces—which today serve mainly as transit or storage areas—into green, permeable, and usable environments with residential, social, and landscape value, as part of a broader regeneration of the historic village.





Development potential

The village of Castellazzo is the ideal place to host:

- Prestigious residences inspired by Lombard architectural tradition;
- Cultural and exhibition spaces linked to the activities of the Augusto Rancilio Foundation;
- Craft and creative workshops, in dialogue with the world of design and education;
- Accommodation and tourist services integrated into the context of the Groane Park;
- Nature trails and educational paths connected to Villa Arconati.



VILLAGE OF CASTELLAZZO ARCONATI

Castellazzo di Bollate (Milano)

a project in collaboration with



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