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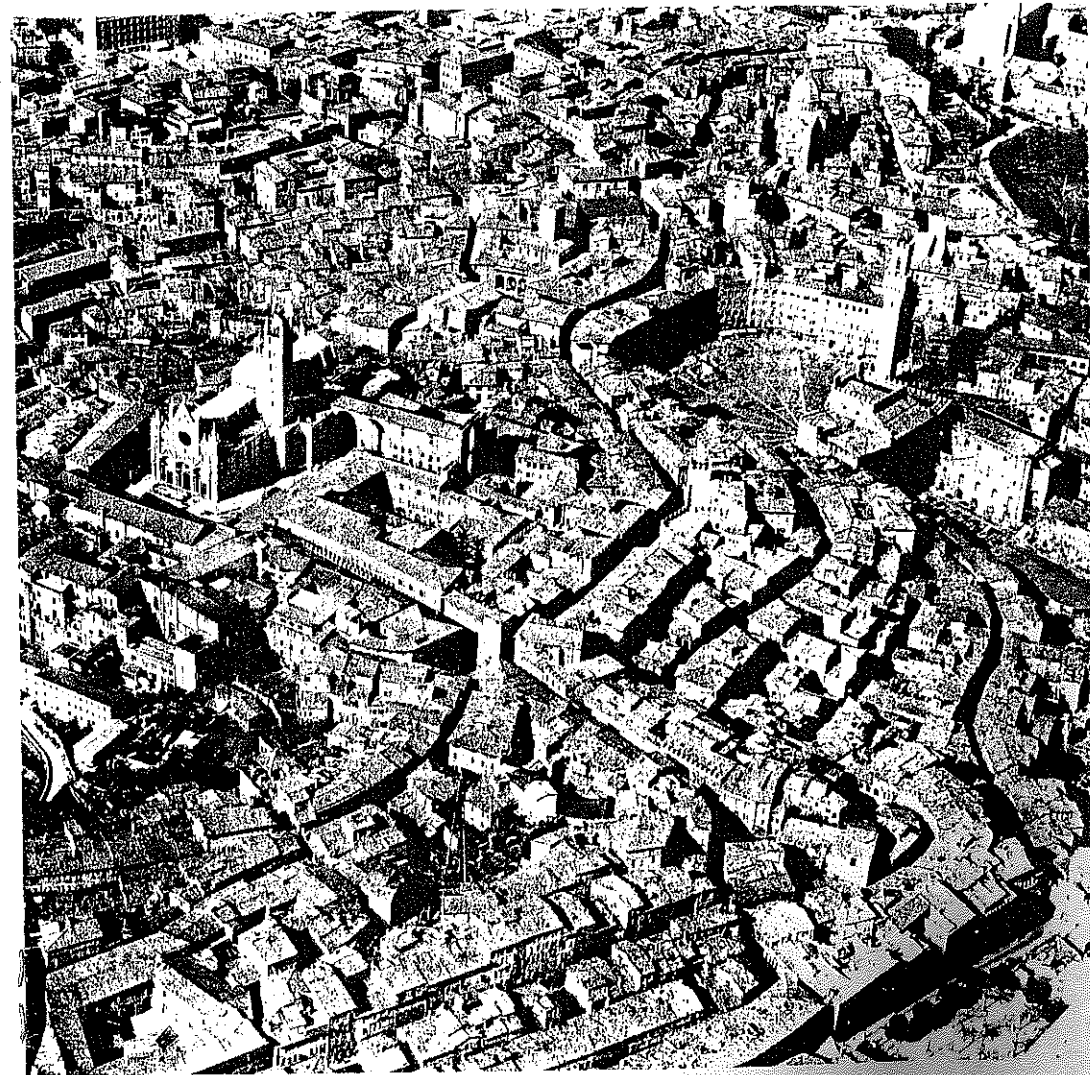
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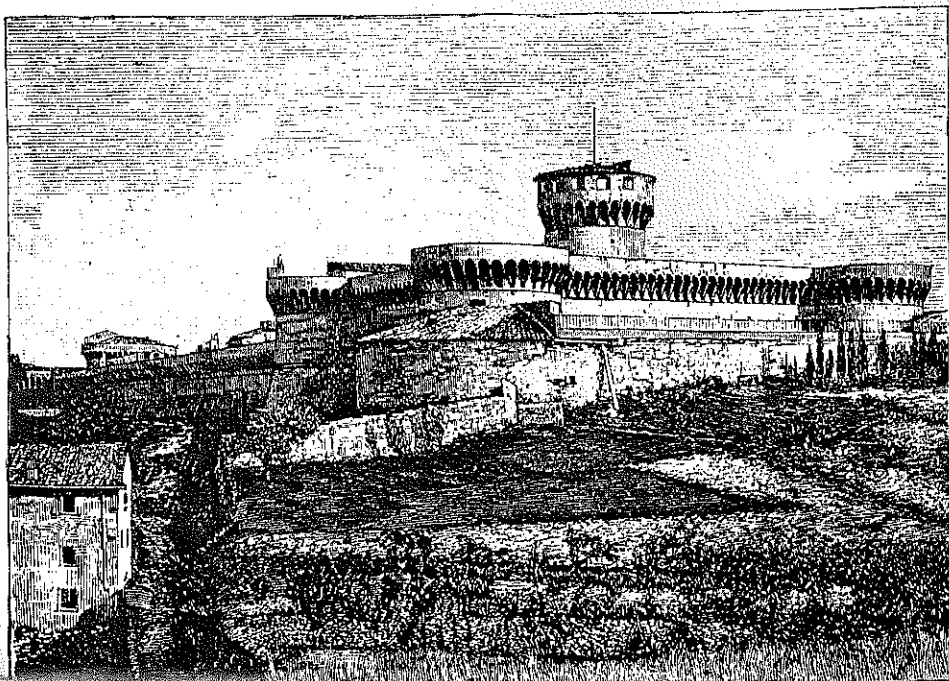
1994 Annual Meeting - Programme  
Firenze & Villa Cennina Siena - Italia

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Editors and publishers of INURA Bulletin 7:

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Dear friends,

we are looking forward to seeing you at the fourth annual conference of the INURA in Italy, precisely in an old country house, Villa Cennina, on the outskirts of Siena. It will be far from the splendour of last year at Beamish Hall, but we are happy all the same!

The title chosen for this meeting is "City, territory, environment. Research and action for a socio-ecological transformation". It is a vast theme which holds many of the topics traditionally tackled during the course of the previous meetings, together with a mutual research for alternatives in social, economic and urbanistic field, compliant with actual life and development patterns.

This year we want the accent to be put more sharply on the relationship between research and action.

Proposals should be, as always, of three types:

- Theoretical considerations
- Study cases
- "Artistic performances".

The theoretical presentations should tackle some of the knots that are tied to the general theme of the conference.

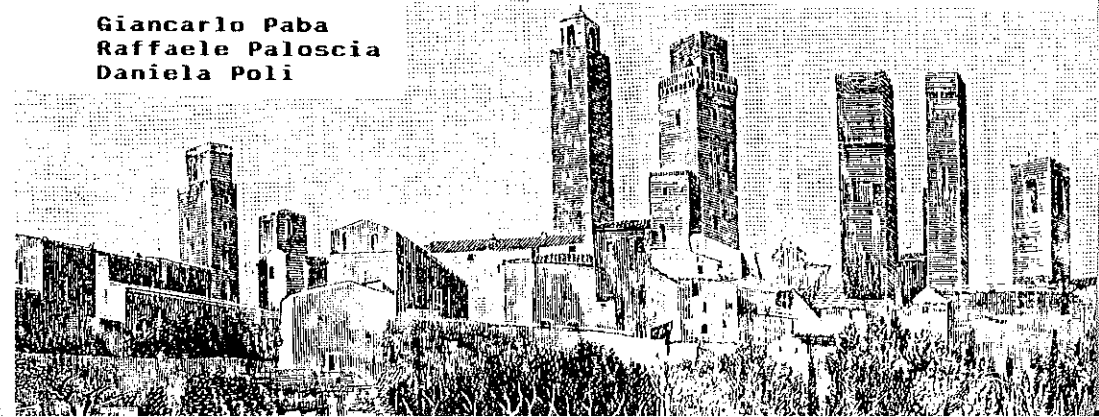
The study cases should not testify on outside observer's point of view, that is, who is committed to an analysis of events and situations bound to specific spots, but should be the experience of one of us who is involved personally in projects and the practice of ecological and social changes on an urban, territorial and environmental level, from which the elements of thought and investigation can be drawn.

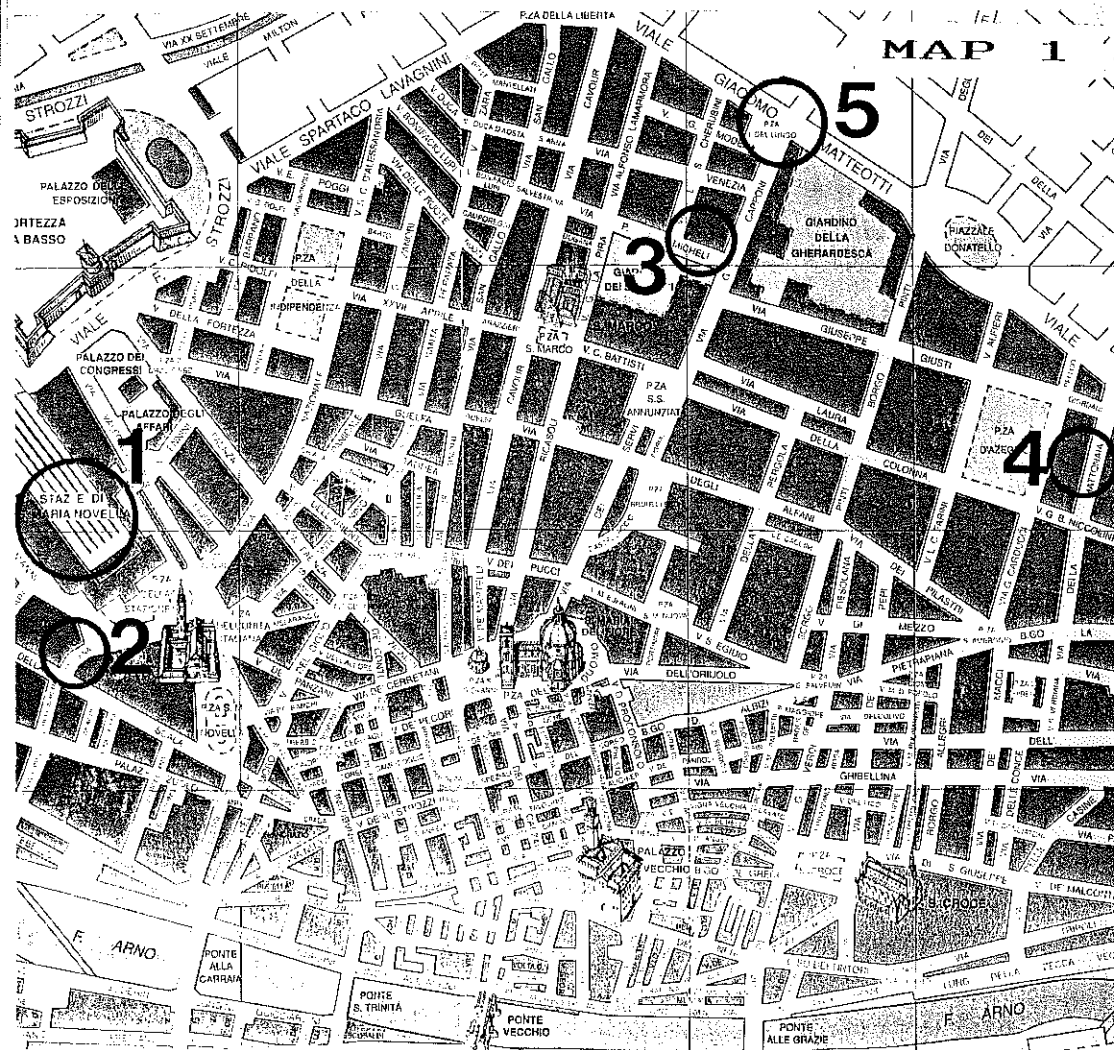
The "artistic performance" obviously totally up to you!

To ensure the success of the Annual Meeting, can we ask you to send your deposit to us as soon as possible so that we can get an idea of how many people are coming. Sorry about this, but we cannot make bookings for Villa Cennina and for the Florence tour without some money coming in.

We are looking forward to seeing you, yours

Giancarlo Paba  
 Raffaele Paloscia  
 Daniela Poli



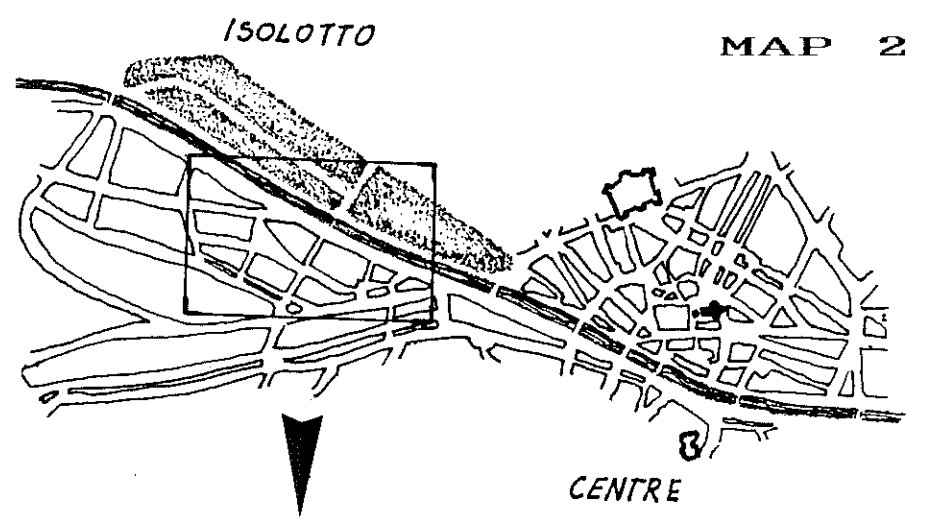


MAP 1

- 1 Central Station
- 2 Coach Station to Siena
- 3 Dipartimento di Urbanistica
- 4 Pensione Geneve
- 5 Piazza Isidoro del Lungo

**Meeting point**

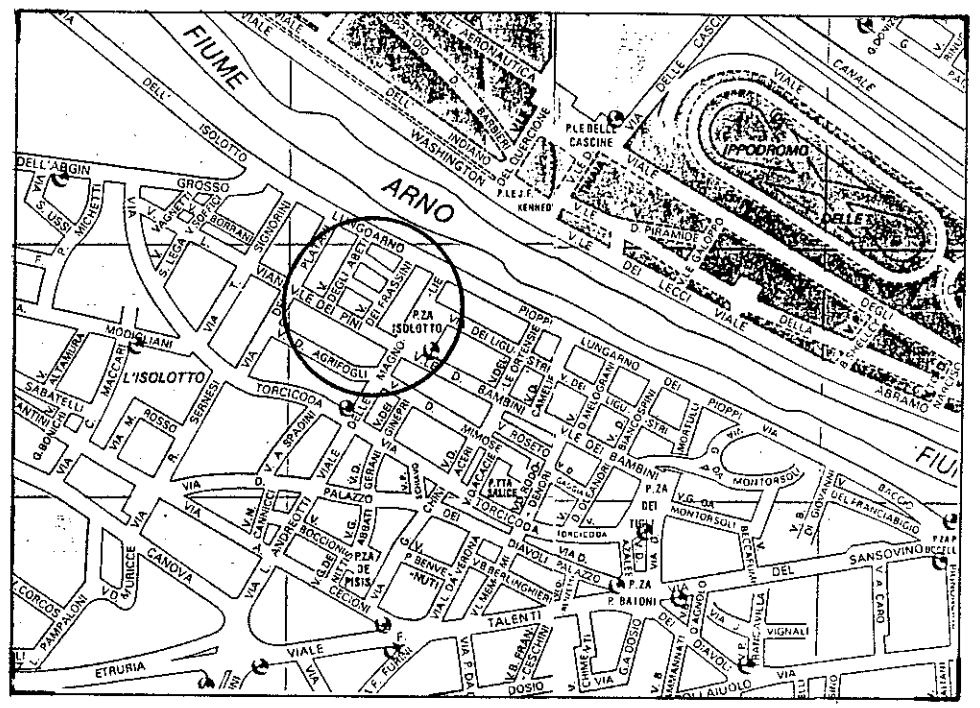
Saturday 21th May 11am Dipartimento di Urbanistica  
 Aula VIIM - 1st floor  
 Via Micheli 2 (n.3 on map 1)  
 Object: Introduction to the Florentin area issues



ISOLOTTO

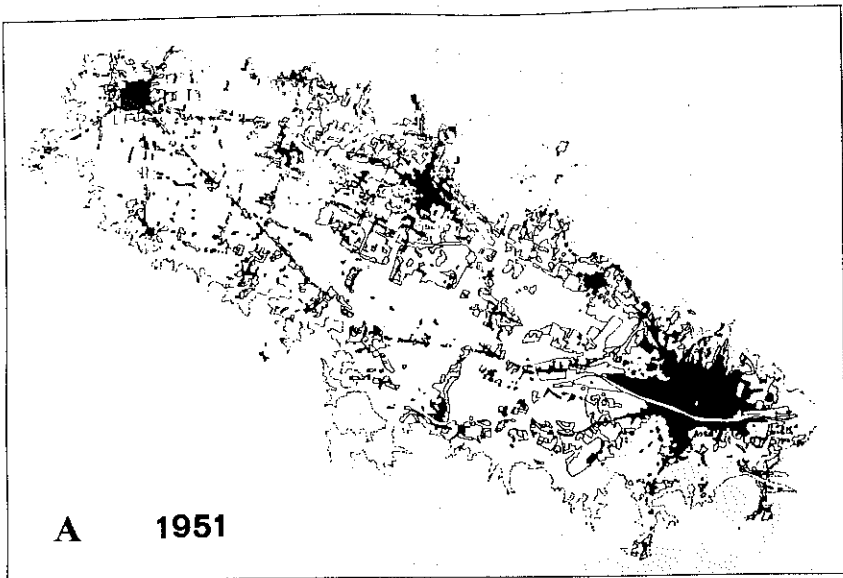
MAP 2

CENTRE

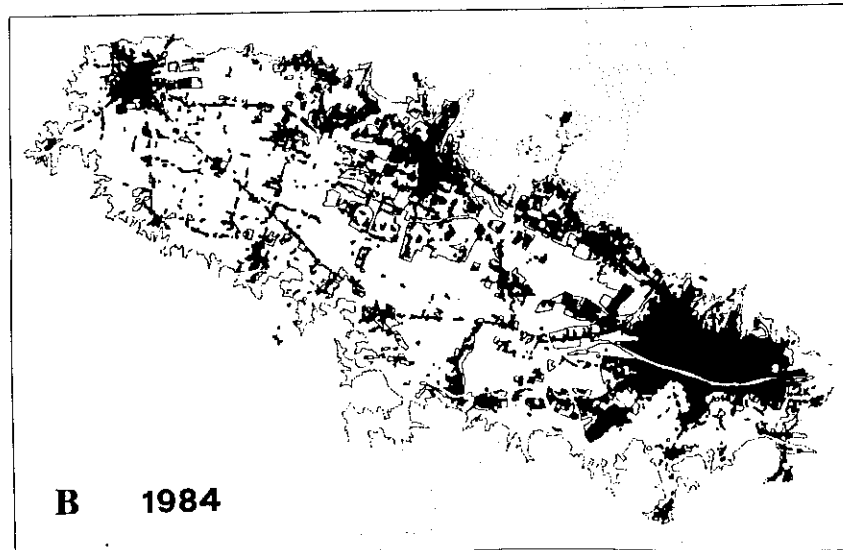


**Meeting point**

Saturday 21th May 3pm Biblioteca dell'Isolotto  
 Viale dei Pini 54 (map 2)  
 Object: Community planning project at Isolotto



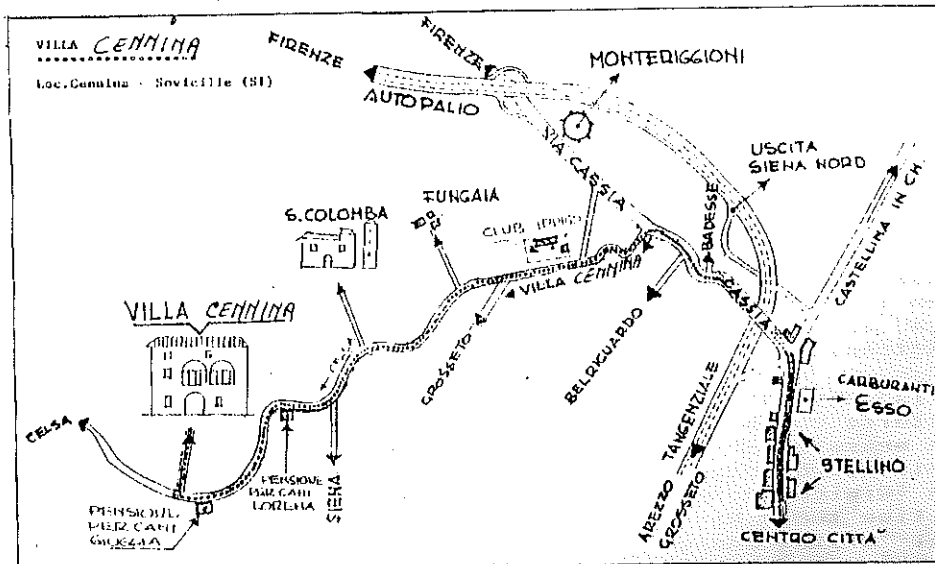
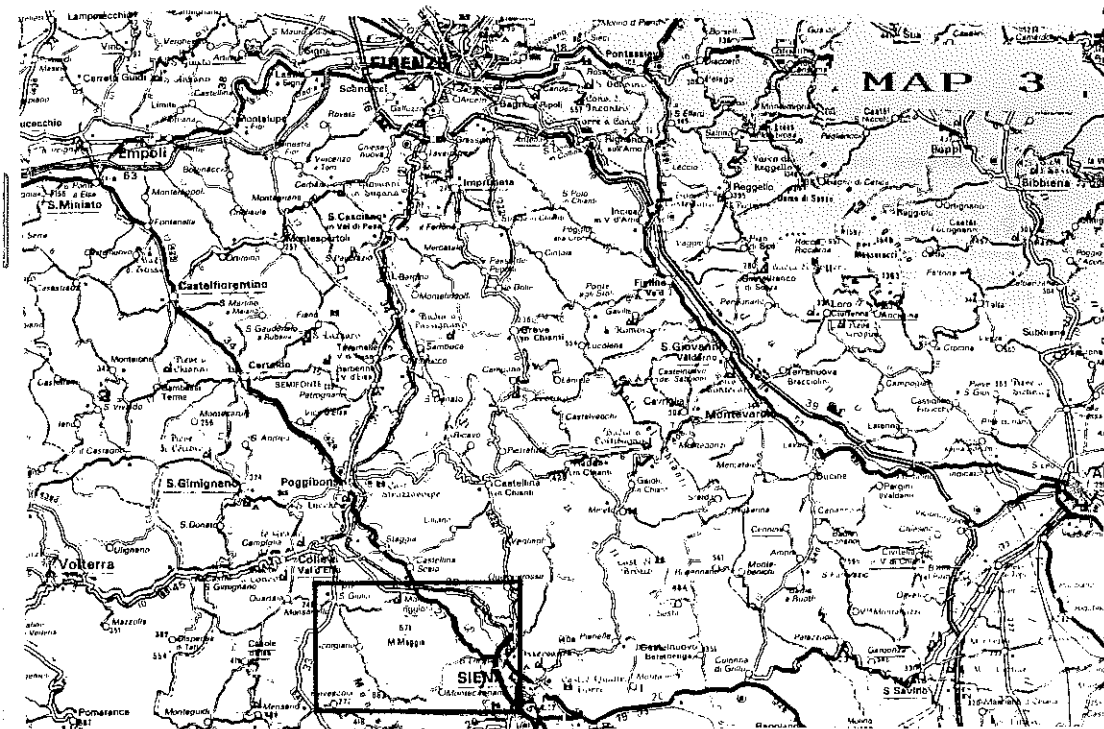
A 1951



B 1984

Meeting point

Sunday 22th 9.30am Pensione Geneve (outside),  
 Via della Mattonaia 43  
 (n. 4 on map 1)  
 Object: Plain of Florence tour



Meeting point

Sunday 22th 4pm Piazza Isidoro del Lungo  
 (n. 5 on map 1)  
 Object: Leaving to Villa Cennina

Some notes on the region

Our annual meeting, this time, will take place in the heart of Tuscany, in an old country house in the commune of Sovicille, on the slopes of "The Montagnola" between Monteriggioni and Siena.

The Montagnola is a kind of woody hinge of territory, in central Tuscany: it is the meeting point of different natural landscapes, different types of territory and precise systems of cultivation. It is, therefore, a good place to understand some of the environments and characteristic settlements of Tuscany.

We are near to Siena, too well known to be described, a town where the fusion of man's work, nature's forms and landscapes touch a balance point that is almost a miracle. Standing out, from where the ridges join together in the heart of Siena, is Piazza del Campo, the centre of the town. It is a natural amphitheatre which has become urban architecture. Almost a symbol of an organic and vital way of building a city. It is also the city of the "contrade" and therefore a sign of its heritage of the collective rites of membership and construction of communities, which is an important theme of our meeting.

Around the city it is possible to see the clay of the Sienese landscape, the hills sweetly undulating, sowable fertile land, eroded by rain and wind, interrupted here and there by rural houses, villages, parish churches and castles, rows and rows of cypress trees and patches of woodland.

Towards the east we find ourselves in the heart of the Chianti, with its landscape forms built over the centuries of vine and olive cultivation. We hope to feel this neighbouring positive feeling during our work breaks.

Down from The Montagnola runs the course of the river Elsa and its valley. One can see Colle Val d'Elsa lengthening along the crest of it.

It is easy from here to reach San Gimignano and Volterra which are both still, today, the prototype of the measured city, in harmonious relationship with their surrounding territory.

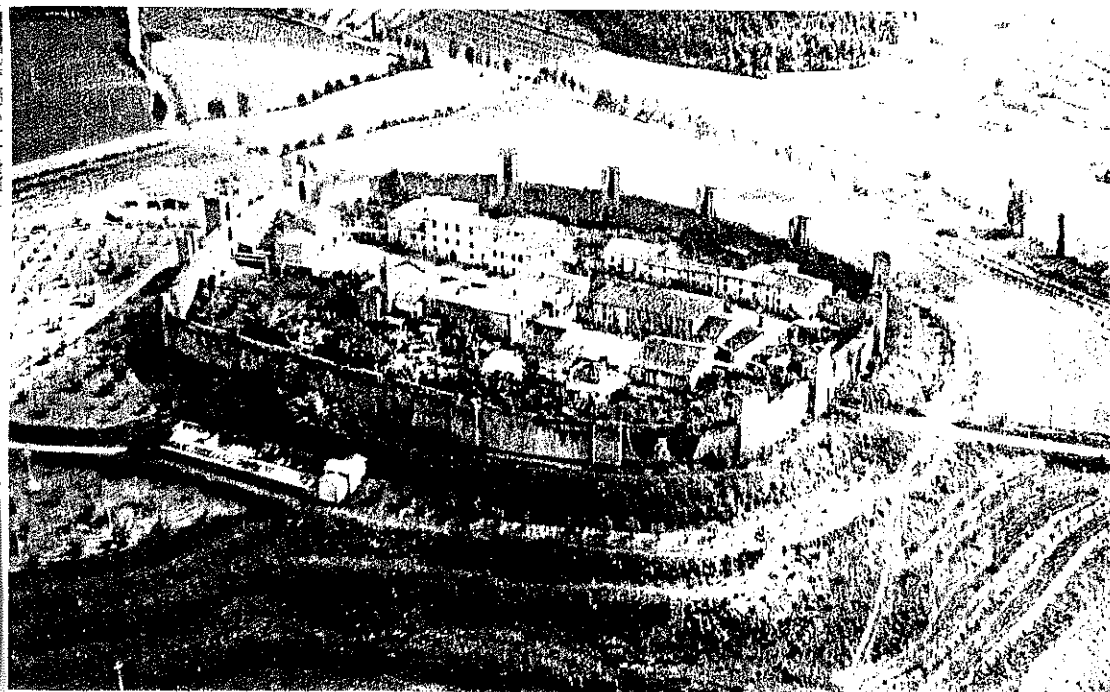
San Gimignano still maintains its medioeval aspect as if time there has crystallised, the central squares, that of the church and the Town Hall, and that of the cistern and the market, the linear "borgi", the dominating rock formation, the churches and convents,

the agricultural territory and vineyards, and, of course, the towers.

Volterra is, instead, a complex town, stratified and mysterious. It was built by Etruscans, modified by the Romans, reorganised in medioeval and Renaissance times and today, Volterra, shows to us all its twisted and entwined memories. This year marks the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Rosso Fiorentino e Pontorno. Volterra is at the centre of these celebrations and one can see in its art gallery, one of the most beautiful manneristic paintings of Rosso Fiorentino, The Deposition of Christ.

Not far from Siena are the metalliferous hills, which are an archeological, industrial and ore-mining territory, where redevelopment and reconstruction are under way.

Naturally, not far away, is Florence, the old arch-enemy of Siena, where our meeting will start. But Florence is probably a city you already know, a city to discover once again in your lifetime.





INURA 1994 21-27 MAY ITALIA

PROGRAMME (provisional)

Title: City Territory Environment.  
Research and Action for a Socio-ecological Transformation

Monday 23th May

- am - INURA introductions and brief update  
- Presentation of the theme  
"Socio-ecological Transformation"  
- Programme definition
- pm - Theoretical issues related to theme: local identity,  
marginalisation, community planning, environment,  
quality of living....
- evening - The Time and the City: experimental workshop

Tuesday 24th May

- am - Socio-ecological transformation:  
case studies, projects
- pm - Local development, third sector
- evening - Multiracial, multicultural cities, societies

Wednesday 25th May

- am / pm - Piccole città tour (Siena, Volterra, San Gimignano)
- evening - Small cities, heritage, cultural tourism

Thursday 26th May

- am - Environmental issues, globalization, world cities,  
waterfronts....
- pm - INURA business: membership, bulletin, foundation,  
joint publications, financing....
- evening - Party

Friday 27th May

- am - Return to Florence

Fred Robinson sent us this press cutting (from the Echo 17.2.1994) concerning the plan to close Beamish Hall. "A sad story - Fred says - for all who loved Beamish".

## Closure an 'act of violence'

A plan to close a residential college is "an act of extreme violence" says one of its tutors.

Proposals to shut the college at Beamish Hall, near Stanley, are part of a cash-saving package put forward by education officers in County Durham.

Consultations are taking place before the final decision is taken over the closure of the college, which is used by schools, adult education courses, conferences and as a meeting place for youth organisations.

Carl Lazzari, a visiting tutor at the college for 25 years, said: "To destroy a

hard-earned reputation for quality education and to disperse such an experienced body of excellent staff gathered over many years is an act of extreme violence."

He said withdrawal of funding from the college would bring to an end the authority's impressive tradition in residential adult education - something which it would be impossible to recreate in evening classes.

"There is a wider deprivation. Beamish Hall is the only such residential institution of adult education in the North-East.

"In addition to its role in County

Durham, it has been widely used by students of all ages from the neighbouring administrative regions.

"While I can understand the reluctance of Durham to subsidise out-of-county students in these difficult times, surely some sort of joint financial negotiation could have been essayed long before bringing the axe to the head on the block?"

Mr Lazzari said growing numbers of adults over 50, and an increase in redundancy and early retirement, meant there was a substantial majority of ratepayers for whom Beamish represented a deserved channel of education.

