

For a town-plans archives network in italy: ivrea (1883-1942)

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Since 1994 the *Triennale of Milan* has been developing the realization of an Italian town-plans virtual archive called *Town-plans Archives Network (Rete Archivi dei Piani urbanistici - RAPu)* with the aim to reach out, catalogue and reproduce the original documents about Italian cities from the Union of Italy (marked by the Law of 25th June 1865 *sull'esproprio per causa di utilità pubblica*, n. 2359) to the '70_s of the XX Century (marked by the new regional urban Laws introduced by the *DPR 8/1972*).

From the historical analysis of the urban growth of Ivrea came out the discovery of a town-plan of old conception based on ancient methods and rules proper of the XIX Century (*Piano regolatore di ampliamento 1880-1883*). Later the first properly modern town-plan of Ivrea (*Piano regolatore edilizio e di ampliamento 1938-1942*) followed.

During the XIX Century the town supported many changings induced firstly by the French Government (as illustrated by the first town-plan of the Napoleonic Age made by the architect and geometer Vincenzo Zani del Frà, 1807) and after by a lot of other sectorial town-plans typical of the XIX Century's '40_s and '50_s.

In the second half of the XIX Century the urban and economic development, but especially the realization of the railway line Chivasso-Ivrea (1858), brought the town Council to promote a new town-plan. The task of this one (redacted between 1859 and 1862 by the geometer and member of the town Council Ignazio Girelli) was to unify all the isolated existing projects.

In spite of this, during the following years the Girelli's town-plan of the middle XIX Century was replaced by new *Regulations* concerning buildings and public safety (*Regolamenti di Polizia Urbana e Rurale e di Igiene Pubblica* of 1868) which revised and updated the old one that was still operative (*Regolamento d'Ornato* 1834-1835).

The end of the XIX Century was characterized by a lot of public works connected with the extension of the Chivasso-Ivrea railway line to Aosta (1879-1886). Consequently the engineer and architect Gioachino Lomaglio drew a new town-plan aimed to control the city enlargement announced (*Piano regolatore di ampliamento della città di Ivrea 1880-1883*).



1906. *Town-plan of Ivrea*

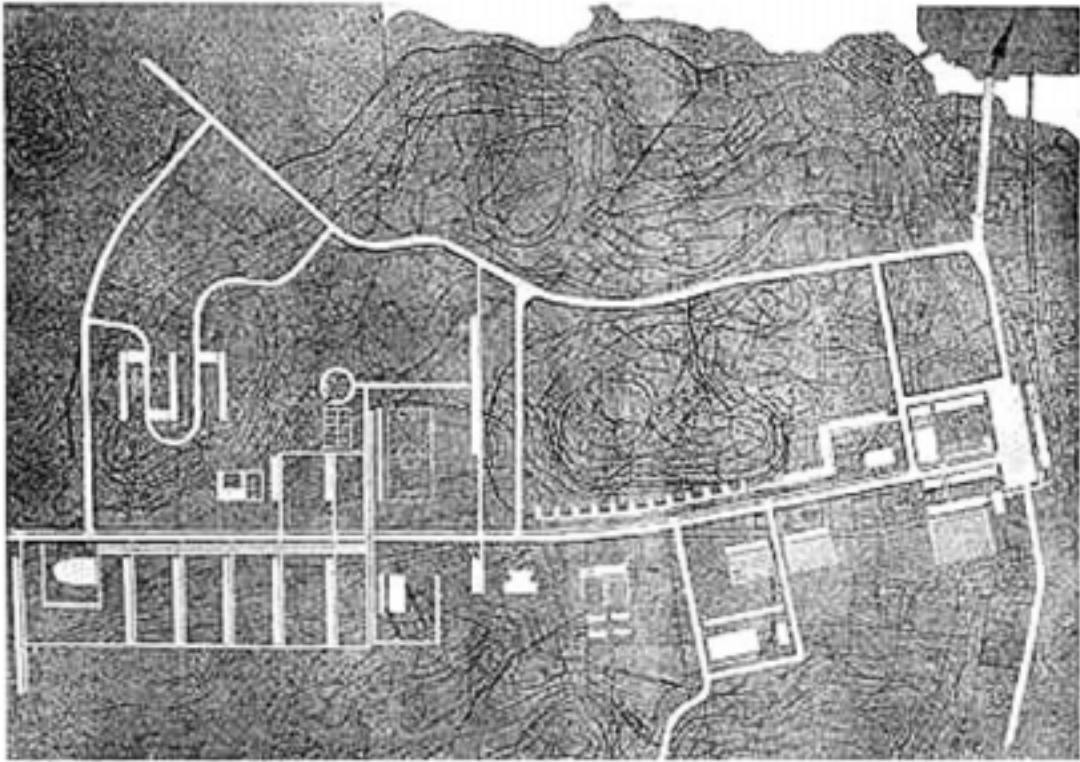
The town-plan drawn by Giacomo Caviglia in 1906 was based on the previous town-plan drawn by Gioachino Lomaglio at the end of the XIX Century (*Piano regolatore di ampliamento della città di Ivrea 1880-1883*). [Ufficio Tecnico di Ivrea]

The industrial improvement of Ivrea started only at the beginning of the XX Century and caused the building boom that in 1906 required the creation of the first *Building Regulation* (*Regolamento Edilizio*).

During the '30s, together with the establishment of Fascism, new urban theories arose all around Italy. Also Ivrea took part to these events in order to proclaim publicly a national contest for new town-plan studies.

Since the 6th December 1926 Aosta became the chief town of the new Province also including Ivrea and the new political order forbade once again the realization of all inhabitants' expectations.

Trying to solve the situation, in 1934 Adriano Olivetti financed the study for a new town-plan focused on the west-side city expansion (*Piano di un quartiere nuovo ad Ivrea*).



1934. Town-plan of a new district in Ivrea

The west-side city expansion was drawn by Luigi Figini e Gino Pollini charged by Adriano Olivetti. [Deduced from OLIVETTI, Adriano, BANFI, Gian Luigi, BELGIOJOSO, Ludovico B., BOTTONI, Pietro, FIGINI, Luigi, LAURO, Italo, POLLINI, Gino, ROGERS, Ernesto N., ZVETEREMICH, Renato, *Studi e proposte preliminari per il Piano regolatore della Valle d'Aosta*, Nuove Edizioni Ivrea, Milano 1943, p. 228]

Unfortunately even this last effort didn't come out successfully so that in 1938 the town Council, as suggested by Adriano Olivetti (who at that period was the leader of Ivrea Tourism Office – *Azienda Autonoma di Turismo di Ivrea*), decided for a new commission.

The planners charged with the new employment were famous professional men: the engineer Egisippo Devoti from Aosta and the architects Luigi Figini from Milan and Luigi Piccinato from Rome.

Nevertheless the first modern town-plan of Ivrea (*Piano regolatore edilizio e di ampliamento della città di Ivrea*) clashed into new difficulties which came to interfere with its execution: the beginning of the Second World War and the eve of the Urban Italian Law proclaimed by the Parliament on August 17th, 1942 (n. 1150).



1938-1942. *Town-plan of Ivrea*

The new town-plan of Ivrea was drawn by the engineer Egisippo Devoti from Aosta and the architects Luigi Figini from Milan and Luigi Piccinato from Rome. [Deduced from Federico MALUSARDI, *Luigi Piccinato e l'urbanistica moderna*, Officina edizioni, Roma 1993, p. 36]

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