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Genoa: Mediterranean urban river between resilience and recycling.

Abstract:

In the development and growth of the first urbanity waterways they have formed an important resource not only from the point of view of supply environmental, but also strategy and logistics. Rivers and streams, in addition to ensuring a crucial source of water and food, provided natural protection against enemy attacks and allowed quick and easy movement of both people and goods over long distances.

In the Mediterranean, in particular contexts river they have seen the development and growth of different civilizations that have flourished for centuries resulting in the construction of urban systems increasingly complex with the ability to take advantage of the natural topography and the availability and strength of the course of water.

In this sense Genoa is an example of great interest because the primordial relationship of the relationship between the settlement, the streams and rivers that define it has largely developed and articulated in the coming centuries between the Middle Ages and Renaissance to include the city of Genoa as one among the most modern and articulated urban systems in Europe thanks to a complex system of cisterns and channels for the collection, distribution and management of water in order not only to feed fountains, sources or farmland, but also more complex to allow for cleaning road, the operation of a sewage system ...

Over the centuries, these systems based on collaboration and reciprocity have been abandoned, replaced and surpassed by the advancement of technology, this process has thus resulted in a progressive detachment from the reality of the settlement morphological nature of the place with the consequent degradation of river areas both in terms of cultural value-conceptual space-Maintenance. In Genoa, the canals and rivers have become spaces intruders in an urban area that has them literally buried, or nearly so, creating all kinds of problems: on the one hand the gradual saturation and fractionation of the courses has inevitably increased the occurrence of crises with flood risks only of flooding or landslide, but addirritra of real collapses of buildings and roads, on the other the turn of the river in a residual space unused and devoid of any significance has led to the occurrence of a series of non-negligible problems igenico-abientali . Today the renewed attention ecological and scenic drives to a rediscovery, upgrading and revitalization of these areas. In this scenario, the analysis of the Genoa area brings out with particular interest considerations-two phenomena: on the one hand, in reality in a spontaneous resistance species of the two main rivers, Bisagno and Polcevera, to lose their function and role both in agriculturally in the upper parts of the valleys, and environmental penetrating the center of the city as corridors "oasis" of new habitats in which plants auctotone and not as volatile as they have found refuge and home; on the other hand the tendency of many spaces in the long abandoned to find in a more or less spontaneous, from below or above, new functions and uses.

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