

UNISCAPE En-Route International Seminar
Recovering river landscape
UNISCAPE Napoli
University of Naples Federico II
Napoli, Italy
28-30 September 2015

THE WATER SYSTEM OF PINEROLO: READING AN INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE
THROUGH UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS

Riccardo Rudiero

Politecnico di Torino, Dipartimento di Architettura e Design
riccardo.rudiero@polito.it

Track a. *Conservation and transformations of dynamic landscapes.*

Keywords: Pinerolo, river and flume landscape, industrial heritage.

The town of Pinerolo, strategically located close to the Alps and on the outskirts of Turin, in the millennium of its history underwent expansions and contractions, transformations, but above all demolition (mainly military), which have substantially modified its appearance. Like many urban centers of medieval origin, the water has strongly oriented the development of the settlement: this element, in fact, has been the sign that mainly characterizes its landscape, both suburban, and urban. A peculiar component of the water system, which has always survived similar to itself till now, is the Rio Moirano, flume that we know already since the first two decades of the Thirteenth Century, and which was the driving force for a series of productive activities that made the city a popular industrial center. These architecture and water system – that creates an urban and peri-urban waterfront, marked by a strongly functionalist appearance – has lost much of its peculiarities. Today, this heritage requires timely operations of protection, since the speculation is slowly but surely destroying or hiding it, element by element.

To preserve this system is important to rethink this canal and all the components of the water system of the town, made by the Chisone and Lemina rivers and the Bealera of Buriasco, as an engine for conservation.

The paper aim to highlight the important changes of this landscape in the period between the mid-nineteenth and early twentieth century, through the reading of several unpublished documents of the reorganization of the waters, contained in the historical archive of the city.

From this start point, the paper want to propose an enhancing strategy that focuses on conservation actions for this industrial system, made by factories and water supply. For this to happen it is necessary, in addition to an organic project, including adequate information campaigns and popular involvement, to ensure that this heritage can be known, appreciated, and consequently preserved.

References:

- IENTILE, Rosalba e ROMEO, Emanuele: *La conservazione dell'architettura e del suo contesto*, Torino, Celid, 2009.
- PANZERI, Matteo e FARRUGGIA, Angela: *Fonti, Metafonti e GIS per l'indagine della struttura storica del territorio*, Torino, Celid, 2009.
- LONGHI, Andrea: *Cadastrales et territoires: l'analyse des archives cadastrales pour l'interpretation du paysage et l'aménagement du territoire. Catasti e territori: l'analisi dei catasti storici per l'interpretazione del paesaggio e per il governo del territorio*, Firenze, Alinea, 2008.
- CERRATO, Antonietta e RONCHETTA, Chiara (a cura di): *I luoghi del lavoro nel Pinerolese. Tra mulini e fabbriche, centrali e miniere*, Torino, Celid, 1996.
- DEMO, Carlo: *Il Rio Moirano*, Pinerolo, 1899, aggiornato nel 1950 da Paolo Tosel.