

ArchAlp 17 – Projects for inhabiting mountain areas: between *neopopolamento* and local development

Overcoming the narrative that has long described the mountains as a place of abandonment, especially by younger generations, has led to the emergence of widespread practices of regeneration and the construction of new forms of habitability over the last decade. In this first phase of local development, architecture and spatial design have played a decisive role, contributing to the collective production of social and welfare infrastructure essential for the revitalisation of villages.

Today, considering the documented phenomena of *nuovi nuovi montanari* (Corrato et al., 2014), *restanza* (Teti, 2022), vertical migration (Membretti et al., 2024) and *tornanza* (Prota and Albano, 2024), the desire or choice of the mountains by new inhabitants is no longer in question. The critical issue is rather the material, social and infrastructural conditions that make it possible to live in these areas in the long term. Even villages undergoing regeneration processes present an ambivalent picture. On the one hand, there is a strong need for hybrid places and “institutional” architecture, capable of overcoming established typologies and standards and generating opportunities through the relationship and mixing of functions and practices. On the other hand, there is an increasingly evident structural shortage of residential space, both for long-term housing and for temporary or unstable users.

This issue explores the concept of *neopopolamento* as a critical key to examining projects, practices and visions that contribute to building a new habitability of the mountains. Attention is paid to the role of architectural design in imagining new forms of social infrastructure and residential models capable of responding to the needs of old and new inhabitants.

Proposals are invited to address these themes through interventions on the built environment and the landscape, documenting architectural projects and regenerative experiences in which resettlement practices have been promoted and implemented, as well as cases in which such processes have taken diverse forms or produced complex outcomes, offering opportunities for analysis and critical reflection.

The journal

ArchAlp is a biannual open-access journal and represents the evolution of the former print edition of the same name.

From a scientific standpoint, the journal explores the themes of architectural design and the built landscape in the Alpine environment as a field where issues of architectural and energy quality of the built environment, heritage, urban planning, sustainable technological development, environmental protection, tourism enhancement, infrastructure, and the valorisation of the historical, cultural, and social resources of the mountains converge. Special attention is given to contemporary developments and to the history of twentieth-century modernity.

The journal features monographic issues focusing on emerging and internationally relevant topics within the areas of debate mentioned earlier, alternating between issues of a historical-critical nature and those dedicated to contemporary design-related subjects.

The Editorial Board is responsible for the planning, conceptualisation, and editorial management of each issue, with the support of a Scientific Committee composed of internationally renowned scholars and experts in the journal's fields of interest. Other prominent field specialists form the core group of reviewers for the articles submitted for publication.

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts may be submitted to **ArchAlp** by **20 April 2025** in response to periodic thematic calls for papers by sending the full contribution to: **redazione@archalp.it**.

The manuscript must comply with the journal's editorial guidelines.

The submission email must include:

- a) full name;
- b) academic title;
- c) university position;
- d) institutional affiliation (university or other research institution).

Submission of an article implies that the work has not been previously published, is not under consideration elsewhere, and that all authors have approved its publication.

Manuscript Requirements

The manuscript must follow the editorial criteria described in the following paragraphs and include:

- Full text (10.000-12.000 characters including spaces) written in **English, Italian, French, Slovenian, or German**
- Title in both the language of the article and in English
- **Selected bibliography** (maximum 15 references), including in particular the works cited in the text
- **Author's biography** in English (maximum 300 characters including spaces)
- **Abstract** in English (maximum 1,500 characters including spaces)
- **Keywords** in English (maximum 5)
- **Iconographic material**: each article must include between 8 and 12 high-resolution images (300 dpi, minimum size 10 x 15 cm). Images must be free of copyright restrictions. The author or source must always be cited. Captions for each image must be provided in a separate text file (maximum length 300 characters including spaces).

Evaluation Procedure

All submissions will first be assessed by the Editorial Board to determine their suitability. If a submission is deemed unsuitable, the author will be notified, and a record of the decision will be kept.

Articles judged suitable will undergo a **double-blind peer review** process.

- If both reviewers recommend publication without changes, the article proceeds directly to publication.
- If one of the reviewers recommends rejection, the article will not be published.
- If one or both reviewers request revisions, the comments will be sent to the author, who may revise and resubmit the article.

The Editorial Board retains final responsibility for the decision to accept or reject the article.

After Acceptance

Proofs of the contribution (in Word format) will be sent to the corresponding author by email to allow for final corrections.

Only strictly necessary changes (typographical or factual errors) that do not substantially alter the text will be accepted. Significant modifications to accepted articles will only be allowed with the approval of the Editorial Board.

Contributions by Distinguished Authors

At the discretion of the Editorial Board, contributions from emeritus professors or individuals holding academic and/or institutional positions directly related to scientific research in the field of Alpine architecture and landscape may be published without peer review.