

The urban area of Rocca de'Baldi: knowledge and preservation

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This thesis is part of an overall research on Rocca de'Baldi, a medieval hamlet situated in southern Piemonte, in the District of Cuneo, in the antique district of Mondovì.

The cognitive itinerary on Rocca de'Baldi is to be started with the survey of the urban area. It is to be decided that a topographic, analytical and numerical survey of the area be carried out, applying the "theory of the nets".

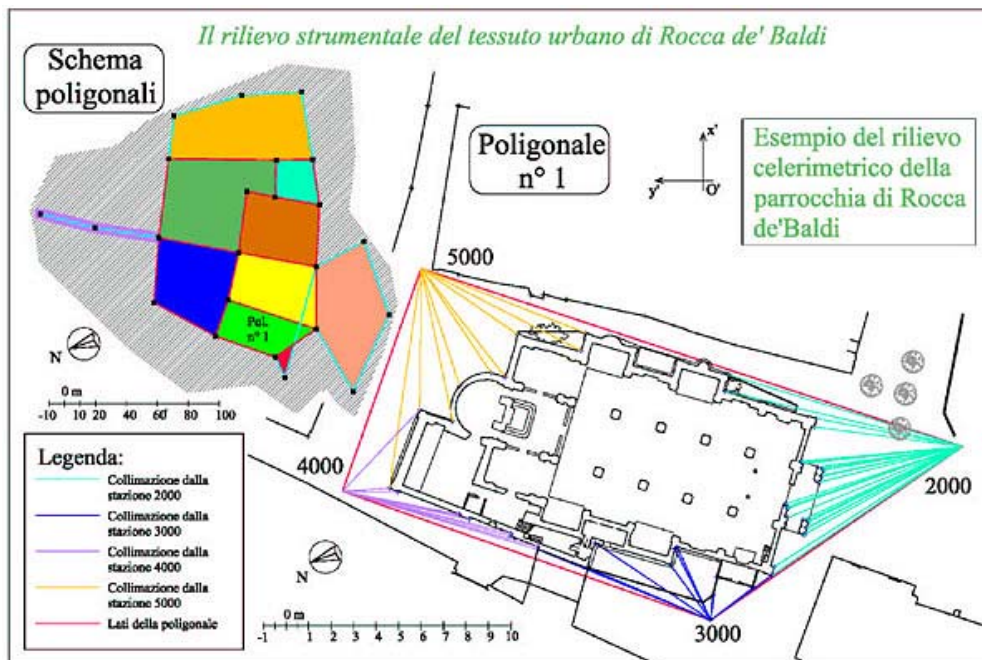
This theory is to be adapted to the requirements and tolerations needed to obtain a vector drawing on a scale of 1 to 50.

The prefixed objects for this work are:

- to carry out a general survey of the urban tissue in order to obtain an actual reading of the built-up area, source of metric and morphological information;
- to use methodologies like topographic, direct and detail survey in order to obtain results with a toleration equal to 2-3 cm;
- to carry out an architectural survey through the insertion of the graphical drawing of each individual building through monographic points of reference to reach a uniform result.
- To obtain a graphical map for comparison with the existing land registers.

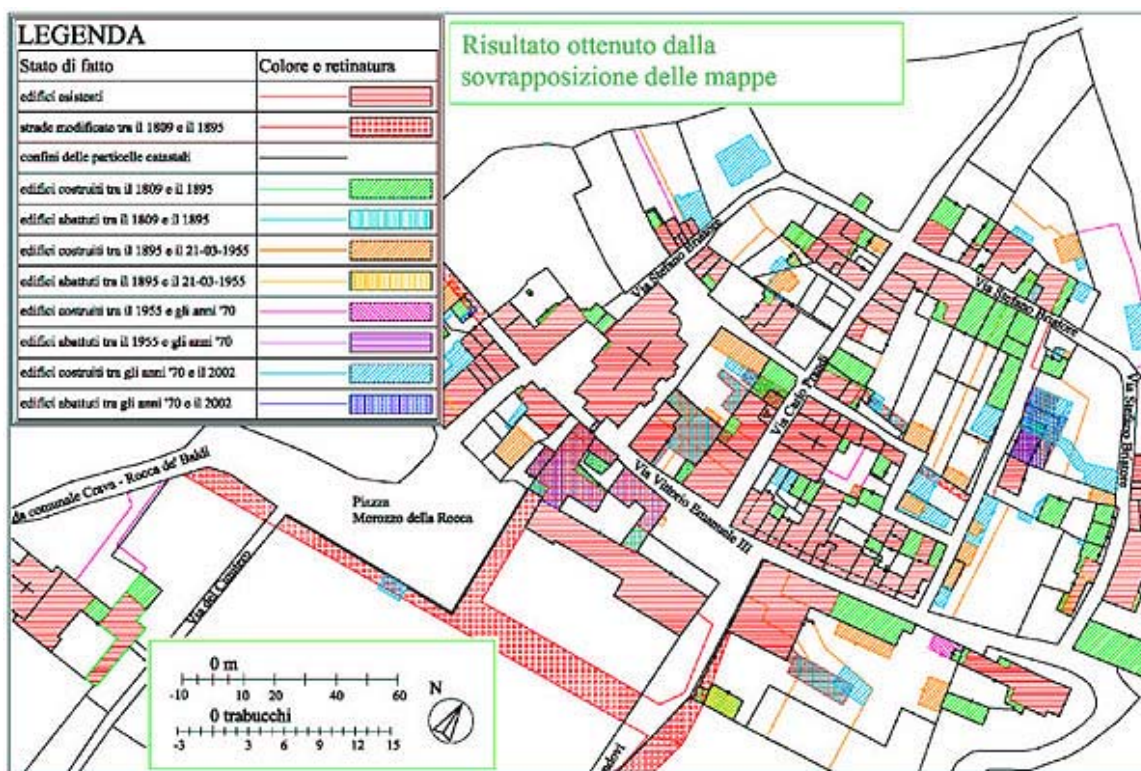
The surveying techniques to be used in order to reach these results are as follows:

- topographical techniques to build a system of framing formed by a rigid net of closed and open networks reaching the outlying peripheries;
- altimetry survey;
- detail survey to be carried out in connection with the vertexes of the framing net.



Detail survey of the Church

The result is represented by the drawing of the perimeter of the building that formed the built-up area of Rocca de'Baldi, created on the surveyed points.



Result of superimposition of land registers

The vector drawing and the monographies are to be given to other groups who aim to continue the survey of each building and apply their findings to the rigid net of reference in order to obtain a comprehensive view of the plane of development.

This study is to be advanced by diachronic reading of the antique maps (land register, military map) in an attempt to reconstruct the processes of formation of the urban structure in Rocca de'Baldi, as it is today, studying the traces of the original medieval site and the following transformations within the urban area.

Some pictures of the existing maps are to be taken and they are to be modified through analytical (not geometrical) techniques, using a computer program (Archis 2D) in order to obtain an orthogonal projection from a perspective image such as a picture.

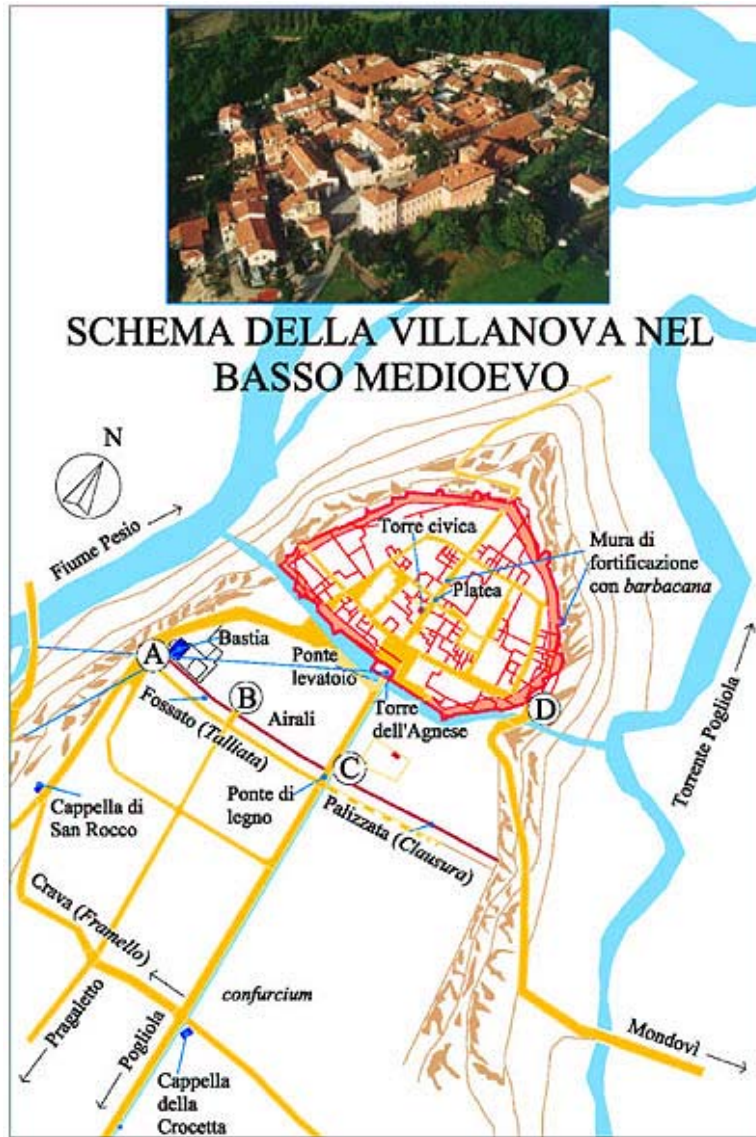
This process will give the possibility of comparing the survey to the existing maps, in order to reach a credible superimposition.

The result of the superimposition will permit the following aspects to be determined on the planimetry:

Pre-existences, variations on buildings, demolitions, information on the road layout assessment, closing of the internal courtyards of each quarter.

As regards the research of archives, this thesis is concentrated on the antique surrounding walls, the external limit which surrounds and influences the surveyed structure of the road layout, each quarter and the built-up areas.

The civic tower, an important element in the defensive medieval system, is to be studied, too.



Town outline in the first Middle Ages

In the conviction that there is a strong connection between the analysis and the preservation project (knowledge is indispensable in the planning of a preservation project), this work represents a possible cognitive method of the urban area in this "minor" centre.

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