

Canalizations and settlements between Beinette and Mondovì: historical sources, documents from the Irrigation Society Brobbio-Pesio, material proofs
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The research covers a wide part of the territory included between the rural districts of Beinette and Mondovì inside of which we have found a well-developed waterworks of big historical and documentary interest, that has given us the idea to analyze and study carefully the processes of canalization's transformation and of productive settlements from 18th to 19th century. In particular the research work has been conducted in the rural districts of Margarita, Morozzo, Rocca de' Baldi, Pianfei, Beinette and in the surrounding of Mondovì.

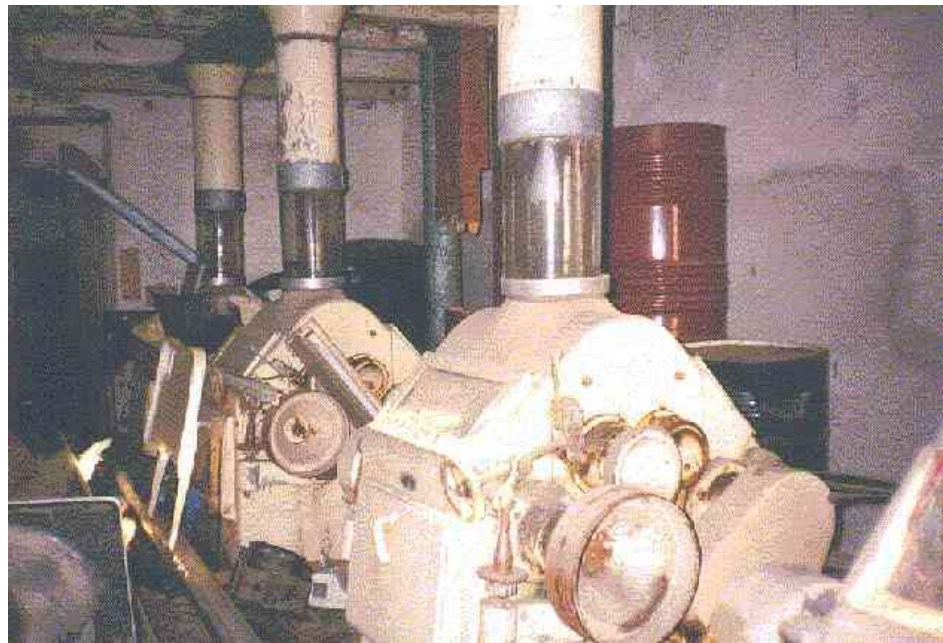


The Pogliola's water mill

The data desumed from descriptive and iconographic sources if compared with the surviving material proofs concerning canalizations and mills, help to understand the way and the phases of the change that has occurred in the area investigated, in relationship to the phenomenons that characterize from a more general perspective, the events of the agrarian landscape and of the settlements from Ancient Regime to Restoration.

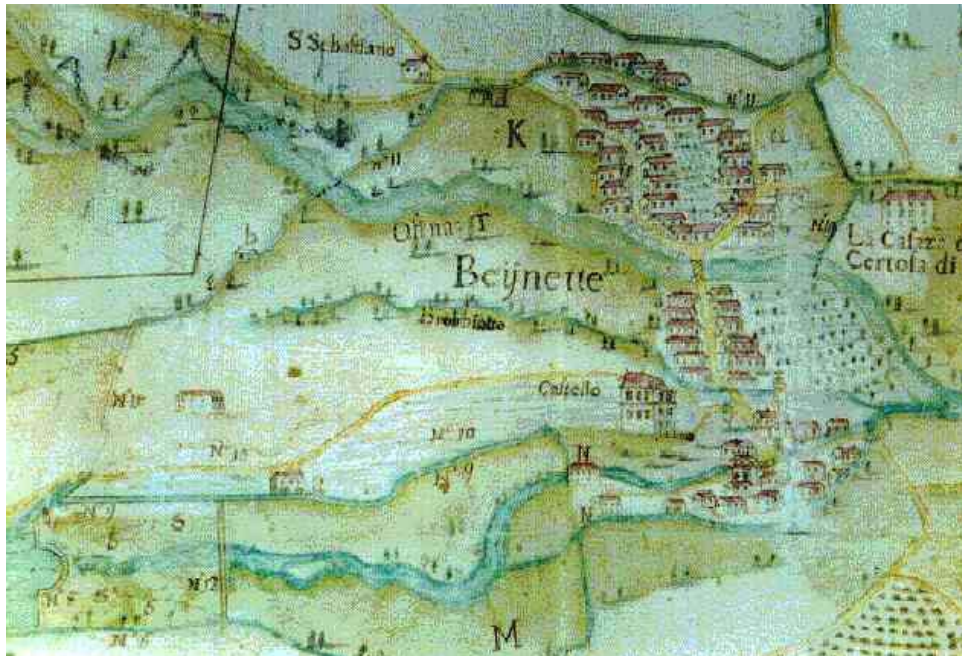
The identification and analysis of these canalizations and mills deal to make some reflections within the framework of urban and territorial planning policies, which at the same time should also concern the "work architecture", foreseeing its safeguard and valorization and, in some cases, the conversion for new compatible functions.

On this purpose thirty-nine cards concerning the productive buildings and its respective canals have been compiled. In these cards the processes of building and technological transformation are analyzed and information about the actual state is reported, attributing historical and documentary value to pre-existences.



Pogliola the system said " a laminatoio a cilindri" that is still preserved in this mill

Particular attention is been devoted to 18th century transformations which took place in Beinette' territory thanks to Carlo Vincenzo Ferrero of Ormea a feudal overlord member of the nobility, whose work of rearrangement made on the waterworks and in the productive sector is still recognizable.



Beinette's territory how is represented in a map dated 1746

A careful investigation has also been conducted on the Pogliola's water-mill (belonging to the Monastery of S. Maria di Carità in ancient times), rare example in the investigated area, that keeps a big part of the technological apparatus and of the hydraulic work and that refers to the traditional productive criterions.

The cognitive research ends with the propose of an "itinerary of work" able to make emerge the ancient origin of those canalizations that still today characterize the physical structure and the image of the territory, and that favoured, since the Middle Age, the settlements of factories related to material and alimentary survival of the popolation, while from the Modern Age offered the opportunity to start new industrial plants, like paper-mills and in the 18th century silk factories.

Along the canals the way touches the most significant sites both in urban and in rural framework, where 19th-20th century hidraulic buildings located in the places of more ancient installation are still preserved and still used for the regulation and distribution of water for both irrigation and energetic purpose.

Numerous documents concerning the exploitation of water for productive purposes have also been kept, as well as some examples in which the hydraulic engine power continues to be made use of, together with more advanced technologies, in order to carry out still today activites connected with wheat milling and with the production of hydro-electric energy.

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