

EUROPAN I 7 ITALIA

Living Cities 2



CANTÙ

The future of traditions for a center town to live

C1

C2

C3

ORGANIZATION OF THE COMPETITION

Site representatives	City of Cantù (CO)
Actors involved	City of Cantù (CO)
Cooperation and Tutoring	Order of Architects P.P.C. of the Province of Como
Team representative	Architect
Expected skills regarding the site's issues and characteristics	Architects, landscape architects, planners urban designers, with expert knowledge in the digital world, social scientists, innovators, artists, economists
National communication of projects	Communication after the results of the competition with an exhibition of all projects, awards ceremony and publication of results (March -May 2024)
Jury - first session	The representatives of the sites meet the Jury before the start of works to clarify any questions about the program and goals.
Post-Competition Intermediate Procedure	The ideas, typologies and/or approaches developed by the awarded designers could be commissioned by the City or private partners. An in-depth workshop on the project will be organized on the occasion of the national results event.

Pursuant to the regulation referred to in Legislative Decree 50/2016 and subsequent amendments, the Municipality reserves the right to finalize the results of the workshop giving to the winner or to a team of award-winning designers, the commission for successive project steps or for an urban study, by negotiated procedure, provided that the professional subject has the technical and economic requirements in relation to the levels of the project to be developed and which will be defined subsequently at the results of the workshop. In case the professional(s) is not satisfy the requirements, he will associate with other parties in accordance with Article 46, paragraph 1 of D.Lgs.50 / 2016, which satisfy the requirements, in the forms of temporary teams and / or using the availment tool art. 89 of Legislative Decree. N. 50/2016



Città di
Cantù



ORDINE ARCHITETTI
PIANIFICATORI
PAESAGGISTI
CONSERVATORI
DELLA PROVINCIA DI COMO

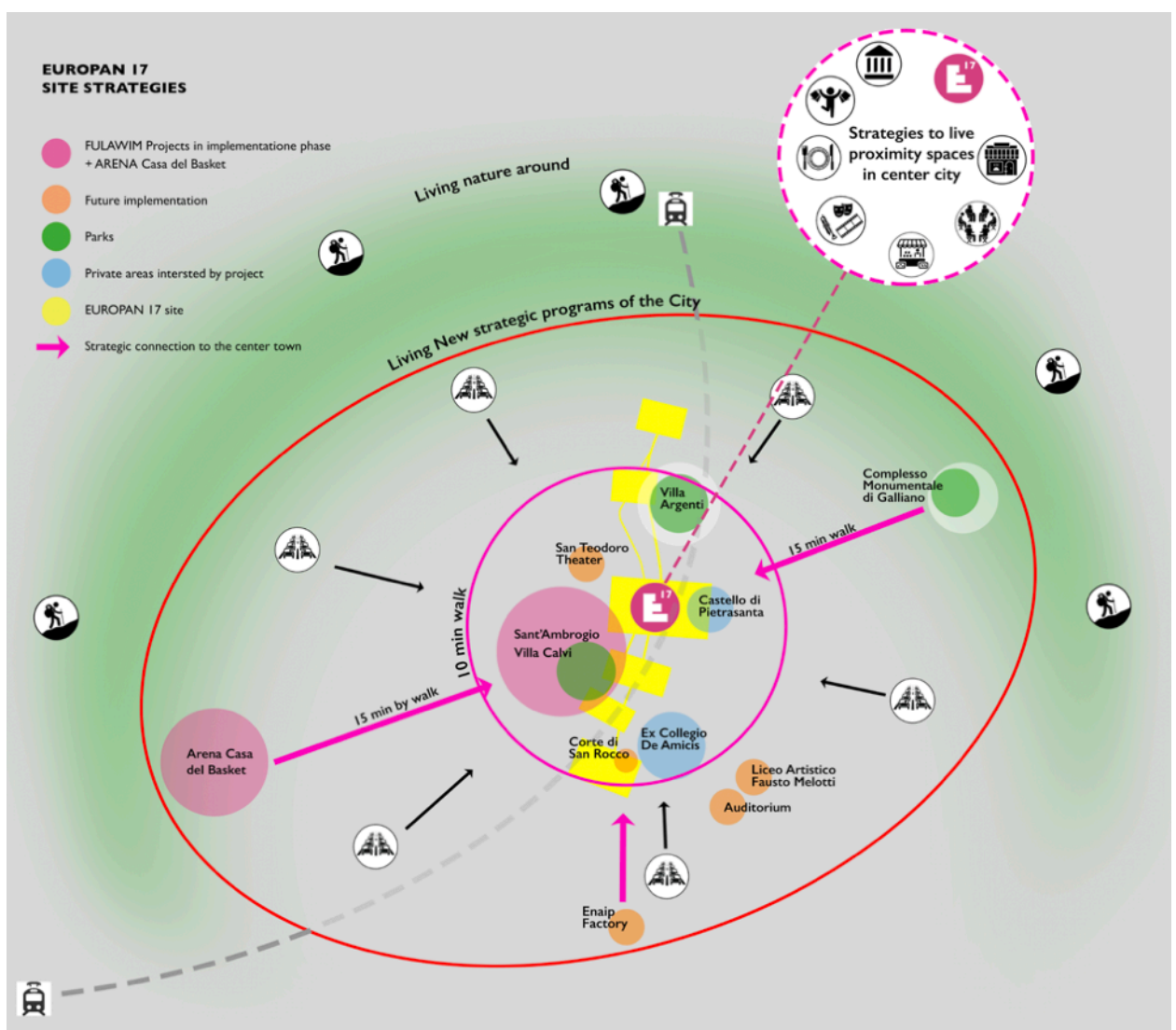


LIVING CITIES 2 CANTÙ SHORTLY

Relazioni con il tema Living Cities 2

Re-establishing the scales of proximity and territorial continuity, starting from programs focused on urban areas subject to regeneration. It is necessary to rethink connections to different mobility scales to enhance areas that are no longer vital and create new functions, while stimulating and enhancing the socio-economic system of the city, represented by the Urban Commerce District - "Promotion and development of the shopping path in the city of Cantù", which has been particularly affected by the global economic crisis, and in particular, the city centre, which has seen a reduction in the number of neighborhood shops."

The city is anthropised but benefits from a naturalistic belt system, which can find in the centre of Cantù a new experiential "landing place", consisting of welcoming venues, food culture, sports, conscious shopping, appreciation of the techniques of woodworking masters and lace-making mistresses. This approach aims to promote a more vibrant city in all its aspects, through connections that reconnect the senses and meanings that are closer to everyday life."



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C1 TERRITORIAL URBAN CONTEXT





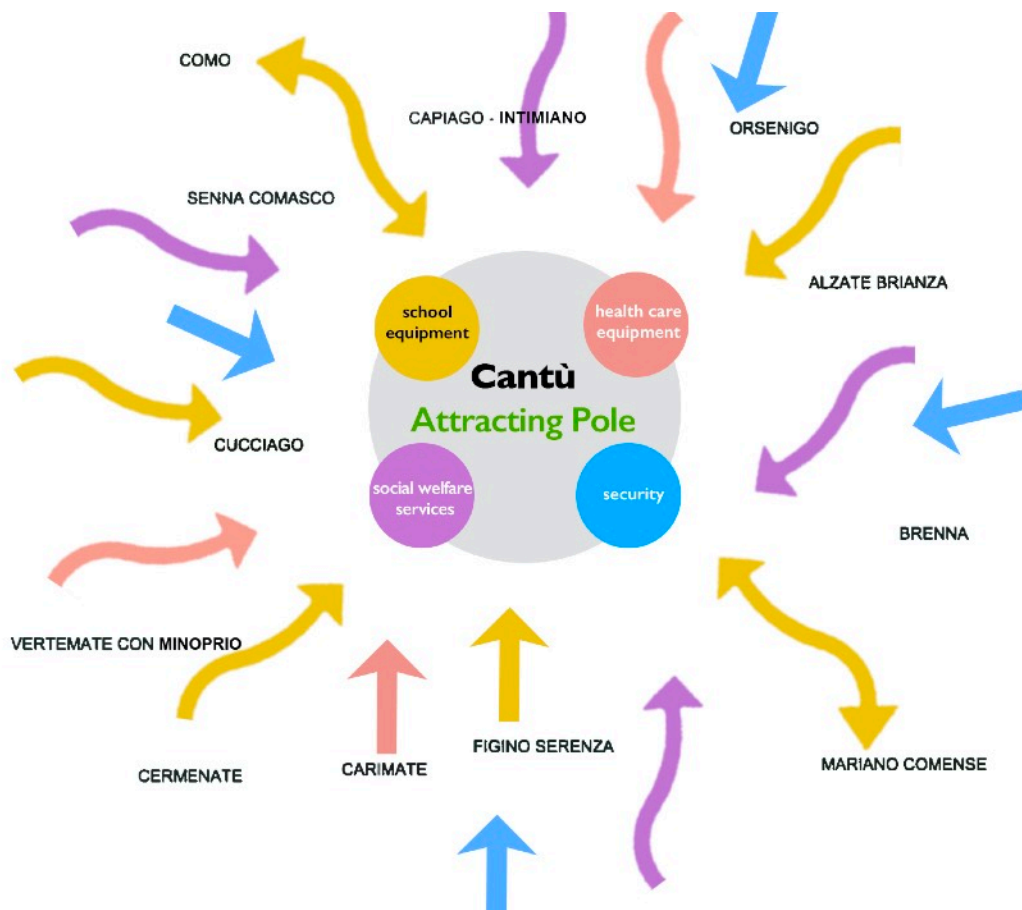
The City

Cantù is a town in the province of Como. It is located 12 km from the town of Como, about 25 km from Monza, approximately 30 km from Lecco, and roughly 35 km from Milan. The municipal area covers approximately 23 sq km and is home to 40,063 inhabitants.

The municipality of Cantù is located at the border between the Pedemontano Territorial System and the Metropolitan Territorial System, extending between Lake Como, Lake Maggiore, and Lake Garda. This area is characterized by high population density, abandoned industrial spaces, significant agricultural territory, hilly areas, and the presence of rivers and small lakes.

Specifically, the territory of Cantù is part of a heterogeneous urban and environmental context, where urbanization is predominant and connects continuously from Como to the border with Brianza. The rest of the territory is surrounded by a vast agricultural and forested area covering approximately one-third of the municipal area. The territory is characterized by numerous services, not only used by residents but also by citizens of surrounding municipalities.

Cantù is among the "attractive poles" identified by the Provincial Coordination Territorial Plan (PTCP) due to its strategic location and the numerous services present in the municipal area (schools, hospitals, senior centers, barracks, civil protection, etc.).



Historical Framework

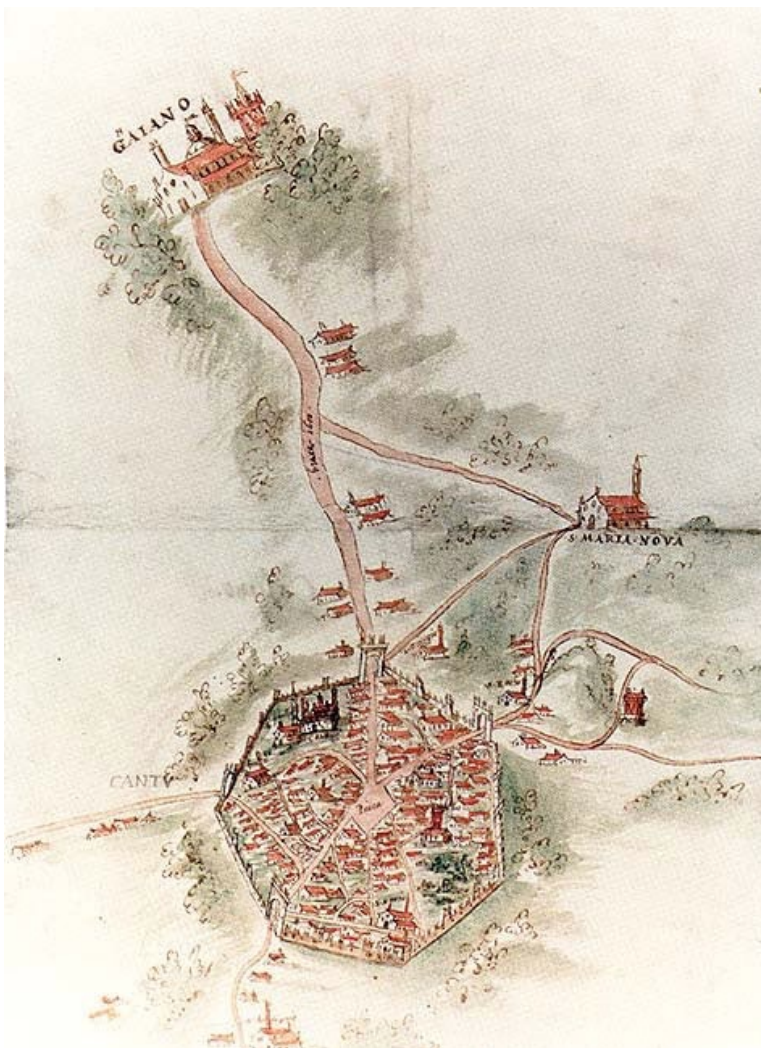
The history of the city of Cantù (probably originally Canturium) is rich in interesting events, the first traces of which date back to the ancient world.

The first inhabited nucleus is located in the area of the Monumental Complex of Galliano, in the 5th century BC. Numerous testimonies show how the hill of Galliano, where the basilica of San Vincenzo is now located, was at the center of an important communication route that developed between Como and Milan, where sacred areas were located for the Celts, later for the Romans, and finally transformed into places of early Christian burial.

The construction of the church dedicated to San Vincenzo di Saragozza dates back to the 5th century AD and was later expanded in 1007 by Archbishop Ariberto da Intimiano. In the late Middle Ages, Cantù participated, siding with Milan, in the decade-long struggle for control of the territory against Como; for this reason, it was

the subject of numerous ambushes by the people of Como. With the declaration of independence from Milan in 1324, the small village managed to secure peace, which was then interrupted again by the beginning of a long series of conflicts between noble families. Starting from the 15th century, the city saw the flourishing of a significant number of noble residences, including those of the Visconti di Modrone in Fecchio, the Archinti, and the Sola in the city center.

The families that governed the village reached agreements with each other through a shrewd marriage policy, and during the period of the Counter-Reformation, they stood out for the extremely rich series of ecclesiastical benefits they possessed. Starting from the mid-16th century, numerous religious fraternities and schools were founded in the city for the education of Christian doctrine.



The territory of Cantù, 1582



Garibaldi Square, 1918



Galliano Monumental Site in the early 19th century

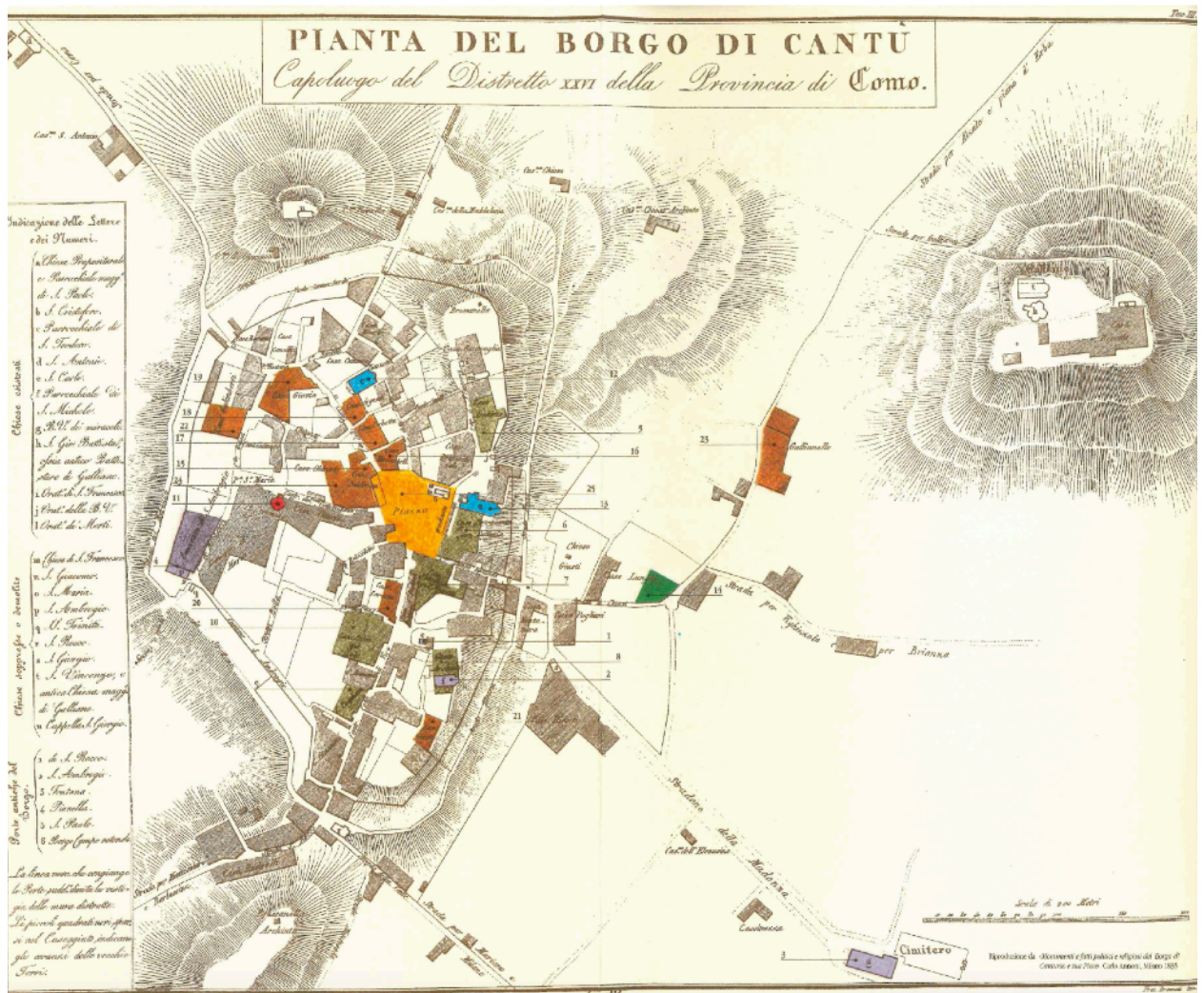
During the same period, Cantù lost its characteristics as a strategic territorial stronghold and transformed into a place with a strong productive vocation. The most flourishing activities initially were the production of nails and bobbin lace. The Austrian domination and the Napoleonic period marked the breakdown of the relationship between land ownership and ecclesiastical benefits, and therefore the suppression of a great multitude of religious buildings and Canturini monasteries. However, this was the period of productive investments in silk manufacturing for lace. In the second half of the 19th century, thanks also to the abolition of the prohibition on marking furniture, artistic production of furniture began, which gave rise to a period of intense industrial development of excellence that, in 1882, allowed for the development of the first School of Art for furniture in Italy. This flourishing industrial

development became the fulcrum of the new urban dimension of the city.

Significant buildings

Prepositurale Basilica of San Paolo

The prepositural basilica of San Paolo, accessible from the slope in Piazza Garibaldi, is a place of Catholic worship in the centre of Cantù. Of the original building, built in the Romanesque style, today remain visible part of the façade above the prothyrum, the profile of the roof and internally, some parts of the central apse, and part of the bell tower. The church was modified several times over the centuries. The most substantial interventions took place in the second half of the 16th century when St Charles Borromeo promoted a series of restorations in view of the transfer of the seat of the Pieve di Galliano. Inside, the church is home to the statue of Saint Apollonia, the patron saint of the town, whose



Plan of Borgo di Cantù, Carlo Annoni, 1835

relic is preserved from the Benedictine monastery of Santa Maria.

Church of Saints Theodore and Bartholomew

The Church of Saints Theodore and Bartholomew with access on Via Corbetta, accessible from Via Alessandro Volta, probably dates back to 1207. The church with its typical Romanesque layout consisting of three naves with a final apse has undergone several alterations over the ages, although the original form can still be recognised. The main alterations date back to the Counter-Reformation period when an attempt was made to adapt the church to the stylistic canons of the Baroque period by building new vaults, new stucco mouldings, capitals and pillars, and finally the bell tower.

Church of St Mary and Benedictine Monastery

The Church of St Mary and Benedictine Monastery was established in 1093. Prioress Agnese di Borgogna was placed at the head of the Monastery and she carried on the tradition of working the precious Canturesse lace. The Monastery was rebuilt in 1690 and, in the same year, was connected to the Church of Santa Maria built next to it (1665-1680) by the engineers Gerolamo e Giovan Battista Quadrio.

Ex-church of Sant'Ambrogio in Piazza Marconi

The church was built around 1570. Square-plan, with a large cupola decorated with frescos and stuccoes, the work of Intelvesi masters, it was de-consecrated at the beginning of the 19th century, sold at auction in 1818, and converted into

private houses and warehouses. The fact that houses were built inside makes this place particularly attractive for art. The administration intends to use the entire structure of the former Sant'Ambrogio church as an exhibition and museum venue. At the moment, the spaces on the ground floor host cultural events, shows and temporary exhibitions, the numerous rooms on the upper levels are not accessible, and require significant building and plant engineering work to ensure public use.

Monumental complex of Galliano

The basilica of San Galliano is one of the most important monuments of Lombard Romanesque architecture. The existing building was erected in 1007 to replace early Christian structures from the 5th and 6th centuries and was dedicated to Ariberto, a sub-deacon. The basilica has a very simple masonry façade with large exposed cobblestones. The central portal is architraved with a pointed arch lunette. The apse is marked by a series of blind arcades reminiscent of archaic models. The crypt is characterized by an oratory type with irregular bays covered by crosses on transverse arches. The frescoes in the nave and apse, despite their different styles, date back to the same period. The apse hosts the figure of Christ surrounded by animal and plant figurations, a short cycle of stories about Saint Vincent and Ariberto da Intimiano. On the walls of the nave are represented stories of Samson, St Christopher, Adam and Eve and St Margaret.



Ex-church of Sant'Ambrogio



Church of St Mary



Church of SS Theodore and Bartholomew



San Teodoro Municipal Theatre

San Teodoro Municipal Theatre

The San Teodoro theatre was inaugurated in 1921 as the theatre of the San Teodoro parish. In the 1950s/70s it hosted some of the great protagonists of the Italian theatre scene, until 1973, when the theatre ceased its activities due to a series of building habitability issues. In 2001, the municipality of Cantù became the owner of the theatre and financed its restoration, reopening it to the public in 2011 and recovering the original Art Nouveau features.

Villa Calvi

Villa Calvi, a typical 19th-century urban villa, was originally the residence of the Sola family, later becoming the property of the Calvi family from Milan. The villa is characterized by a linear body with neoclassical forms, with a surface area of 1650 square metres distributed over two floors, located in the historical centre with an adjoining park of 7500 square metres. Former town hall of the city, it currently houses the historical archive (documents from 1376 to 1967), the ground floor is occasionally used for exhibitions and high-profile cultural events.



Cantù - historical photo

The building has a good exterior condition but needs functional adaptation in the interior space.

The Permanent Furniture Exhibition

La Permanente Mobili (Permanent Furniture Exhibition) was founded in 1893 on the initiative of a group of craftsmen from Cantù. Behind the creation of the building, facing Piazza Garibaldi, there was the intention of gathering together all the artisans of the area in order to display in one large building their products to the public, especially to the people from Milan. In this way, it was possible to offer a global vision of the furniture production in the Cantur's context, favouring its sale. Its establishment brought not only economic benefits to members, but also a new awareness in the sector. Partly due to the effects of this kind of initiative, at the beginning of the 20th century, Cantur's manufacture was considered to be at the top of national production. Already at the beginning of the 20th century, Permanente Mobili was indicated as the cooperative model of reference for all small furniture manufacturers.



Villa Calvi



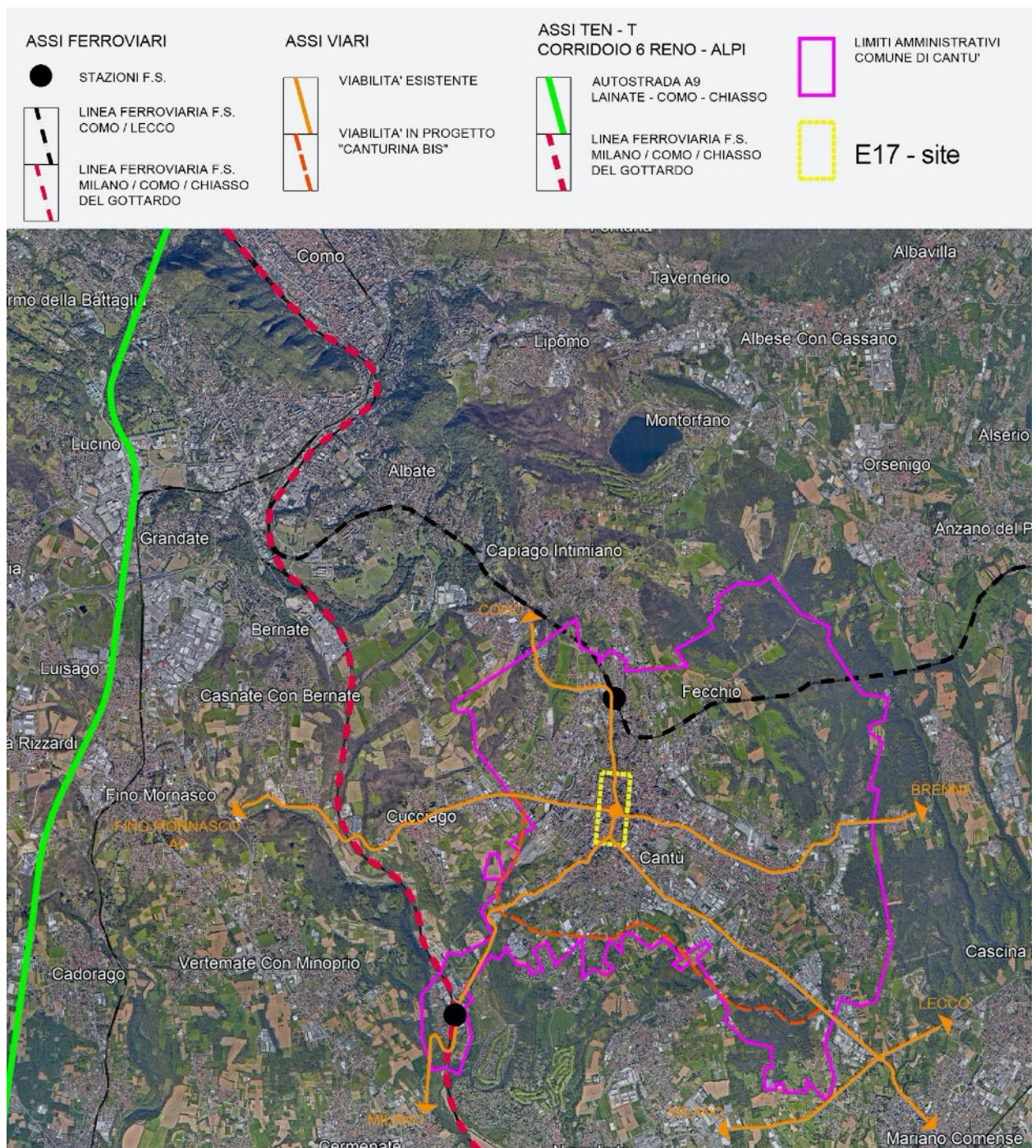
Villa Calvi's Park

Connections

The general layout of the provincial mobility network in the Como area is predominantly radial, with railway and road routes that lead from the south, Milan, towards the north, to the Alpine passes and valleys. The existing routes that are relevant to the Cantù area include:

The A9 motorway Lainate-Como-Chiasso-Lugano; The primary road axes of SS 35 "Dei Giovi", which has a historical matrix, the "Nuova Comasina", SS 36 of Lake Como and Spluga (Milan-Lecco), SS 342 "Briantea", SP 32 "Novedratese", the Cantù-Como route SP

36-"Canturina", and the SP 34 connection of "Canturina" and SS 35 "Dei Giovi"; Under construction: the Cantù-Cucciago ring. The SP 32 "Novedratese" is the main east-west axis of the Brianza Comasca area and connects to the new "Pedemontana" motorway. Despite its significant environmental impact, the new motorway is considered an opportunity to provide adequate connections to the national and trans-European network, with airports (Malpensa, Linate, Orio al Serio), and exhibition centers (Fiera Milano in Rho/Pero, area expo 2015).



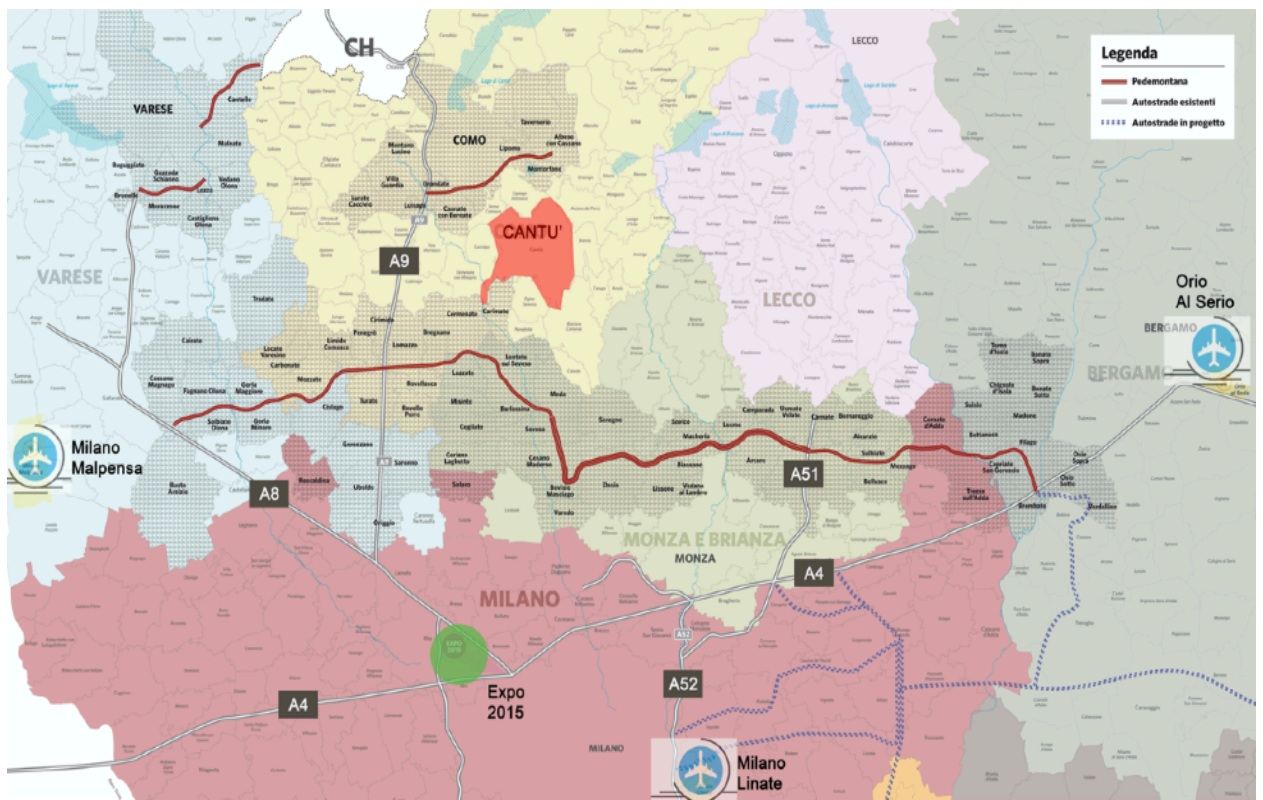
The municipality is served by two railway stations: Cantù station, north of the city center, is located on the secondary Como-Lecco line; and Cantù-Ceremate station, in the Asnago district, is located on the Milan-Chiasso line of the Milan suburban railway service. The Como-Lecco railway line is underutilized, located near the center but heavily penalized by the lack of a connection with Varese. The Milan-Chiasso railway line is the fastest connection between Milan, Switzerland, and Northern Europe for both freight and passenger traffic. The line is also served by metropolitan and regional trains that transport thousands of commuters every day. In the past, the city was served by two other rail connections, the Como-Camerlata-Cantù tramway and the Monza-Meda-Cantù line. The first one was replaced by a trolleybus for a few decades.

The public road transport is managed by the ASF autolinee company.

The municipality of Cantù is characterised by a predominantly ancient road network, with narrow,

uneven roads that are inadequate for today's traffic volumes. Despite the help of urban planning instruments, the city has problems related to traffic congestion, road safety, parking and the absence of connections that can bypass the city centre.

The current travel system is based on private vehicles, which leads to high risks of accidents, insecurity and poor accessibility to services for anyone who does not own or is unable to use a car. The planning guidelines of the PGT suggest the strengthening of intermodal transport that favours sustainable solutions, favouring tools such as: bike sharing integrated with public transport; urban mobility services easily accessible also to pedestrians and cyclists; car sharing with dedicated parking spaces near public transport stops. The main goal is to reduce traffic congestion also on internal roads, encouraging neighbourhood pedestrian and bicycle paths.



The Pedemontana Lombarda motorway project (source www.pedemontana.com)

Demographic Data

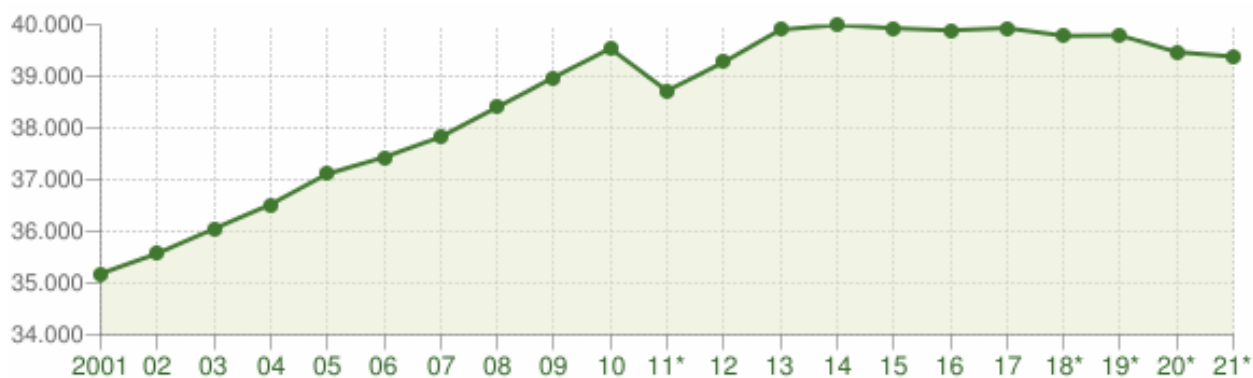
La città di Cantù conta 40.063 abitanti. The city of Cantù has 40,063 inhabitants. The demographic trend from 2001 to 2010 recorded a slight but constant increase, reaching a population of 39,995 in 2014. After that year, the trend remained relatively stable, but, from 2022 it has resumed growth to over 40,000 inhabitants. The population is distributed according to the following age percentages: 17.5% population over 70; 60% productive population, 22.5% youth population under 24. Foreigners resident in Cantù on 1 January 2022 number 3,445 and represent 8.7% of the resident population.

The largest foreign community is from Romania with 11.4% of all foreigners present in the territory, followed by Albania (11.2%) and Pakistan (9.4%).

The average population density for the urban centre of Cantù is 1,697.3 inhabitants per square metre.

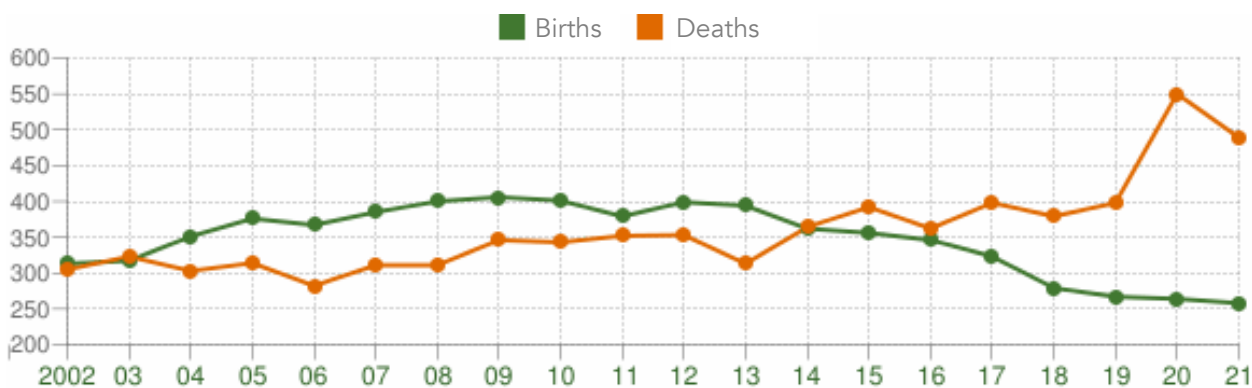
The demographic trend recorded a constant increase in the decade 2002-2012, and the reasons for this change lie in the general trend of decentralisation of urban centres that has occurred throughout Italy: metropolises are losing population in favour of smaller centres, creating a more complex metropolitan system. Moreover, the available data show a constant increase in the number of families, but a profound change in their structure: the average family size has been decreasing more and more, the number of families composed of one, two and three persons has increased and the number of those with more than four members has decreased.

Another relevant phenomenon is the increase in the elderly population, as in the rest of the country, a change that calls for a radical change in traditional care strategies in order to design social welfare services adapted to the new family needs.



Resident population trend

Municipality of Cantù (CO) - ISTAT data as at 31 December each year - Elaboration TUTTITALIA.IT
(* post-census)



Natural population movement

Municipality of Cantù (CO) - ISTAT data (demographic balance 1 Jan-31 Dec) - Elaboration TUTTITALIA.IT



Socio-economic and cultural context

Cantù is the second largest town in the Province of Como and stands out for being at the centre of an area that has its production vocation in the furniture sector.

For the city of Cantù, this production chain is the distinctive element of its socio-cultural history and the leading element behind an artisan and manufacturing economy that represents an excellence and a model in the Italian and International scene.

Together with the processing of the "Pizzo di Cantù" (Cantù lace), the promotion of which has been very active in the recent decades, the production of wooden furniture is the main focus of numerous small and medium-sized enterprises.

The city is also known for its Wood Festival, which attracts many visitors.

According to the latest data collected by Infocamere in 2021 in the Commercial Urban District di Cantù (Cantù Urban Trade District) there are:

4,412 operating enterprises (compared to 5031 registered in 2013) of which 1,492 are craft enterprises, operating mainly in the following sectors:

Wholesale and Retail - 24.3%; Manufacturing - 19.0%; Construction - 14.7%.

552 retail outlet divided by distribution format as follows:

Neighbourhood - 93.1%; Medium - 6.5%; Large - 0.4%.

Brianza's industrial network is characterized by the coexistence of artigianal small businesses and larger companies with a strong international outlook, a symbol of the economic, social and industrial evolution of Made in Italy.

Leading Made in Italy companies, innovative companies, traditional micro enterprises, service companies, designers, technicians, workers and entrepreneurs make up the rich and differentiated context of the local production. In the last 10 years, the economic and commercial network has suffered an inflection with the consequent closure of several craft activities and commercial outlets, in some cases even historical ones.

The administration intends to reactivate the commercial and productive sector through a more careful promotion and development of the urban area.

With the aim of encouraging and innovating the urban commerce, promoting a balance between the various commercial formats and strengthening the identity of places, the DUC - Commercial Urban District "Promozione e Sviluppo Percorso Shopping Citta' di Cantù" was established, promoted by the Lombardia Region and registered in the list of DUCs in Lombardia. In 2020, the entire City of Cantù was redefined as a district area.



DUC perimeter - Commercial Urban District-



ENAIP Factory

Furthermore, the city, in line with the PGT, is seeking to diversify its economy, focusing on sectors such as tourism and business services.

The municipal administration is interested in preserving landscape in the urban and rural areas and aims to promote a tourist circuit that can implement the city's accommodation offer.

The PGT poses the theme of 'Culture' as an essential condition for the tourist development of its territory. It intends to promote the city as a centre of knowledge and cultures, integrating the receptive offer with events and occasions that attract intelligence, excellence, arts and that promote the city with integrated offers.

The city of Cantú, unlike Como, has a greater social and cultural homogeneity deriving from a productive structure that is different from Como's textile industry. A local society, less characterized by class divisions and more open, on a social level, to activism from below, which has historically condensed into a dense web of associations, sports groups, etc.

Policies linked to the local manufacturing tradition, the cultural background of the area and technological development have led to actions and projects among which we would like to highlight:

- **ENAIP Factory**, is a flexible, multifunctional and operational structure, a meeting, inspiration and research point. A professional technical and design training centre specializing in the wood-furniture and design system;
- **To Make FABLAB** - is a space based on the philosophy of Fab labs (Fabrication Laboratory), equipped with computer-controlled machines and tools (3D printers, lasercut, printing and cutting plotters, 4-axis milling machine, Arduino), where people, companies, schools and young students design, develop and make applications and artefacts;
- **San Teodoro Municipal Theatre** - Thanks to its location, it has made a decisive contribution to the qualification of the city centre as a place of meeting and cultural exchange. The theatre, initially opened in 1921, reopened in 2011 after many years of inactivity.



Photo of "Gruppo fotografico La Pesa"



Festival del legno - Wood festival, 2019



Events

The city's socio-cultural program offers many well-known fairs and local events, along with summer, cultural and sporting events, among which the following are worth mentioning:

- Carnevale Canturino - Cantù's Carnival (February));
- Estate Canturina (June-September);
- Gran Fondo Il Lombardia (October);
- Festival del Legno - Wood Festival (November).

Fairs:

- Santa Apollonia (February);
- San Rocco (August);
- Crocifisso (October).

Other events:

- Festa di Sant'Antonio Abate (January);
- Festa della Giubiana (January);
- Festa di Santa Rita (May);
- Tutti i Santi e ricorrenza dei Defunti (Oct/Nov).

City markets:

- Mirabello in Via Michelangelo (every Monday);
- Vighizzolo in Via Tagliamento (every Wednesday);
- Cascina Amata in Piazza Cugini Bartesaghi and Caduti Cascinamatesi (every Thursday);
- Cantù-centro in Piazza Marconi (every Saturday).



In addition, thanks to the creation of a Single Point of Service for Events (SUEV), numerous requests for events such as the following are handled on a monthly basis throughout the year:

- Luna Park and cross-country running (January);
- Concerts and educational campaigns (February);
- Bus theatre and Cineforum (March);
- Street food (May-June);
- Sport in the City, Festivals and Concerts (June);
- White Night, MTB Trophies and Concerts (July);
- Street Food, Festivals and Exhibitions (September);
- Livestock Show (Fiera del Crocifisso - October);
- Concerts and Ice Rink (November);
- Nativity scene, 'inclusive' train and Father Christmas House (December).

Sport events

- There are numerous sporting events linked to some specialties in which Cantù excels. Pallacanestro Cantù is the city club that gave glory to the name of Cantù in the world. It is currently the second most successful team in European cups after Real Madrid.
- La Briantea 84 boasts a wheelchair basketball team with a palmarès of national and international trophies.
- Libertas Brianza is the city's volleyball team, born in September 1982, which carries out activities at both a youth and professional level. Currently the first team plays in the A2 series championship (second national level).

Urban planning tools at the **territorial scale**

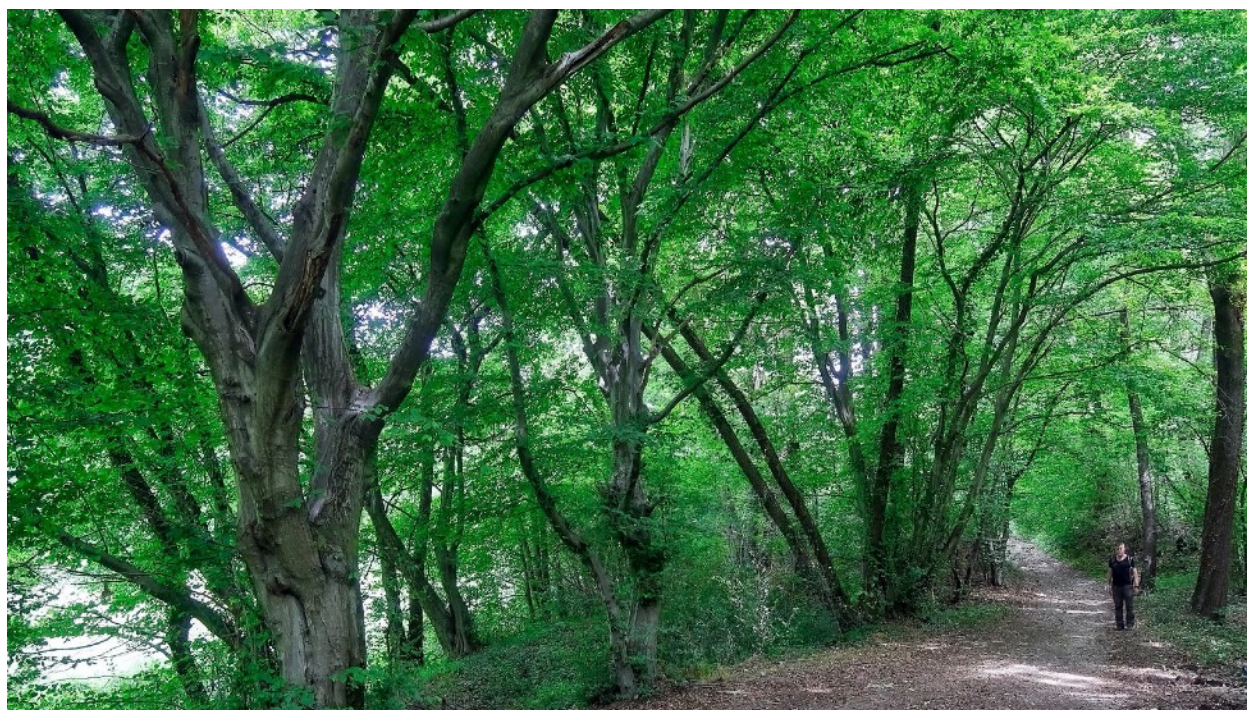


Urban planning tools at the territorial scale

- **Programma Regionale Fesr e FSE + 2021-2027**

The spatial planning instruments are:

- **Piano Territoriale Regionale (PTR)** is the support tool for Lombardia's territorial -governance activity. It aims to integrate the 'strategic vision' of general and sector programming with the physical, environmental, economic and social context; it analyses its strengths and weaknesses, and highlights potential and opportunities for local realities and territorial systems.
- **Piano Paesaggistico Regionale (PPR)**, a specific section of the PTR, is the instrument through which the Lombardia Region pursues the objectives of landscape protection and enhancement in line with the European Landscape Convention, covering the entire territory, which is subject to protection or guidelines for the best management of the landscape.
- **Piano Territoriale di Coordinamento Provinciale (PTCP)**, defines the general objectives of spatial planning at provincial level by indicating the main mobility infrastructures, functions of supra-municipal interest, hydrogeological planning and ground protection, protected areas and the ecological network, criteria for the environmental sustainability of local settlement systems.
- **Piano per l'Assetto Idrogeologico (PAI)** is the informative, normative and technical-operative instrument through which actions and rules are planned and programmed for the conservation, defence and valorisation of the ground and the correct use of water. Its purpose is to reduce the hydrogeological risk within values compatible with current land uses, so as to safeguard the safety of people and minimise damage to exposed property...
- **Piano di Gestione Rischio Alluvioni (PGRA)** is the operational tool provided by Italian law to identify and plan the actions necessary to reduce the negative consequences of floods for human health, land, property, the environment, cultural heritage and economic and social activities.



Boschi di Santa Naga - foto wikiloc - gli esploratori della domenica.it

C2 REFLECTIONSITE



Planning at the scale of the strategic area

- **Territorial Government Plan (PGT)** is the main tool, in line with the Supra-municipal Territorial Plans and in particular with the territorial projects for the regional landscape identified by the PTR, for municipal planning.
- **PEBA Plan for the Elimination of Architectural Barriers**, is a set of analyzes and strategies for the improvement of pedestrian mobility.

The projects and strategies under development according with the PGT are:

- **Widespread Museum of Furniture and Laceworks (FULAWIM)** is the winning project of the European tender "New European Bauhaus", which provides for interventions on:

Villa Calvi, former town hall, which will be one of the main building of the widespread Museum. The adaptation of the entire building is expected, including the recovery of the first floor; *Ex Church of Sant'Ambrogio*, selected to be included in the itineraries of the widespread museum.

- **Villa Argenti Park**, subject to a redevelopment project, which will see the current fence move back with the formation of a new small square, as well as the creation of thematic areas within the park, towards the entrance on via Fiammenghini; a perfume garden; a collection of bulbs, an orchard, a flower meadow and a pet area.



Chiostro dell'ex Monastero delle Benetine - Municipio della Città di Cantù

Description of the strategic area

The strategic area includes the entire system of connections with the project site and is characterized by a system of streets and squares which constitute the viability at various scales of use. Currently the only pedestrian street is the via Giacomo Matteotti from Piazza Garibaldi to Piazza Volontari della Libertà.

The urban orography significantly characterizes the strategic area in a sort of ridge overlooking the territory.

This characteristic determines a system of roads with variable altitudes which can represent a project opportunity.

Among these, in particular, we note the axis that reaches Piazza Garibaldi from Piazza Marconi or from the hub of the widespread museum (*Villa Calvi*, former church of Sant'Ambrogio). (See files of the diagram of the slopes in the download area) Being a public urban space project, the strategic area and the project area are closely connected. Important projects will transform the City in the next few years, offering an opportunity to relaunch it at an international level and generating new urban metabolisms.

1) FULAWIM - FURNITURE and LACEWORK

Widespread Museum, unique winner in Italy, of the New European Bauhaus Program (NEB), with the objectives of enhancing the productive and cultural traditions, the redevelopment of the architectural heritage, the re-evaluation of the tourist-commercial attractiveness of the area. Values of the New European Bauhaus are: aesthetics/quality of experience, through the promotion of design and local arts; environmental sustainability, including circularity, energy efficiency and nature-based solutions, also through the reuse of unused public buildings and a soft mobility network; inclusion, with the aim of removing architectural, social and economic barriers to citizen participation. It is a system of buildings that will host exhibitions, events and activities related to the important Canturino traditions and know-how. The center of the program is in close connection with the Town Hall housed in the former Benedictine monastery adjacent to the Church of S. Maria, with the Cloister, the Library and Piazza Guglielmo Marconi which is used as a parking lot and on Saturdays as a market.

Villa Calvi e il Parco (in fase di progettazione)
Via Roma, 8. Mq.1650 - Parco mq. 7.675
Usi di progetto: Villa - mostre temporanee, archivio storico, Museo. Parco per eventi culturali

Sant'Ambrogio -(Former Church)
Piazza G. Marconi - 1,695 sq m
Project uses: Museum + cultural events and multifunctional space

Corte di San Rocco - (Exhibition Center)
Via G. Matteotti, 39 - 170 sq m and courtyard
Project uses: temporary exhibitions

Complesso monumentale di Galliano
Via San Vincenzo, 8. 320 sq.m - Park sq.m. 8,410
Project uses: Religious celebration + concerts + meeting

ENAIP factory

Via Borgognone, 12.
Cultural center (library, exhibitions, meetings, coworking) which houses collections owned by the City, of art-design (Bruno Munari, Rationalism, Neo liberty). Project uses: Museum + cultural activities + laboratory centre

Liceo artistico statale "Fausto Melotti"

Via Andina, 8. The school, founded in 1882 as a School of Art applied to industry, became the Royal Professional School of furniture and lace in 1920 and, in 2001, the State Art Institute of Cantù was named after Fausto Melotti. Today it houses its museum, which will be enhanced with the NEB project.

Teatro di San Teodoro

Via E. Corbetta, 39. Capacity 199 people
Project uses: theater and events + congress centre

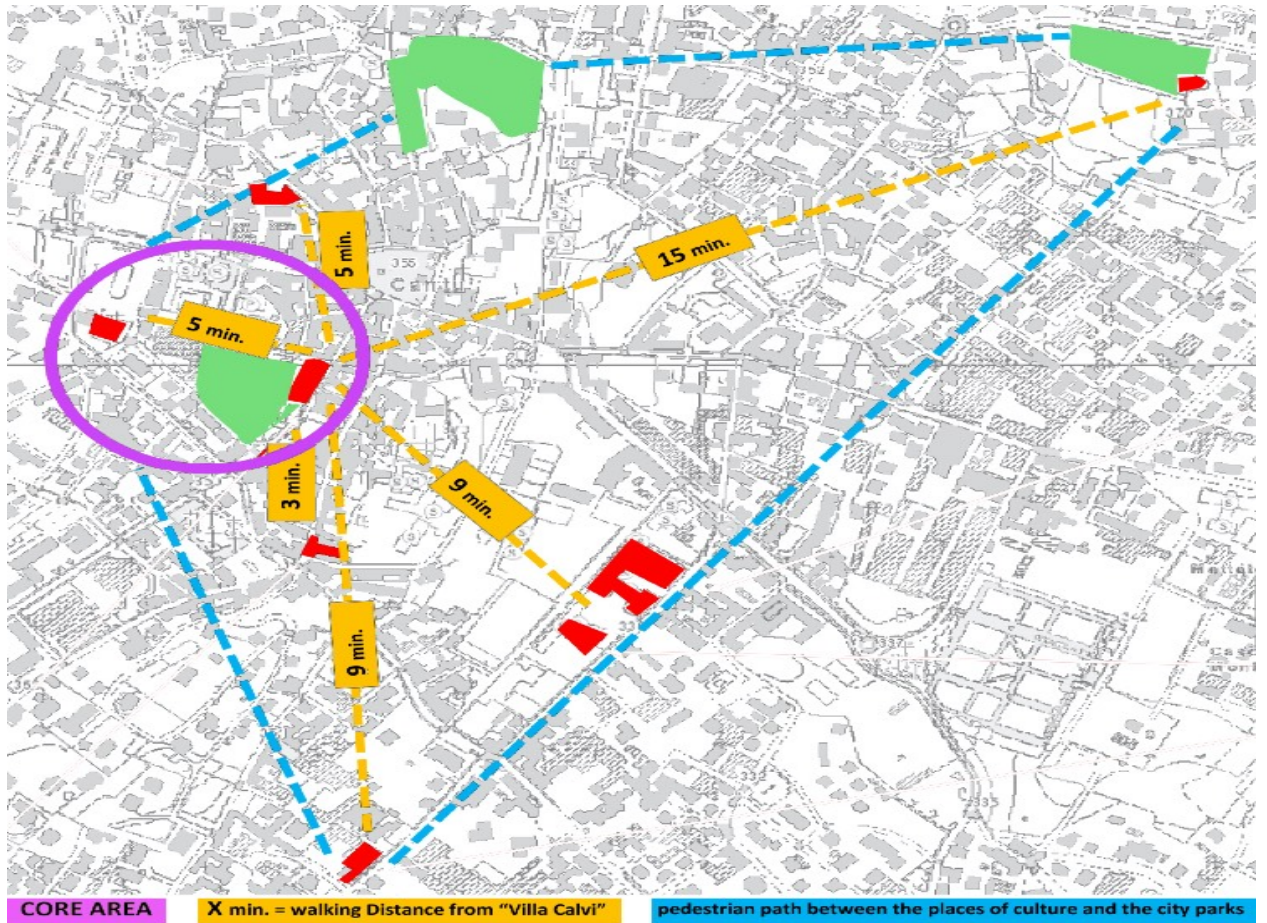
Auditorium

Via Andina, 6. Next opening phase.
Project Uses: Meeting+cultural events.

Furthermore, the owners of two important brownfield sites located in the project area have shown interest in the potential of the widespread museum system:

The Castle of Pietrasanta of historical importance and in a strategic position, next to the Basilica of San Paolo, overlooking Piazza Garibaldi.

Ex Collegio De Amicis, which contains an important cultural heritage (school library, library curated by Don Adolfo Asnaghi, mineralogical museum and museum of natural sciences curated by Don Carlo Villa).



2) **Arena Casa del Basket**, dedicated to the well-known basketball team, will be a multifunctional structure as well as for basketball, aimed at a large territorial basin with the forecast of 80 events a year and 300 thousand visitors. The intervention area is located 1km from the city center, south-west of the municipal area and on the border with the municipality of Cucciago.

The intervention lot is spread over an area of approximately 2.5 hectares and is connected to the main road arteries leaving the city. The **Arena Casa del Basket** has about 5,200 seats and a training field and will be spread over 3 levels. In addition to the sports citadel, the facility includes a commercial area and one dedicated to the food services.



C3 PROJECTSITE



Project site description

The project site is represented by a public space consisting of an axis connecting Largo Adua, to the north, and Piazza Volontari della Libertà to the south, marked by a system of squares, courtyards and secondary connections. This axis as a whole is a place of passage and commerce with shops, public establishments and commercial spaces.

The urban road network is congested due to its historical radial layout towards the heart/central square of the city (Piazza Garibaldi).

The City of Cantù has set the goal of making the city center inclusive and accessible, adopting the PEBA plan (Plan for the Elimination of Architectural Barriers), with the elaboration of a detailed analysis of the stretches of road on which it is possible to intervene and which present critical issues at present.

It starts from Largo Adua, in the stretch known as "Pianella" subject of an intervention with the construction of the roundabout, embellished with a bronze sculptural work by the artist Giovanni Mason. The route towards Piazza Garibaldi reaches the crossroads following via Dante or via dei Mille. The road axis of via Dante is one of the most important vehicular urban routes in the city. At the entrance to the park of Villa Argenti, with a redevelopment and enhancement project of the park in progress, the second square of the project is identified, consisting of Piazza XI Settembre, built around the beginning of the 2000s, resulting from the recovery plan of the historic glass factory canturine called "VCS".

The third highlighted area is Piazza Garibaldi, the place of urban polarization of the city, it is the point of convergence of numerous road axes. The current conformation and its trapezoidal shape is the result of the radical redesign that took place around the 2000s.

Next to the historic 1893 headquarters of the "La permanent mobili" consortium in Cantù, the new Palazzo delle Esposizioni was built in 1957, with a trapezoidal shape, which concludes a nineteenth-century block.

Exhibiting one's products to the public, then above all Milanese, in a single large building offered a global vision of the furniture production of the Cantù area, promoting its sale and encouraging the exchange of knowledge that contributed to the affirmation of Cantù furniture all over the world .

The buildings overlooking the square are subject to landscape constraints for view. From a side paved stairway you reach the overlying basilica of S. Paolo. An important role for the connection of the hub of the widespread museum (Villa Calvi-Sant'Ambrogio) is the connection with Piazza Garibaldi from via Manzoni, an uphill path, about two hundred and fifty meters long and the main road axis.

Continuing on via Matteotti, the most important pedestrian axis of the historic city, which has always been the place for strolling, trading and shopping for Canturini, we intercept the Piazza Boldorini-Largo XX Settembre system which has the façade of Villa Calvi, whose entrance is located on the direction of via Roma, a road with heavy car traffic.

Piazza Boldorini has an interesting system of pedestrian streets at variable altitudes that connect it to the former Collegio De Amicis. Another highlighted area of the route is Piazza Fiume, at the entrance to the park and Villa Calvi and the confluence of via Roma and via Cavour. Continuing towards Piazza Volontari della Libertà we intercept Largo Amedeo consisting of a small garden and a courtyard with shops. Before Piazza Volontari della Libertà, there is another stage of the widespread Museum: the "Corte San Rocco" exhibition space consists of a ground floor used for exhibitions which overlooks a public courtyard, from which you can access Via Brambilla - former De Amicis College. Finally, Piazza Volontari della Libertà is characterized by the confluence of important road connection arteries such as via Milano, via Risorgimento, via Carcano and via Damiani, towards Corso Unità d'Italia. The area is intended for parking and overlooks the apse of the Church of SS. Michael and Biagio.

From a planning point of view, the project axis is characterized by altimetric variations which, on the one hand present a criticality in terms of facilitating pedestrian paths for the weakest user, on the other it offers a design opportunity to intervene on the ground and to enhance panoramic views.

Road slope scheme



Project guidelines for the strategic area

The identified strategic area contains the key elements of the urban regeneration of Cantù which must be considered for the project on the site. The perimeter of the strategic staircase was deliberately not defined to offer freedom to the designers to insert themes and ideas in the connection of the system of squares.

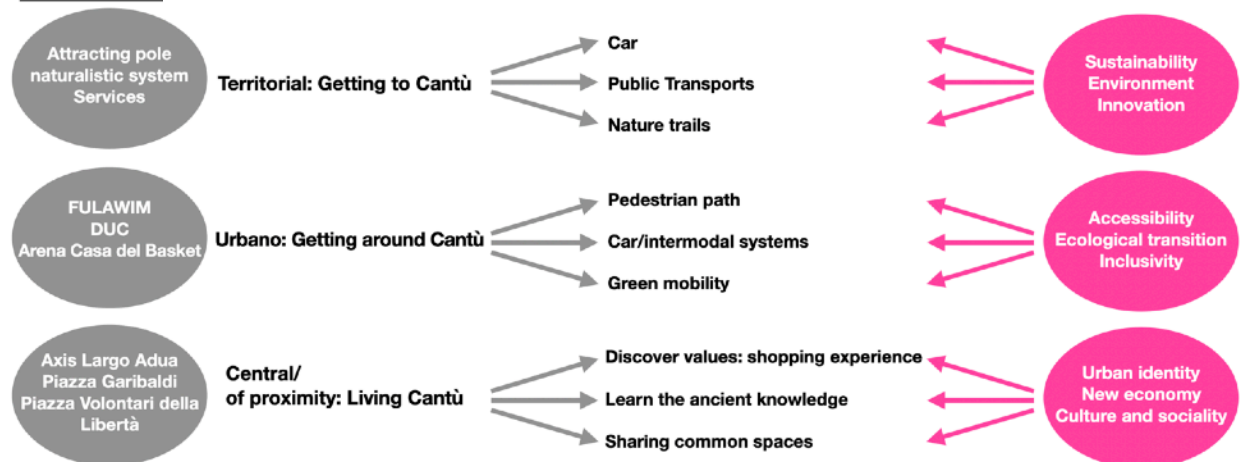
The possible design scenarios can be faced with:

- the mobility system also in consideration of the two railway lines of which the most active is that of Asnago (Cantù-Ceremate) and the possibility of reducing traffic on via Roma to make a part of it pedestrian;

- coordination with car parks, rest and interchange areas;
- green connections and cycle-pedestrian networks.

Just a quote from the widespread museum of Sciacca in the Province of Agrigento: "Being a widespread museum means that every element of the city, including the people with their stories, are the great treasure that is offered to those who come to visit us. They are part of the Widespread Museum craftsmen, merchants, accommodation facilities, restaurants, cultural associations, trade associations and many pieces of a mosaic of unique pieces".

3S+3T 3 systems+3 topic



Project guidelines for the project site

The critical viability, the presence of large and medium-sized sales structures outside the centre, the presence of buildings in need of recovery and the global crisis generated by the pandemic situation have discouraged the establishment of economic and commercial activities in the Urban

District of Commerce, in particular, in the city centre, which has seen a reduction in the number of neighborhood shops. Starting from the programs object of the regeneration and from the program of the widespread museum, it is necessary to stimulate and enhance the city's socio-economic system as much as possible.

The road network, the squares, the passageways, the widenings that characterize the historic center require attention and care to rediscover the authentic value, proper to the city lived by generations of Canturini. A new design of the center on an urban scale is therefore envisaged, thus imagining the activation of new opportunities.

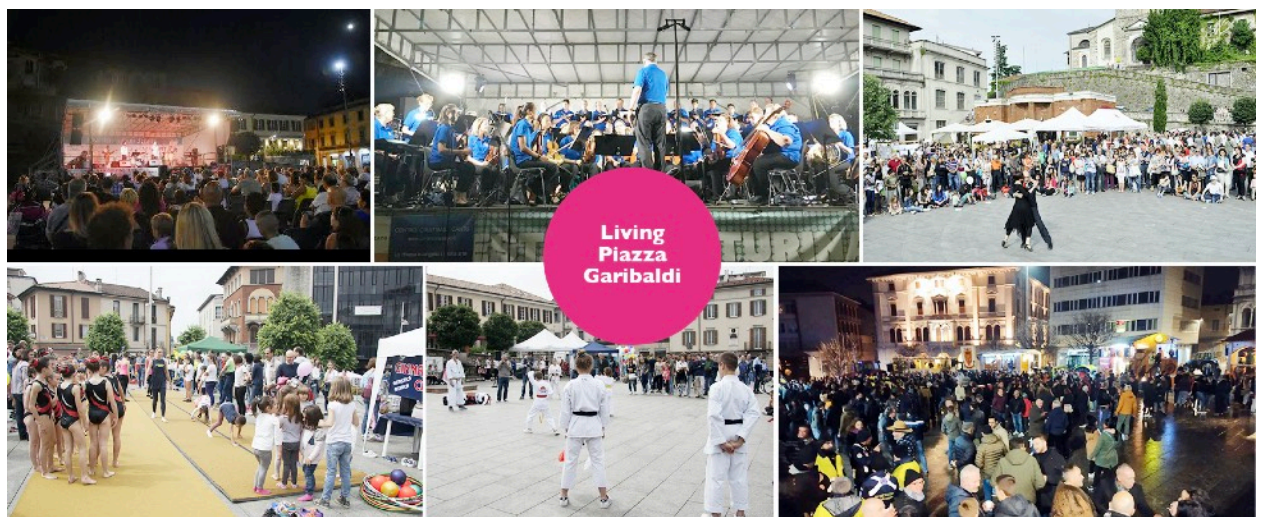
Programme:

- Designing the system of squares with new functions linked to FULAWIM and the DUC, with a single architectural language, introducing identity elements of the city's values through the use of materials, furnishings, greenery, interaction with the possibilities offered by digital world (urban landmark). Public spaces will play a fundamental role in local life, tourist reception and interaction with local activities;
- Identify new activities to be located on the site in consideration of the new users generated by the initiatives in progress (tourism, sport, neighborhood activities, free time, training, etc.); trying to give a unique architectural language also for materials and furnishings;
- Rethinking the system of vehicular, pedestrian and/or cycle-pedestrian paths to guarantee the use of urban space that can adapt to different rhythms of use in the alternation between day/night and seasons, systematizing the resources of the car parks and stations and the different types of mobility;

- Rethink the connection system of cultural public places and green areas, with particular attention to slow mobility and the elimination of architectural barriers.

Note:

- Piazza Guglielmo Marconi (in the strategic area) can be the object of an architectural project in consideration of the recovery of the former church of Sant'Ambrogio thinking about the alternation of uses and the function of parking, but also the differences in altitude up to Piazza Garibaldi;
- It is possible to intervene between the project areas with greenery, increasing the permeable surface compatibly with feasibility;
- Street furniture can be both fixed and temporary relating to specific functions (markets/fairs/concerts);
- It is asked to support the design of individual public spaces with design/strategic processes open to the realities present in the area (citizenship/crafts/associations/entrepreneurship).
- Consider the interesting opportunity for possible proposals offered by the connection to the project axis, from the entrance to Villa Argenti from via Fiammenghini, along via Brambilla, up to the former Collegio De Amicis.



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Documents

Photos, plans and documents

Cartographic materials

City of Cantù

Photos

Margherita Erbani
Rosalia Marilia Vesco

Maps, CTRs, graphs and aerial photos

- Google corporation (aerial and semiaerial)
- Sit (Territorial Information System) Lombardia Region
- City of Cantù
- Semi-aerial photo of Piazza Garibaldi from a drone by Francesca Marelli

Contribution to the text

- City of Cantù, PGT City of Cantù, General paper
- Presentation of New European Bauhaus Beautiful, Sustainable Together –FULAWIM, Cantù, 2022.
- Documents on DUC (Urban District of Commerce)
- G. Montorfano, A. Porro, R. Arbizioni (authors), *Cantù: guida alla città attuale e ai percorsi storico-artistici*, Published in Cantù, 1997.
- Trade Lab team, Context analysis, Promotion and development of the city of Cantù shopping route, 2020

Links

Links

[City of Cantù - portal](#)
[PGT \(Territorial Government Plan\)](#)
[PEBA \(Architectural Barrier Elimination Plan\)](#)
[Geoportale Regione Lombardia](#)
[Festival del legno](#)
[FULAWIM](#)
[DUC- Commercial Urban District](#)
[Consorzio Mobili Cantù](#)
[Cantù Basket Arena project](#)
[Nature trails Cantù 1](#)
[Nature trails Cantù 2](#)
[Comitato del Merletto Liceo Artistico Melotti](#)
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