

**Territory, settlement and architecture in Cengio: historical analysis and preservation directives**

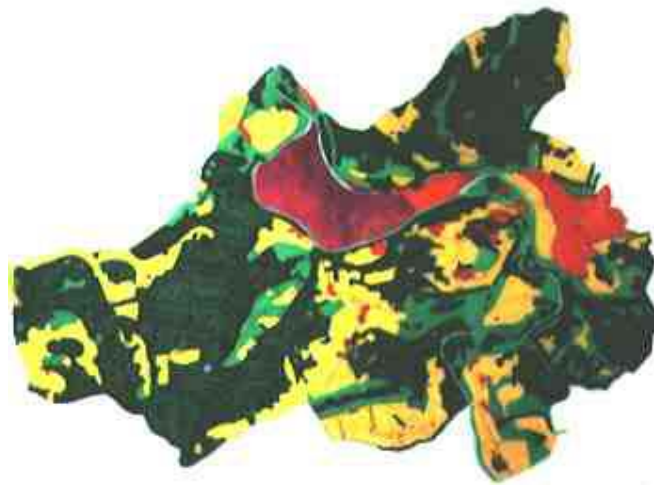
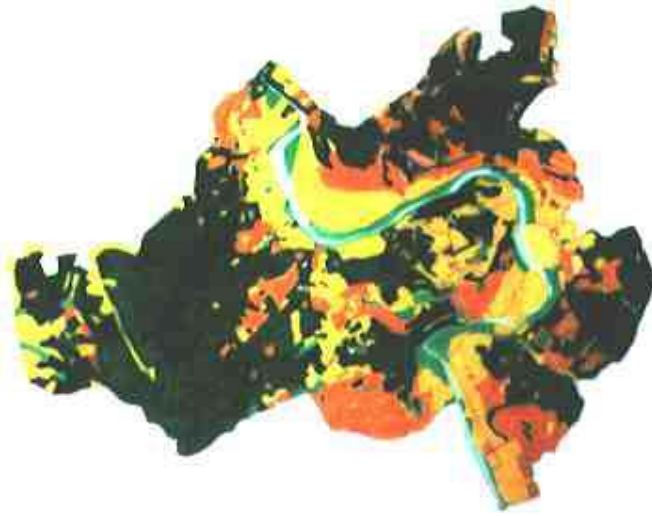
by Loredana Fracchia

Tutors: Maria Grazia Vinardi, Patrizia Chierici, Maria Ida Cametti

Cengio is a town of 4,000 inhabitants sitting in the Bormida valley, on the border between Liguria and Piemonte. It's recently known because of criticized ACNA Organic Chemicals, but it's got an architectural and landscape wealth too.

My work is a territorial and architectural study: it generally follows recent landscape researches methods, that apply keeping restoration directives to built and unbuilt environments. The first part is an historical analysis: the landscape has been schematically divided in three entities, that are territory, settlement and architecture. The principal analysed archives has been: Del Carretto's family archive, eighteen-century land register and reports of Savoia *intendenti* after their annexation (1736), napoleonic statistics.

I've studied in particular the ancient land register, which was made in Cengio in 1794-98 (map and registers are conserved in Savona State Archive): this document allows to compile a series of territorial and architectural charts that are, in regard to the first historical section (before 1798), the principal contribution to the final work, that's a landscape permanence map, useful instrument in municipal town and landscape planning. The comparison with the actual state has shown these land use variations: (late eighteenth century /actual situation) *piaze* (copse, 17%) and chestnut wood (25%) 42% /wood 54%; vines and *alteni* 20% /vines 0%; fields and meadows 23% /desultorily cultivated ground 17%; *giara-gerbido-rocche-ripe* 10% /uncultivated ground 15%; actual industrial place 5%; actual urbanized ground 4%.








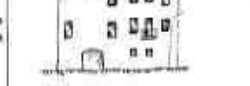


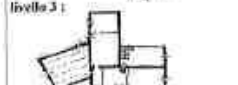
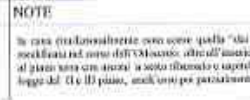


*Land use in the eighteenth century and in the present time*

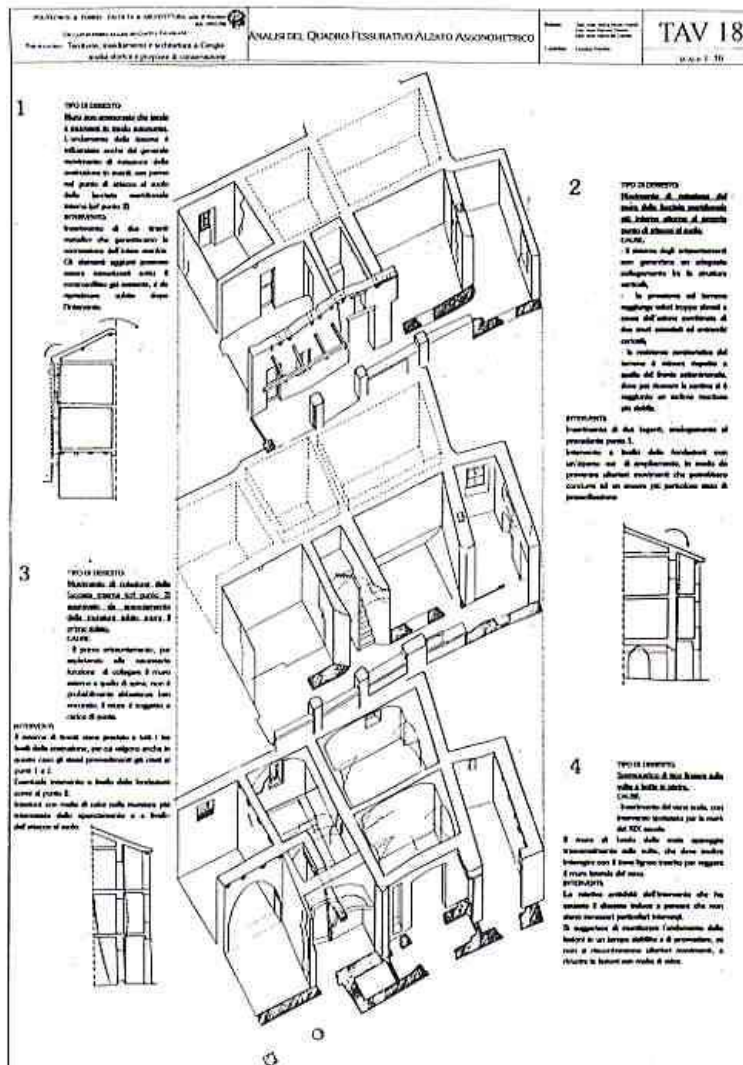
*dark green: wood  
 green: uncultivated ground  
 yellow: fields and meadows  
 orange: vines  
 red: urbanized ground  
 violet: industrial place ]*

The analysis on settlement has been realized making an accurate catalogue of each ancient house (according to the land register) to identify the well kept ones, and the most interesting examples. The object of my material analysis has been civil architecture (religious buildings were described only according to bibliographic materials), but the same methods of greater architecture are proposed, even if the historical value is preferred to artistic one. The historyless analyses of typology studies are refused, and that according to archaeological analyses made by ISCU laboratory in Genoa University (in particular according to Mannoni's and Cabona Ferrando's studies, and to their eleven direct dating methods towards historical

buildings): I've found a few written dates, so I've applied in particular relative dating methods, that are natural (materials), cultural (buildings techniques) and historical (stratification) factors. Among the examined buildings I've pointed out 31 examples for which a particular protection is suggested.

<b>COMUNE:</b> CENGIO <b>LOCALITÀ:</b> BRIGNOLETTA <b>INDIRIZZO 1:</b> via Brignoletta n°19	<b>INDICAZIONI PRG:</b> zona E spazio industriale zona F1a us di compatibilità	<b>VINCOLI LEGGE:</b> vincolo idrogeologico	scheda n° <b>N2</b>
			
<b>SEZIONE STORICA I:</b> 1798 orosc. notai Proposta Lorenzo Rizzo (1798), Modestino Rizzo e orosc. di Domenico (1801), Girolamo Rizzo (1802), Girolamo (1803) <b>Regione:</b> Brignoletta <b>Mappale:</b> 5478, casa e sito; 5479, casa e sito; 5480, casa e sito; 5481, casa e sito	<b>SEZIONE STORICA II:</b> carta attuale <b>Proprietà:</b> Ostelli Magliaco, Gualto Sulfantino <b>Foglio:</b> 4 catasto terreni <b>Mappale:</b> 217		
<b>FUNZIONI ATTUALI (PRECEDENTI)</b> <b>livello 1:</b> deposito (cantina, stalle, pozzo), passaggio equino <b>livello 2:</b> deposito, abitazione (abitazione) <b>livello 3:</b> deposito (abit., soffitto)	<b>prospetto NORD:</b> 	<b>livello 1:</b> 	
<b>CARATTERI EDILIZI</b> <b>Strutture verticali:</b> travetti portati in pietra e pochi mattoni con intonaco (XVIII e XIX sec); muratura portante intonacata (anni 1900) realizzata sul basamento delle antiche fondazioni	<b>prospetto EST:</b> 	<b>livello 2:</b> 	
<b>Strutture orizzontali:</b> solai ad arcature trapezoidali in legno (XIXsec); soletta in struttura armata latero-comerizia (anni 1950)	<b>prospetto SUD:</b> 	<b>livello 3:</b> 	
<b>Copertura:</b> struttura a doppia orditura in legno più travetto, manto di copertura in coppi	<b>prospetto OVEST:</b> 	<b>copertura:</b> 	
<b>Collegamenti verticali:</b> scala ad una rampa in pietra (I-II livello, XIXsec); scala ad una rampa in gradini lapidei su struttura lignea (II-III livello, XIXsec) <b>Balconi / Logge:</b> balcone in struttura armata con ringhiera in ferro (1910-'20), loggia su due livelli a doppia arcata in mattoni su pilastri in pietra (XIX sec)	<b>NOTE</b> In casa (ridimensionata come sono quella "di Magliaco") è stata da questo fotografo applicata e sovrapposta nel nome dell'Alcorno, oltre all'incisione della scala centrale, è stata realizzata la parte di piano sono con anelli in sotto rifinito e coperti in pietra, manomestramento in parte fotografato, e la loggia del 1° e 2° piano, anch'essi per parzialmente.		
<b>ELEMENTI DECORATIVI</b> ornamento capitello della loggia			

The analysis of historical strata has been applied in particular to the study case, that's the third step of my work, the architectural one: this operation is useful as example of ideal method to adopt in operations on historical buildings. The object is a rural house that I've drawn and studied (structural problems and solutions, upkeep).



The final point of the study is the protection directive, that's applied to 25 homogeneous areas in which the territory has been divided: *Castle, Valgelata, Almarossa, Salto, Costa, Feja, Vignale, Valbona, Beja, riverside area, Pian del Groppo, Belbo, Castellaro, Guarino, Rio dei Piani, Brignoletta, Pertite, via Veneto, Bormida, Montaldo, Parasacco, Monti, Genepro, Ponzano-Acna, PianRocchetta*. This last document includes three kind of rules: **environment keeping** (when only the town design can be conserved); **free operation keeping some characteristics**; **integral preservation**, when the examples satisfy the requisites of historical centre (that can't be simply considered a place signed on town planning charts, but it would be a series of single historical permanence, diffusing on municipal territory).

For further information, Loredana Fracchia, e-mail : [lofracc@tin.it](mailto:lofracc@tin.it)