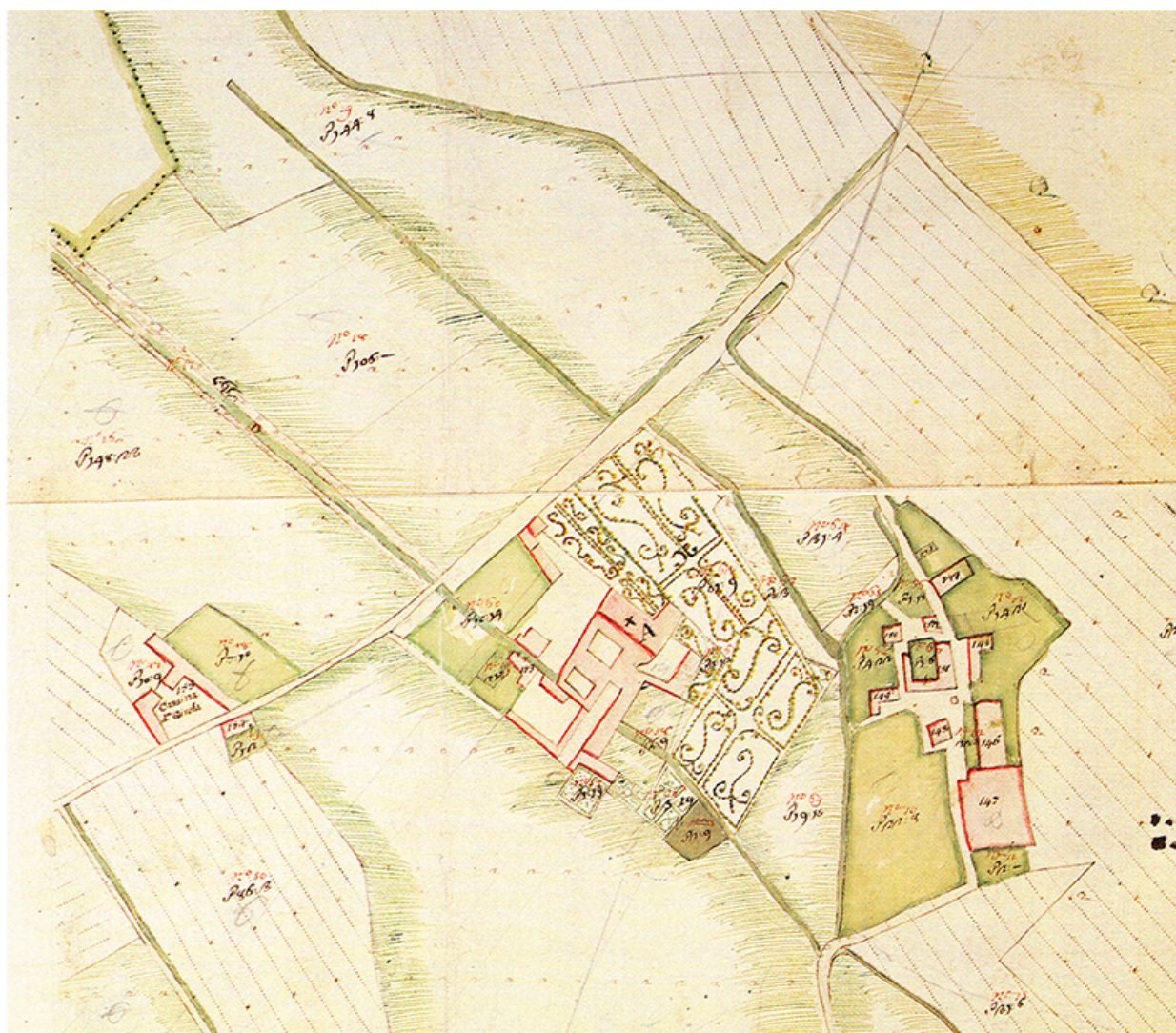


soglia monastero I cantieri per il giardino planetario

nell'ambito della campagna Borgomondo per Chiaravalle sostenibile

*Dopo millenni, il giardino si apre allo sguardo come un quadro vivace in contrasto con la natura circostante. Si tratta, come nell'attività artistica, di delimitare lo spazio sacro, una sorta di templum, all'interno del quale si trovi concentrato ed esaltato tutto quello che, fuori del recinto, si disperde e si diluisce [...].
Come permettere a un simile giardino di diventare planetario? ALAIN ROGER*



catasto teresiano 1722

abstract

In Milan, 7 km from the Cathedral, 2 kilometers from the metro and TAV (high speed train), Chiaravalle is an “undecided” territory where the city meets the countryside. Space which is comprised a portion of the lawn of the monastery, from the fringe of *terrain vague* adjacent to the trunk of an abandoned railway, the Vettabbia channel and the agricultural field overlooking the village.

The disposal of the late nineteenth century of the railway, now small and *shy high line in power*, the arrival of the purifier which has re-qualified the waters of the Vettabbia canal, the new park with water meadow and orchard over the effervescence of the active forces of the land; they can transform Chiaravalle from marginal and suburban place in the new testing center of the relationship between town and countryside;

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monastery threshold | yards to the planetary garden reconnects is a collaboration between Terzo Paesaggio cultural association, Federgat, Art 9, and IMAGONIRMA.

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The project *monastery threshold* activates innovative cultural policies for the Chiaravalle suburb in Milan. It focuses on the co-authorship of inhabitants and city users as temporary residents. Rethinks Chiaravalle as *Rural-Urban District* with a high cultural vocation, reinterpreting in a contemporary way the aura of the Cistercian monastery through experience sharing processes that meet the art, the custody of the landscape and of the resources, the spirituality and the promotion of diversity (territories, cultures, ideas).

The project realizes a *cultural center of the III millennium*, a thematic *community hub* dedicated to the landscape and inspired too - in a secular and contemporary way - to social and cultural principles guarded by the ancient monastic tradition that had made an exemplary model of sustainable community precisely in Chiaravalle.

The term *planetary garden* expresses the tension of the project to establish a system of relations that transcends the dimension and the traditional character of a closed garden. Instead, it accepts, includes and welcomes the complexity of a territory and a cultural system highlighting the special features and the changes that characterize it: every event expresses - in power - an element of an ecological system. Here the citizens-users become authors and thus work - metaphorically and not only metaphorically - as custodians and gardeners of the place.

The term *yards* emphasizes the procedural nature of the project which put into action the *performative project* method used in major urban transformation projects. This method calls for an emotional and active involvement of the user and prepares the place to them appropriation through the multiple facets of the ongoing processes.

In particular, *monastery threshold / yards to the planetary garden* :

- brings to light the lost Bramante's Cloister, electing that place to a garden that redefines the symbolic space of connection between the village and the Abbey of Chiaravalle. Space that comprises a portion of the lawn of the monastery, from the fringe of terrain vague adjacent to the trunk of the abandoned railway, the Vettabbia channel and the agricultural field overlooking the village.
- activates the temporary reuse processes that also involve other areas: under-utilized public structures (building renovation of a gym), the Chapel of Women in Abbey; enlarges the network of the places occasionally arranged and used – up the case of Cascina San Bernardo, ARCI Pessina, among others – that are interstices and fringes of territory;
- implements site-specific projects on the care of the places through workshops and *school-yards*, artistic residencies, schedule of parties qualifying work and business belonging to the territory (food corner, proximity market, the school on per formative project of landscape);
- re-interprets and connects some peculiar places of the area with small temporary works of landscape architecture.

through:

- light works on landscape design;
- workshop and educations programs;
- the recovery of a decommissioned space in the village as a place of experimentation and creativity.

The relationship between the village and the city, bringing new economic and innovative functions in the area, among them:

- the local market;
- food corner Anguriera di Chiaravalle as a sociality's device.
- It produces a cultural programme spread through the involvement of local forces declined around specific artistic practices:
- the theatrical residence on the sacred issues;
- synergy with the Imagonirmia Award.

For the extended project, see Italian version