

**A route of knowledge: the Molino Re of Brandizzo between the Freidano Ecomuseum and the Po river Park**

by Cristina Novo and Marianna Sasanelli

Tutor: Chiara Ronchetta

Co-tutor: Patrizia Chierici

The thesis's main object is the study of the territory developed along the Rio Freidano outline. In the above-mentioned area, during the time, mills, little hydraulic strength factories and a lot of farmhouses developed.

This stream is 20 km long and it crosses San Mauro, Settimo south side, Brandizzo and some territories located on the left side of the river Po: e.g. Castiglione, Gassino and San Raffaele Cimena.

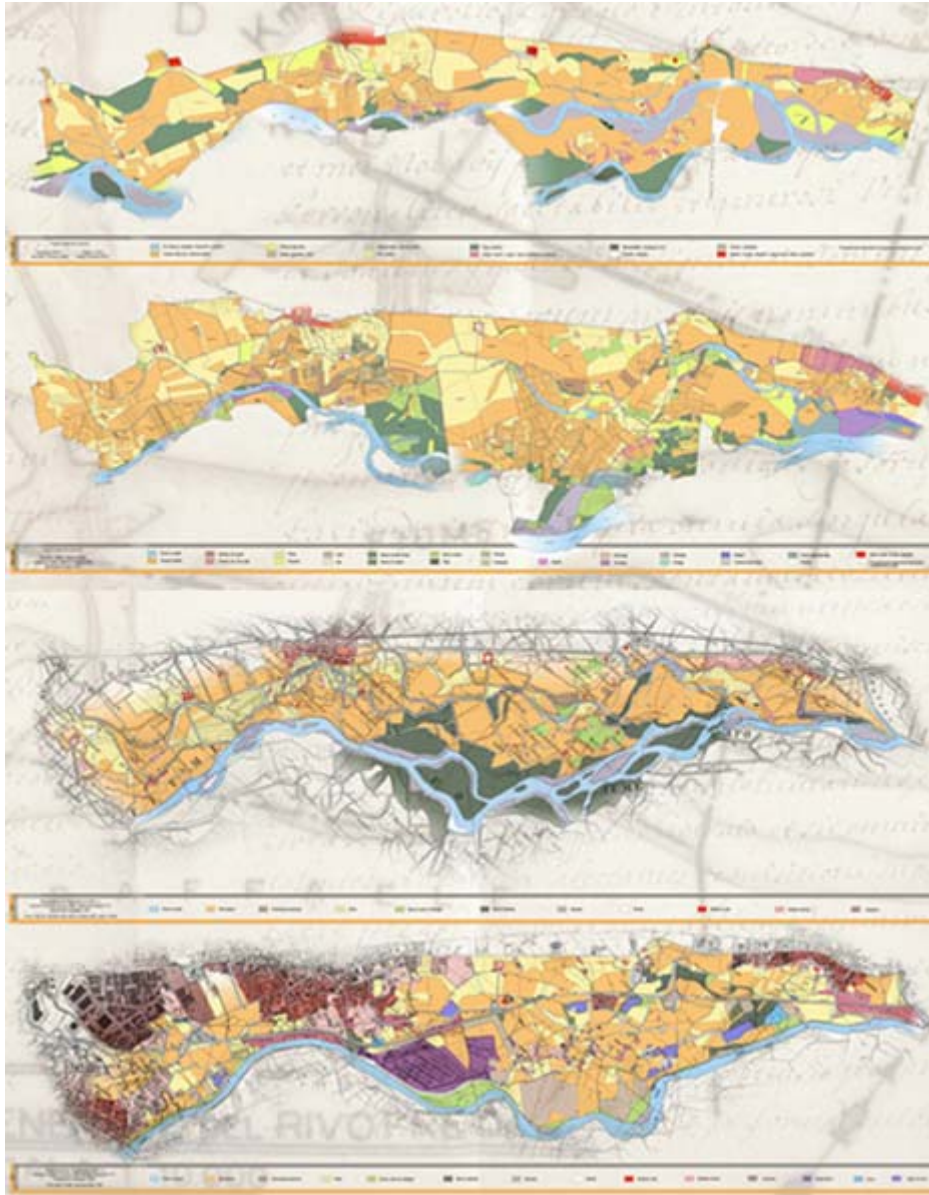
This area, delimited on the North by the provincial road 220 and on the South by the current left side of the river Po, has been identified since 1980 by Settimo Town Council Administration as "Freidano Ecomuseum".

This project, that involves also zones belonging to protected-area system of the river Po, has been outlined in 1996 through a "General Plan of the Ecomuseum" with the restoration of one of the most important buildings that used the waters of Freidano river: the Mulino Nuovo of Settimo Torinese. This building has become the Ethnographic Museum.

This thesis aims awaken the Town Council of Settimo to restart the original idea of "Freidano Ecomuseum".

The work is summarised in 16 coloured graphics and it is organized as follows:

- A first analysis of "**planning aspects**" related to the area that has been examined. The work considers either the projects planned for **Freidano Ecomuseum** and the PRUSST 2010 Plan for the **Po river park**.
- The landscape analysis through the reading of historical maps as an instrument to bring to light the territory's historical- documentary value. The area has been photographed in 4 steps - at the beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> Century (French Cadastre US), at the middle of 19<sup>th</sup> Century ( Rabbini Cadastre US), at the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> Century (Italy Map I.G.M.1923), currently – through the processing of maps (Pict. 1) that underline mainly an agricultural territory characterized by the river Po and a lot of streams, which were used by local farmhouses, mills and other hydraulic works



Reconstructions of the area's historical structure (XIX – XX century)

- **Filing of all architectural and environmental emergencies** of the ecomuseum and Po park area, as well as the water streams leading to Rio Freidano and all the related hydraulic apparatus.



Some Freidano Ecomuseum architectural and environmental emergencies

- Reconstruction of historical – productive events of Molino Re in Brandizzo through a deep search that allowed us to collect historical unpublished documents and to discover the factory transformation phases. It is an important mill of the end of 19th Century. G. Siber Millot has mentioned this building in *L'industria dei molini*, 1897, and Cesare Saldini in *Il Giornale dei Mugnai*. For all these reasons and for its architectural and productive characteristics it must be restored and enhanced.



#### Some important visits to Molino Re

- We found two Operative instruments for the Ecomuseum knowledge and development:  
The first one is “cognitive” and the second one is “normative”.  
The first is composed by Ecomuseum map that aims to underline (through thematic itineraries) all the architectural emergencies of Freidano Ecomuseum.  
The second one is the draft of a building code that provides different planning clues (architectural solutions, space distributions, parks and so on) for all the rural buildings included in the Ecomuseum area.

For further information, e-mail:

Cristina Novo: [kikka\\_fi@libero.it](mailto:kikka_fi@libero.it)

Marianna Sasanelli: [marithea@tiscali.it](mailto:marithea@tiscali.it)