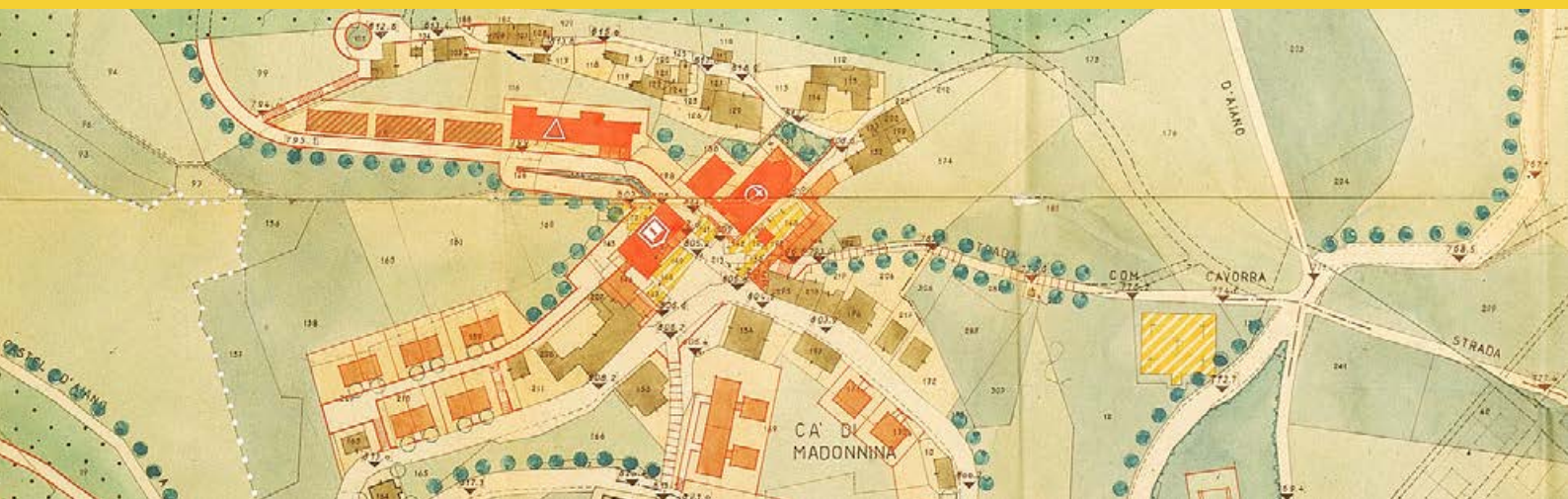


Elements and figures of urban space design in the Italian post-war reconstruction plans.
An illustrated essay

Bertrando Bonfantini

Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani
bertrando.bonfantini@polimi.it



**Elements and figures of urban space design
in the Italian post-war reconstruction plans.**

An illustrated essay

Bertrando Bonfantini

Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani
bertrando.bonfantini@polimi.it

In copertina: Progetto del Piano di ricostruzione di Castel d'Aiano (Bologna),
1948, arch. Giorgio Giovannini (dettaglio)

Servizio monografic

Planum Magazine no. 42, vol. I/2021

© Copyright 2021 by Planum. The Journal of Urbanism

ISSN 1723-0993

Registered by the Court of Rome on 04/12/2001

Under the number 514-2001

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means,
electronic mechanical, photocopying, recording or other wise,
without the prior written permission of the Publisher.

Articles in this issue must be quoted as:

Bertrando Bonfantini, (2021), "Elements and figures of urban space design
in the Italian post-war reconstruction plans. An illustrated essay",
Planum Magazine no. 42, vol. I/2021

Elements and figures of urban space design in the Italian post-war reconstruction plans. An illustrated essay

Abstract

This article provides an insight into a little-known page of Italian urban planning – the reconstruction plans of World War II. The initial sections discuss the features and technical contents of this planning instrument established by decree in March 1945, different from the general urban plan – *piano regolatore generale* – introduced by the Italian urban planning law no. 1150/1942. The fifth section offers a review of a sample of cases taken from the largest available collection of reconstruction plans – the open access digital archive RAPu (Urban Planning Archives Network). The ten plates and forty figures illustrating the article support the interpretative key proposed in the last section, which in the goal of vital centers of life pursued by the reconstruction plans identifies a bridge between the revaluation of the relational richness of the historic city and the search for quality of living space of the Modern.

Keywords

reconstruction plans; urban planning techniques; urban centralities;
civic centers

1. Reconstruction plans, unknown age

According to David Grahame Shane, in the introduction to his *Urban Design Since 1945*, “Patrick Abercrombie and John Henry Forshaw were the first modern authors to use the term ‘urban design’ in their County of London Plan for rebuilding the city after the wartime Blitz.” (p. 9)

In Italy, reconstruction plans for war-damaged settlements were established by decree – as a planning tool – at the beginning of March 1945.

The reconstruction plans bear the stigma of a widespread negative historical judgment. On the one hand, these simplified and emergency planning instruments were censured for causing the postponement of the application of the national urban planning law of 1942 and the drafting of general urban plans which that law had introduced. On the other hand, the negative judgement of that season is related to the critical evaluation of the ways in which the reconstruction actually took place, in an uncontrolled and low-quality building development.

Nevertheless, or perhaps precisely because of this negative judgement, the reconstruction plans represent, as Paolo Avarello pointed out (Avarello, 1997: 320-321), an “obscure age” of Italian urban planning to be quickly removed. They constitute an unknown chapter of the project for the urban, especially when one wants to go beyond monographic studies on individual cases or specific places.¹

At any rate, as urban planning documents the reconstruction plans are interesting just because of their intrinsic hybrid nature, between urban design and town planning: plans of immediate – modest, concrete, operational – intervention and, conversely, urban planning tools which reveal more ambitious intentions, for a wider reconfiguration and spatial reorganization of the urban settlement. This ambiguity is there from the beginning: by the founding decree (Legislative Decree 154/1945) and the two ministerial circulars (49/1945 and 590/1945), which few weeks later – in April and August 1945 – specified the technical characteristics for implementation.²

Therefore, what principles and criteria of spatial design can we find in these founding acts?

1 See: *Edilizia moderna* (1948); Detti (1953); Edallo (1956); Fantozzi Micali (1998); Rosa (1998); Fantozzi Micali, Di Benedetto (2000); Pertot (2016).

2 Decreto Legislativo Luogotenenziale n. 154, 1° marzo 1945, *Norme per i piani di ricostruzione danneggiati dalla guerra*. Bollettino Ufficiale del Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici n. 7, 1945, p. 754-759. Gazzetta Ufficiale del Regno n. 53, 2 maggio 1945. The text of the decree is documented in: Fantozzi Micali, Di Benedetto (2000: 314-315).

Circolare del Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici n. 49, 9 aprile 1945. *Istruzioni per l'applicazione del decreto legislativo Luogotenenziale. 1° marzo 1945, n. 154, recante norme per i piani di ricostruzione degli abitati danneggiati dalla guerra*. Bollettino Ufficiale del Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici n. 7, 1945, p. 891. Circolare del Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici (Direzione generale dell'edilizia, dell'urbanistica e delle opere igieniche) n. 590, 14 agosto 1945, *Istruzioni di massima per la progettazione dei piani di ricostruzione degli abitati danneggiati dalla guerra*, Bollettino Ufficiale del Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici n. 11, 1945, pp. 1537-1553. The text of the circular is documented in: Fantozzi Micali, Di Benedetto (2000: 316-321).

2. An urban project by parts

The objective of the reconstruction plans is established in the article 1 of the decree of March 1945: “To conciliate in the war damaged towns the requirements to the more urgent building works with the necessity not to compromise the rational development of settlements.”

The Ministerial Circular of April (no. 49) specifies that the reconstruction plan is not “a real general master plan, which would have as its object the complete urban reorganization of the town.” It is “rather a plan that tends to rebuild, in the shortest time possible and with the minimum expenditure of work, the pre-existing extent of the urban agglomeration.”

More rigorously, August Circular (no. 590) makes it clear that “the reconstruction plan differs in technical terms from the general urban plan [*Piano regolatore generale*], mainly: a) because it does not cover the entire area of the municipality, but only part of it, precisely where war damage or destruction has occurred, as well as the areas intended for new buildings; b) because it must essentially regulate the building works necessary to accommodate the population of the urban center who have become homeless due to war-dependent causes; c) because it is contingent and therefore of limited duration.”

Thus, the reconstruction plan is a selective project “by parts” – unlike the general urban plan (Prg) provided for by the national urban planning law 1150/1942, which is systematic and comprehensive –, mainly of a building nature, and projected in a short time.

However, the reconstruction plan, in order to improve the previous urban condition and promote a well-balanced development of the settlement, may provide that the reintegration of the building stock destroyed by the war does not take place within the pre-existing nucleus but through external expansion areas, and sometimes even by “total or partial displacement to another location” (Ministerial Circular no. 49/1945). On the other hand, as pointed out by the same Circular no. 49 (section 3), it should not be overlooked “the possibility of taking advantage of the wartime destructions to improve the hygienic conditions of the urban fabric and the road network, to give breathing space to old neighborhoods, and to arrange in suitable places the necessary services and public offices.” War damages can, therefore, be interpreted as an opportunity for an operation of re-composition and restructuring of the settlement at different degrees and various extents.

3. Technical ways and contents

The task of specifying the design methods to be adopted in the reconstruction plans is entrusted to August Circular no. 590, which provides quite detailed guidelines.

Regarding the intervention on the pre-existing urban area (section IV) the circular lists among the possible procedures, street rectification, front alignment, building isolation and urban fabric thinning out. It focuses on the potential of internal thinning of the city blocks, able to reduce densities and rebalance coverage ratios. However, the notions of environment (*ambiente*) and minor building fabric (*edilizia minore*) are also recalled to be respected in

I - Piano di ricostruzione di Alatri (Frosinone), 1946
ing. Enrico Lenti, ing. Mario Zocca
Planimetria nuove sistemazioni (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/365.jpg>



II - Piano di ricostruzione di Ausonia (Frosinone), 1955
arch. Giuseppe Amendola
Progetto del piano di ricostruzione, 2a edizione (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/371.jpg>



order to ensure the proper conservation of historical-artistic centers. As regards the expansion zones (section V) the circular defines as a “serious inconvenience” to be avoided the “indiscriminate, disorderly and harmful growth of suburbs in every direction.” The option of urban development by contiguity, in direct contact with the historical urban center, is suggested only for lowland towns. Instead, for the old urban nuclei morphologically or geographically “well defined and shaped” the recommendation is to develop an existing separate borough, possibly close to a traffic artery or railway station. Or, alternatively, the suggestion is to “create a completely new urban nucleus or district, in a suitable position, reserving the intermediate spaces for a rural area, i.e., providing a buffer zone in which building is not allowed,” so as to prevent the two urban centers from merging. On the contrary, “In other cases it may be appropriate to detach the new district a short distance from the old town, providing that the welding area between one and the other is reserved for the development of a future city center to replace the old one, which will lose all commercial interest.” In addition, it is stressed that the building development of the new nuclei must give them the character of “a unitary and organic neighborhood” while “linear building distribution along the major traffic arteries must be absolutely avoided.” In the choice of building types “closed courtyard arrangements” are banned in favor of “linear buildings with a maximum of 3 or 4 stories” (section VI). The distance between buildings is fixed at one and a half times their height, while the ground layout of buildings is to be defined according to the best sun exposition.

4. Plural Interpretations

In following these instructions, now rapidly summarized, the first peculiar aspect of the reconstruction plans is their heterogeneity. Paolo Avarello, in underlining such a variety, distinguishes some cases of reconstruction plans and different interpretations of this planning instrument (Avarello, 2000: 67-68), “from simple arrangements of streets and squares [...] to more ambitious planovolumetric schemes [...] to real ‘regulatory’ plans, on an urban scale, which in some cases contemplate [...] also the urbanization and construction of peripheral areas,” “to compensate” for what was not rebuilt on site.

What is striking about the reconstruction plans is that they move between usual – if not obsolete – modes of intervention, in modest and limited exercises of emergency building design, and more determined explorations driven by a certain tension towards the future and innovation. Their variety derives from multiple factors, first the different dimensions – the “rank” – of the urban centers involved and the different extent of the destruction to be faced in each case; but also the technical imaginary plays a role.

This contribution attempts a review based on the largest freely available and accessible collection of documents relating to Italian Reconstruction Plans. The open access digital archive of the Urban Planning Archives Network

(Rete Archivi Piani urbanistici – RAPu)³ currently offers online consultation of graphic and/or written documentary materials with reference to 214 reconstruction plans or their variations (at the end of 1954, they resulted to be 427).⁴

The following brief anthological review provides some critical insights.

5. Plans in review

The reconstruction plan of **Alatri** (Frosinone, 1946; engineer Enrico Lenti, engineer Mario Zocca; plate I, figure 1) was among those displayed in the section curated by the Italian National Institute of Urban Planning at the International Exhibition of Urban Planning and Housing in Paris in July 1947 (Mamoli, Trebbi, 1988: 86). The essential drawing of the elements that compose the plan summarizes some typical features of this planning tool: the *internal arrangements* (realignments, thinning interventions, punctual reconstructions of minor and major dimensions, according to a consolidated technical “toolbox”) and the project of a new *external expansion* with a “modernist” layout, located beyond a *buffer zone* around the existing center.

In the reconstruction plan of **Ausonia** (Frosinone, 1955; architect Giuseppe Amendola; plate II, figure 2), besides the road reorganization and the relationship with the new building areas, stands out the consistent rearrangement of the existing nucleus, triggered by the wartime destructions. It is an example of the opportunities offered by that *sui generis* thinning operated by the bombing – albeit “without measure or discernment” – which Gustavo Giovannoni had discussed in an article of 1943 (Giovannoni, 1943). Among the project elements, the opening – by thinning, in fact – of a *new central square* in place of a large portion of the destroyed urban fabric is particularly noteworthy.

The partial plan for the reconstruction of **Grosseto** (1948; engineer Giovanni Cavallucci; plate III, figure 3) follows Giovannoni’s indications almost to the letter. In the general report of the plan we can read that “by starting from the existing destructions, it has been considered and it has been possible: to plan [...] a wide *square for the market*, which is missing in Grosseto, [and] to allocate in the same area a plot for the construction of a covered market, which will have a semi-central character” (p. 6).

In the tiny case of **Castel d’Aiano** (Bologna, 1948; architect Giorgio Giovannini; plate IV, figure 4) the reconstruction project is made of few elements, which significantly find their fulcrum in the *redefinition of the central open spaces* of the village and in the reorganization of public functions around them. Similarly the reconstruction plan of **Sant’Agata sul Santerno** (Ravenna, 1949; architect Guido Scagliarini; plate V, figure 5) reorganizes the public buildings in the *central squares redesign*, and this represents the main action to rearrange that small settlement. At **Marzabotto** (Bologna, 1951; architect Giorgio Giovannini; plate VI; figures 6-7) – where the recon-

3 www.rapu.it; see Gabellini, Bonfantini, Paoluzzi (2007).

4 See: Piccinato (1955); Oliva (1993).



IV - Piano di ricostruzione di Castel d'Aiano (Bologna), 1948
arch. Giorgio Giovannini
[Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/168.jpg>

VI - Piano di ricostruzione di Marzabotto (Bologna), 1951
arch. Giorgio Giovannini
[Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/180.jpg>



struction plan strikes for the accurate graphic representation of the zoning table, in years characterized by the search for a common conventional visual language in urban planning (Astengo, 1949) – the symbols relating to the main public functions (city hall, church, school, barracks, people's house) are condensed around a single focal place.

In the project table of the reconstruction plan of **Acquafondata** (Frosinone, 1957; engineer Giorgio Bozzato; plate VII, figure 8) the heart of the intervention (in addition to the enlargement of the main square of the village) is the realization, adjacent to the existing nucleus, but outside of it, of a new porticoed square overlooked by a cinema and a new public building and, immediately behind, a school surrounded by a large green space. What is proposed basically consists in the “figure” of a new centrality, around which the plan provides the “recommended area of immediate expansion.”

The figure of a similar *new centrality* – made up of the town hall, a theater, and a school – is in the reconstruction design for **Roccaraso** (L'Aquila, 1947; architect Domenico Rossi, architect Pio Montesi; plate VIII, figure 9); in this case it is placed between the pre-existing nucleus (subject to complete on-site re-building) and the new urban extension, becoming the pivotal element.

In **Cassino** (Frosinone), the announced “reconstruction in a new location” (1945; engineer Giuseppe Nicolosi, architect Concezio Petrucci; plate IX, figures 10-12) is the manifesto of a new city; the general plan of the reconstruction project reveals the “modern” forms pursued to re-found the settlement, with a from-center-to-periphery gradient of the building types of housing – ribbons/rows, semidetached and detached houses, as stated in Article 2 of the “Regulations for plan implementation.”

However, the compositional fulcrum is “the center”, to which the additional drawings are dedicated, consisting of a plan and a detailed axonometry (both in scale 1:1000): “The city is as if cut in two by a large rectangular area extending in the east-west direction and in which are placed the various public buildings, arranged so as to define many harmonious and coordinated spaces in an aesthetic and building unity” (Report, p. 7). The Report gives particular attention and importance to the description of the “public and public-use buildings” to be set up.

The reconstruction plan of **Frosinone** (1946; engineer Marino Marini, engineer Armando Vona, architect Giovanni Jacobucci, engineer Edgardo Vivoli; figures 13-14) stands out for proposing an ambitious “urban duplication”, with the creation of a new large residential district downstream, detached from the original nucleus (an option that the approval decree will cancel).

The plan for **Fidenza** (Parma, 1947; engineer Cesare Chiodi; figures 15-18) works instead according to principles of *contiguity and continuity* with the existing city, reintegrating the urban settlement through the rebuilding of the destroyed parts and through its enlargement to completion, following the historical direction of development.

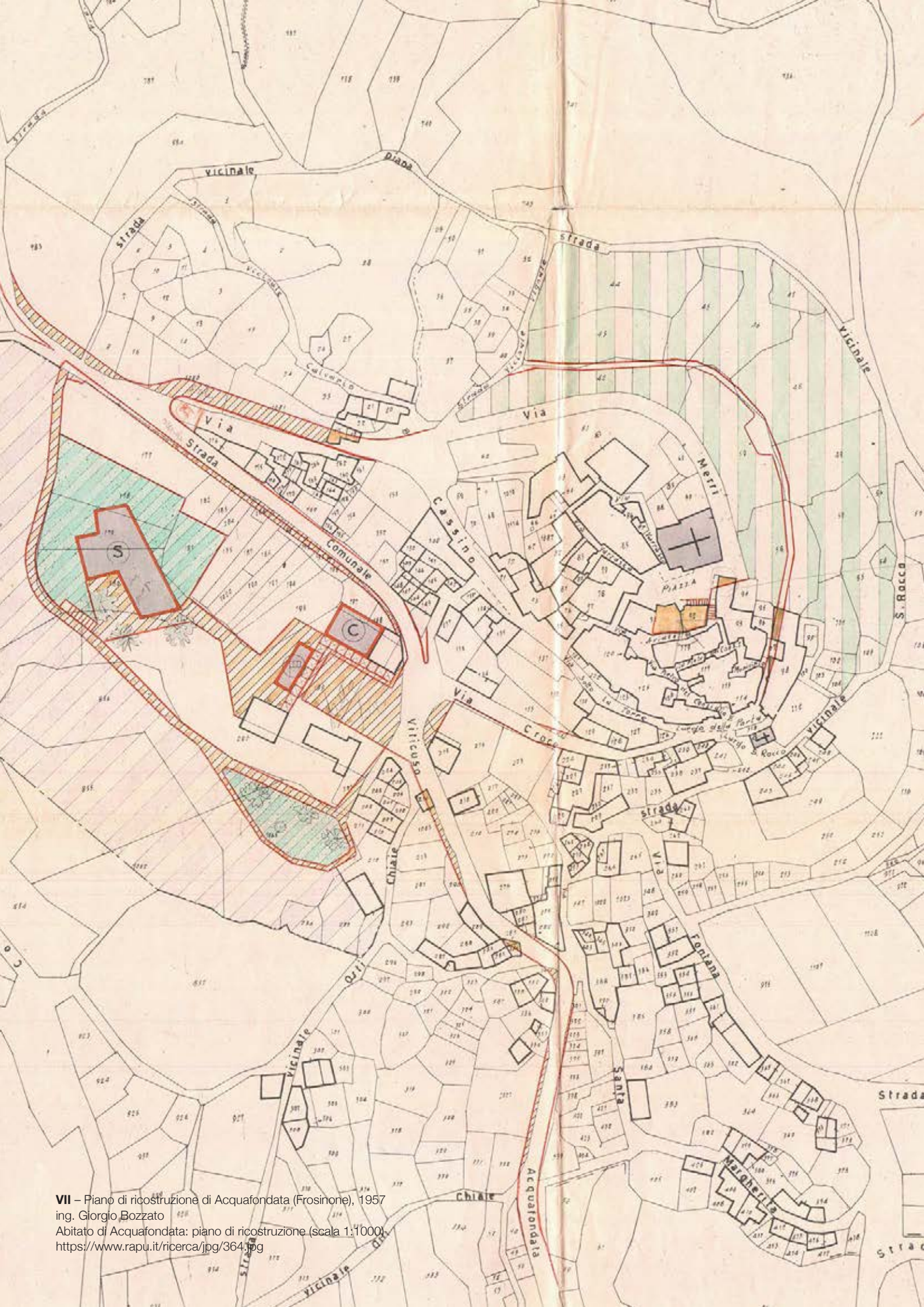
The reconstruction plan of **Parma** (1950, but the first draft dates back to June 1946; Municipal Technical Office; figures 19-20) has an ancient flavor; it combines (extensive) interventions for *reshaping and regularizing the urban fabric* (stigmatized as excessive in the 25 June 1949 advice of the Supreme Council of Public Works) with the design of two incremental *urban extensions* that recall in their ways and forms the plans of the early part of the century, if not earlier.

The reconstruction plan of **Pisa** (1947; engineer Luigi Pera, architect Renzo Bellucci, engineer Ugo Ciangherotti, engineer Giulio Fascetti; figures 21-22) is one of the most complex plans among those documented in the RAPu records. It is a project organized *by areas and themes*. The general plan is detailed in nine different urban areas, to which it dedicates specific tables. In the extensive 36-page report, with annexed building regulations, it is noted that “the Municipality of Pisa does not have a General Regulatory Plan [PrG] approved by the Ministry of Public Works,” “therefore, the Reconstruction Plan must be its prerequisite” (Report and Building Regulations, p. 5). The latter is described as consisting of eight “proposed measures”: “1. Road network reorganization; 2. Old city rehabilitation by: a) putting some old built areas into public use by creating new roads and new squares, b) the appropriate thinning of building fabric in certain damaged areas, c) the prohibition of reconstruction and other requirements contained in the ‘Building Regulations’; 3. Creation of a business center and a commercial center; 4. Arrangement of the Central Station hotel area; 5. Arrangement of the Porta a Mare area; 6. Use of some available internal areas for reconstruction; 7. Realization of two suburban nuclei where new construction will be directed; 8. Reorganization and enhancement of monumental areas” (pp. 10-11).

The reconstruction plan of **Benevento** shapes an ambitious *urban scheme by parts* (1948; Municipal Technical Office; figures 23-24) framed within the lines and expectations for a new general plan. The report declares the reconstruction plan to be the evolution of a “very valuable study” by the architect Luigi Piccinato in the records of the Municipality, which “constituted a solid guide to the work.” The reconstruction plan identifies three areas of intervention. The rearrangement of the center is combined with the completion of the quarter, industrial in character, beyond the river Calore to the north, and the creation of an autonomous “*new district*”, east of the river Sabato, which “assumes in the plan the feature and entity of a real garden city of semi-intensive type. It is equipped with a church, gyms, markets, school and kindergarten, to minimize the need for contact with the urban center” (Report, p. 6).

The plans for the reconstruction of **Civitavecchia** (Rome, 1945; figures 25-26) and **Pescara** (1947; plate X, figures 27-29), both signed by Luigi Piccinato, are also intended to prepare a consequent general town-planning scheme.

In the Report of the former, one reads, in fact, that “The reconstruction of



VII - Piano di ricostruzione di Acquafondata (Frosinone), 1957
ing. Giorgio Bozzato
Abitato di Acquafondata: piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/364.jpg>



VIII - Piano di ricostruzione di Roccaraso (L'Aquila), 1947
arch. Domenico Rossi, arch. Pio Montesi
Progetto esecutivo (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/006.jpg>

Civitavecchia is [...] considered in the light of a more complete plan in which it is framed” (p. 14). With regard to the latter, the Supreme Council of Public Works, in its advice (March 3, 1947), points out that the proposed criteria of intervention “are somewhat exorbitant from the instructions given for the application of the [establishing decree]”, but that the reconstruction plan, in this way, “succeeds in reconciling the requirements inherent in the most urgent building work with the need to avoid a disorderly activity that could compromise the future rational structure of the city of Pescara.”

However, in both plans other drawings accompany the compulsory graphic elaborations. In Civitavecchia a “Schematic profile towards the port,” in scale 1:500, is motivated as follows in the Report: “The side towards the port is expected to be cleared of the remains of the two disparate buildings [...] that once hid the extremely picturesque view [...] so that the square will remain open like [...] a terrace” overlooking the sea (p. 11).

In Pescara, in addition to the two required plans in scale 1:2000 of the damages and of the reconstruction project, there is the plan of the “central area” (in scale 1000), together with a table of the related profiles (1:500), as well as the perspective drawings of the study for the *arrangement of “remarkable places”* of the city: the “*civic center*” and the “*central area*” itself. Drawings that renew, perhaps going beyond the mere aesthetics, that “art of making urban pictures” (Lupano, 2001, p. 33) that speaks of the “iconic” heritage coming from the past decades in the design of urban space (Gabellini, 1996).

The evocative capacity of perspective design as a *prefiguration of the “urban scene”* is also used in the reconstruction plan for **Borgo Sant’Antonio in Rieti** (1947; architect Enzo Milani, engineer Mario Zocca, engineer Nicola Novelletto; figures 30-33) and the reconstruction plan for **Modena** (1948; engineer Mario Pucci; figures 34-37): the former in re-proposing the reassuring twentieth-century urban forms, the latter in its projection of a wished future city. And so also in the reconstruction plan of **Macerata** (architect Mario Paniconi, architect Giulio Pediconi, architect Giuseppe Perugini; 1948; figures 38-40) the dialogue with the historical urban landscape is entrusted to the design in perspective, in the arrangements for “The new market in Corso Cairoli” and the “New passage through the walls near the market gate.”

6. The “center of life” as a theme

Even rapid and partial, these notes tried to identify some elements of the spatial imaginary that can be traced in such a review through the project forms of the reconstruction plans. The italics have intended to mark key words, in a sort of “cloud” of terms.

Therefore, what are the urban planning and design principles and criteria that emerge from this documentation? What are the spatial figures in the project that the reconstruction plans highlight? What intersections do they draw with the lines of the post-war urban planning debate and research in Italy and in the international context?

From the point of view of urban planning techniques, the reconstruction plans are interesting because, in the simple forms that mark them, they

show – stylized and juxtaposed – uneven-aged ways of doing, i.e., modes of different origin over time to intervene on the existing city and to build the new city.

As far as the urban planning techniques for the rearrangement of the existing city, the wartime destructions give the historical urban fabrics a final season of malleability, which represents the “swan song” for procedures with a long history, stratified over the decades towards objectives of city reform and modernization: street rectifications and alignments, gutting, isolating and thinning interventions. Giorgio Rigotti’s handbook, *Urbanistica. La composizione* (1952) provides a last systematization of these techniques, before the rising notion of “historic center” and the 1960 Gubbio Charter decree their definitive obsolescence, also on a symbolic level, with the emergence of a new technical horizon in front of new thematizations of the urban problem.

On the other hand, regarding expansion areas, the reconstruction plans offer the opportunity to explore – sometimes in essential, low-key and trivial forms, sometimes with greater investment, research and originality – the potential arising from the application of the modernist criteria in building and settlement composition.

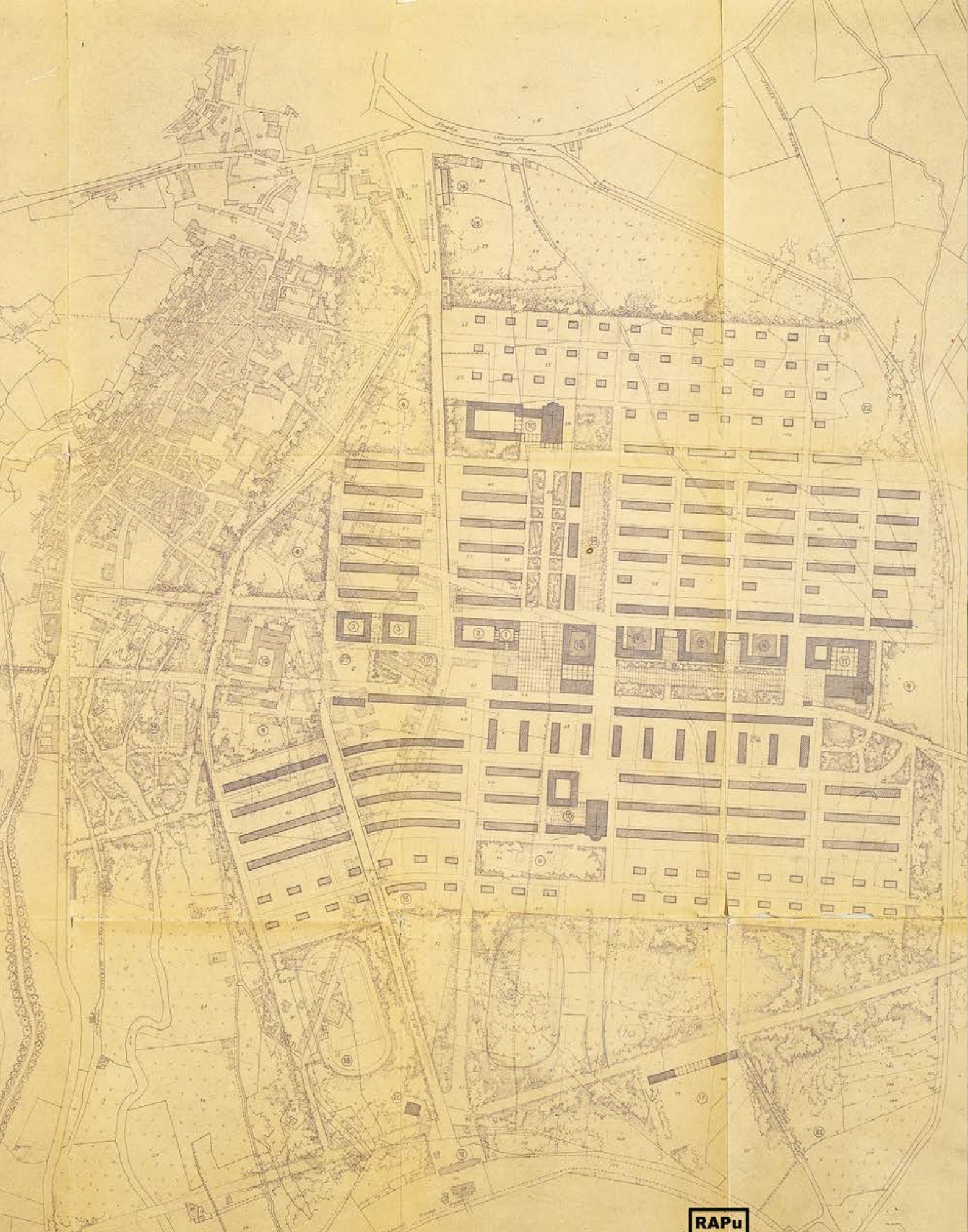
In outlining new separate urban units, the reconstruction plans intersect the theme of the “neighborhood”, which was bound to become central in the debate of the 1950s, especially in relation to the Ina-Casa experience (Astengo, 1951). As an example of this intersection between reconstruction plans and neighborhood design it could be mentioned, for instance, the renowned case of the “New neighborhood in the Falchera region,” as part of “the reconstruction plans (5 zones) of the City of Turin authorized by ministerial decree of March 6, 1947.”⁵

A transversal theme recurring in these two dimensions of the reconstruction plan – between internal arrangement and new expansion – is the redesign of the system of urban centralities, from its modest and minute manifestations to the most ambitious declinations – the enlargement and reshaping of central spaces, the opening of new squares inside and outside the pre-existing urban core, the project of real new “civic centers”.

The centrality – as a theme of the project at the same time old and new – better than others expresses the perspective of “continuity” that brings together after World War II the revaluation of the relational richness of the historical city with the search for quality of living space of the Modern. The seventh CIAM in Bergamo (1949) paid new attention “to the quality of urban spaces stratified in history and recognized that some characteristics present there could offer positive cues for the solution of emerging problems” of cities (De Matteis, 2018: 47-48). Then, the reflection conducted on the occasion of the eighth CIAM (Hoddesdon, 1951) established in the “Heart of the City” the “center for community life” (Sert, 1954).

If pre-war CIAMs are above all discontinuity – radical reform in the settlement principles –, in the post-war period the confrontation with pre-existence, and its destruction, becomes an element of reflection and reconsideration for the design research of a vital relational space.

5 See Archivio RAPu (www.rapu.it) and Pace (2001).



RAPu

IX - Piano di ricostruzione di Cassino (Frosinone), 1945
ing. Giuseppe Nicolosi, arch. Concezio Petrucci
Planimetria generale (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/374.jpg>

MARE

ADRIATICO



RAPu

PESCARA
PIANO DI RICOSTRUZIONE
ZONA CENTRALE

SCALA 1:1000

X - Piano di ricostruzione di Pescara, 1947
arch. Luigi Piccinato
Piano di ricostruzione: zona centrale (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/038.jpg>

A double series of images accompanies this paper. The above text is complemented by ten plates that are details of the original drawings. They are mostly in dialogue with the final sixth section of this essay. On the other hand, the following pages contain a larger gallery of original documents where the reconstruction plans discussed in this paper are reproduced in full. All images come from the RAPu digital archive (www.rapu.it), where they can also be consulted. The original materials in this documentation belong to the repositories of the Ministry of Public Works.⁶

Bibliographical references

- Astengo Giovanni (1949), "Simbologia urbanistica", *Urbanistica*, n. 1.
- Astengo Giovanni (1951), "Nuovi quartieri in Italia", *Urbanistica*, n. 7, pp. 9-39.
- Avarello Paolo (1997), "Piano e città nell'esperienza urbanistica", in Francesco Dal Co (a cura di), *Storia dell'architettura italiana. Il secondo Novecento*, Electa, Milano, pp. 316-343.
- Avarello Paolo (2000), *Il Piano comunale. Evoluzione e tendenze*, Il Sole 24 Ore, Milano.
- De Matteis Andrea (2018), *Architettura e realtà. Crisi e nuovi orizzonti del progetto contemporaneo*, Quodlibet, Macerata.
- Detti Edoardo (1953), "Le distruzioni e la ricostruzione", *Urbanistica*, n. 12, pp. 43-70.
- Edilizia moderna* (1948), "Inchiesta regionale sulla ricostruzione", n. 40-41-42, dicembre.
- Edallo Amos, "Le vicende del nuovo Piano Regolatore Generale prima dell'approvazione", *Urbanistica*, n. 18-19, pp. 40-55.
- Fantozzi Micali (1998), *Piani di ricostruzione e città storiche 1945-1955*, Alinea, Firenze.
- Fantozzi Micali Osanna, Di Benedetto Maria (2000), a cura di, *I Piani di ricostruzione post-bellici nella provincia di Firenze*, Franco Angeli, Milano.
- Giovannoni Gustavo (1943), "Il diradamento edilizio ed i suoi problemi nuovi", *Urbanistica*, n. 5-6, pp. 2-8.
- Gabellini Patrizia (1996), *Il disegno urbanistico*, La Nuova Italia Scientifica, Roma.
- Gabellini Patrizia, Bonfantini Bertrando, Paoluzzi Gloria (2007), *Piani urbanistici in Italia. Catalogo e documenti dell'Archivio RAPu*, Maggioli, Santarcangelo di Romagna (Rimini).
- Lupano Mario (2001), "Marcello Piacentini 1881-1960", in Paola Di Biagi, Patrizia Gabellini, a cura di, *Le sculture di Paolo Borghi omaggio agli urbanisti italiani del Novecento. Marcello Piacentini, Giuseppe Samonà, Luigi Piccinato, Ludovico Quaroni, Edoardo Detti, Giovanni Astengo*, Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici, Inu Edizioni, Roma, pp. 33-35.
- Mamoli Marcello, Trebbi Giorgio (1988), *Storia dell'urbanistica. L'Europa del secondo dopoguerra*, Laterza, Roma-Bari.
- Mazzoleni Chiara, Bonfantini Bertrando (2001), a cura di, *Cento anni di piani urbanistici. Archivio piani Dicoter*, Triennale di Milano-Ministero dei Lavori Pubblici, Edizioni della Triennale, Milano.

6 See Mazzoleni, Bonfantini (2001).

- Oliva Federico (1993), "Le città e i piani", in Giuseppe Campos Venuti, Federico Oliva (a cura), *Cinquant'anni di urbanistica in Italia. 1942-1992*, Laterza, Roma-Bari, pp. 40-85.
- Pace Sergio (2001), "Oltre Falchera. L'Ina-Casa a Torino e dintorni", in Paola Di Biagi (a cura di), *La grande ricostruzione. Il piano Ina-Casa e l'Italia degli anni '50*, Donzelli, Roma, pp. 279-292.
- Pertot Gianfranco (2016), "La ripresa dell'attività edilizia, il 'Piano Venanzi', il Piano di ricostruzione e la mancata tutela di Milano", in Gianfranco Pertot, Roberta Ramella (a cura di), *Milano 1946: alle origini della ricostruzione. La città bombardata, il censimento urbanistico, gli studi per il nuovo piano, le questioni di tutela*, Silvana Editoriale, Cinisello Balsamo (Milano), pp. 347-397.
- Piccinato Luigi (1955), "Relazione generale del professor Luigi Piccinato", in Atti del V Congresso Nazionale di Urbanistica, *Urbanistica*, n. 15-16, pp. 27-31.
- Rosa Paolo (1998), "I piani di ricostruzione", in Id., *La città antica tra storia e urbanistica (1913-1957)*, Librerie Dedalo, Roma, pp. 73-140.
- José Luis Sert (1954), "Centri per la vita della comunità", in Ernesto Nathan Rogers, José Luis Sert, Jaqueline Tyrwhitt (a cura di), *Il Cuore della Città: per una vita più umana delle comunità*, Congressi Internazionali dell'Architettura Moderna, Hoepli, Milano, pp. 3-16. (Jaqueline Tyrwhitt, José Luis Sert and Ernesto Nathan Rogers (eds.), *The Heart of the City: Towards the Humanisation of Urban Life*, London, 1952)
- Shane David Grahame (2011), *Urban Design Since 1945. A Global Perspective*, Wiley, Chichester.

Decreto luogotenenziale 1° marzo 1945, n. 154. *Norme per i piani di ricostruzione degli abitati danneggiati dalla guerra.*

Circolare del Ministero dei lavori pubblici, Direzione generale dell'edilizia, dell'urbanistica e delle opere igieniche, Div. XIX, n. 49, 9 aprile 1945, *Istruzioni per l'applicazione del decreto legislativo Luogotenenziale 1° marzo 1945, n. 154, recante norme per i piani di ricostruzione degli abitati danneggiati dalla guerra* (a firma del ministro Ruini).

Circolare del Ministero dei lavori pubblici, Direzione generale dell'edilizia, dell'urbanistica e delle opere igieniche, Div. XIX, n. 590, 14 agosto 1945, *Istruzioni di massima per la progettazione dei piani di ricostruzione degli abitati danneggiati dalla guerra* (a firma del ministro Romita).

List of plates and figures

Piano di ricostruzione di Alatri (Frosinone), 1946

ing. Enrico Lenti, ing. Mario Zocca

1. Planimetria nuove sistemazioni (scala 1:1000) – **plate I**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/365.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Alatri (Frosinone), 1946

ing. Enrico Lenti, ing. Mario Zocca

1. Planimetria nuove sistemazioni (scala 1:1000) – **plate I**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/365.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Ausonia (Frosinone), 1955

arch. Giuseppe Amendola

2. Progetto del piano di ricostruzione, 2a edizione (scala 1:1000) – **plate II**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/371.jpg>

Piano parziale di ricostruzione di Grosseto, 1948

ing. Giovanni Cavallucci

3. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – **plate III**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/817.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Castel d'Aiano (Bologna), 1948

arch. Giorgio Giovannini

4. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – **plate IV**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/168.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Sant'Agata sul Santerno (Ravenna), 1949

arch. Guido Scagliarini

5. Progetto del piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – **plate V**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/283.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Marzabotto (Bologna), 1951

arch. Giorgio Giovannini

6. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:2000) – **plate VI**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/180.jpg>

7. Piano regolatore generale e di ricostruzione (scala 1:2000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/181.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Acquafondata (Frosinone), 1957

ing. Giorgio Bozzato

8. Abitato di Acquafondata: piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – **plate VII**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/364.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Roccaraso (L'Aquila), 1947

arch. Domenico Rossi, arch. Pio Montesi

9. Progetto esecutivo (scala 1:1000) – **plate VIII**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/006.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Cassino (Frosinone), 1945

ing. Giuseppe Nicolosi, arch. Concezio Petrucci

10. Planimetria generale (scala 1:2000) – **plate IX**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/374.jpg>

11. Planimetria del centro (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/375.jpg>

12. Assonometria del centro (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/376.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Frosinone, 1946

ing. Marino Marini, ing. Armando Vona, arch. Giovanni Jacobucci, ing. Edgardo Vivoli

13. [Piano di ricostruzione del centro urbano] (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/357.jpg>

14. [Piano di ricostruzione e di ampliamento delle zone circoscrizionali] (scala 1:2000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/356.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Fidenza (Parma), 1947

ing. Cesare Chiodi

15. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione, Tav. I (scala 1:2000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/255.jpg>

16. Piano di ricostruzione: stralcio del nucleo centrale, Tav. II (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/256.jpg>

17. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione, Tav. III (scala:12000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/257.jpg>

18. Piano di ricostruzione: stralcio nucleo centrale, Tav. IV (scala:1250)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/258.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Parma, 1950

Ufficio tecnico comunale

19. Progetto di piano di ricostruzione: planimetria d'assieme (scala 1:5000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/248.jpg>

20. [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione:] Foglio XXIX (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/251.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Pisa, 1947

ing. Luigi Pera, arch. Renzo Bellucci, ing. Ugo Ciangherotti, ing. Giulio Fascetti

21. [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione: planimetria d'assieme] (scala 1:4000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/849.jpg>

22. [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione: foglio] 1 (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/850.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Benevento, 1948

Ufficio tecnico comunale

23. Piano di ricostruzione e regolatore generale (scala 1:2000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/108.jpg>

24. Piano di ricostruzione: particolare (scala 1:500)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/109.jpg>

Piani di ricostruzione di Civitavecchia (Roma), 1945

arch. Luigi Piccinato

25. Pianta di Civitavecchia: [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione] (scala 1:2000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/524.jpg>

26. Profilo schematico verso il porto (scala 1:500)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/525.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Pescara, 1947

arch. Luigi Piccinato

27. Piano di ricostruzione: zona centrale (scala 1:1000) – **plate X**

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/038.jpg>

28. Studio per la sistemazione della zona centrale

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/041.jpg>

29. Studio per la sistemazione del centro civico
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/040.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Borgo Sant'Antonio a Rieti, 1947
arch. Enzo Milani, ing. Mario Zocca, ing. Nicola Novelletto

30. Planimetria nuove sistemazioni (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/415.jpg>

31. Prospettiva C
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/416.jpg>

32. Prospettiva D
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/417.jpg>

33. Prospettiva E
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/417A.jpg>

Piano di ricostruzione di Modena, 1948
ing. Mario Pucci

34. Prima zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: piano regolatore della ricostruzione (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/224.jpg>

35. Prima zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: prospettiva
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/225.jpg>

36. Terza zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: piano regolatore della ricostruzione (scala 1:500)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/227.jpg>

37. Terza zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: prospettiva
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/228.jpg>

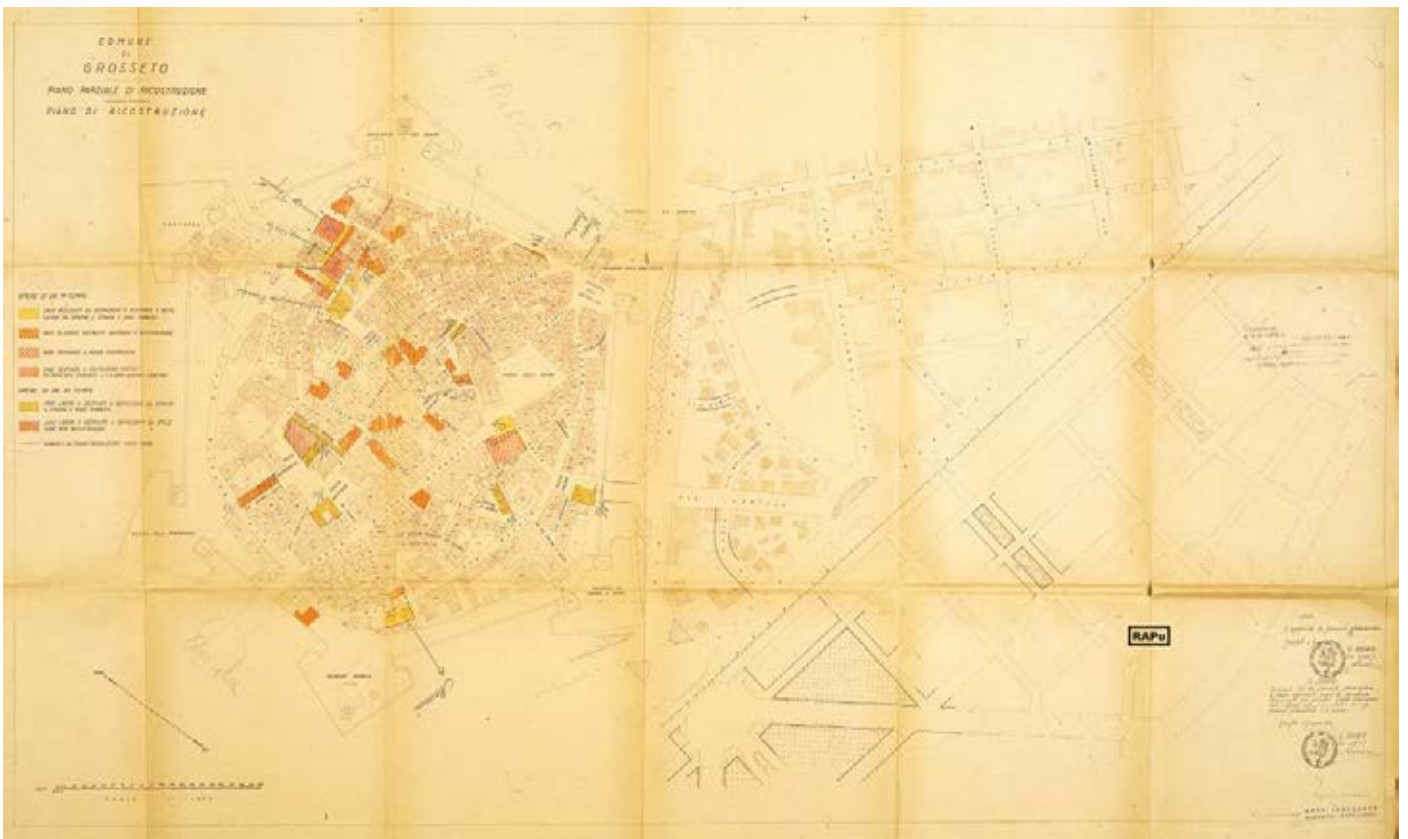
Piano di ricostruzione di Macerata, 1948
arch. Mario Paniconi, arch. Giulio Pediconi, arch. Giuseppe Perugini

38. [Progetto di] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/664.jpg>

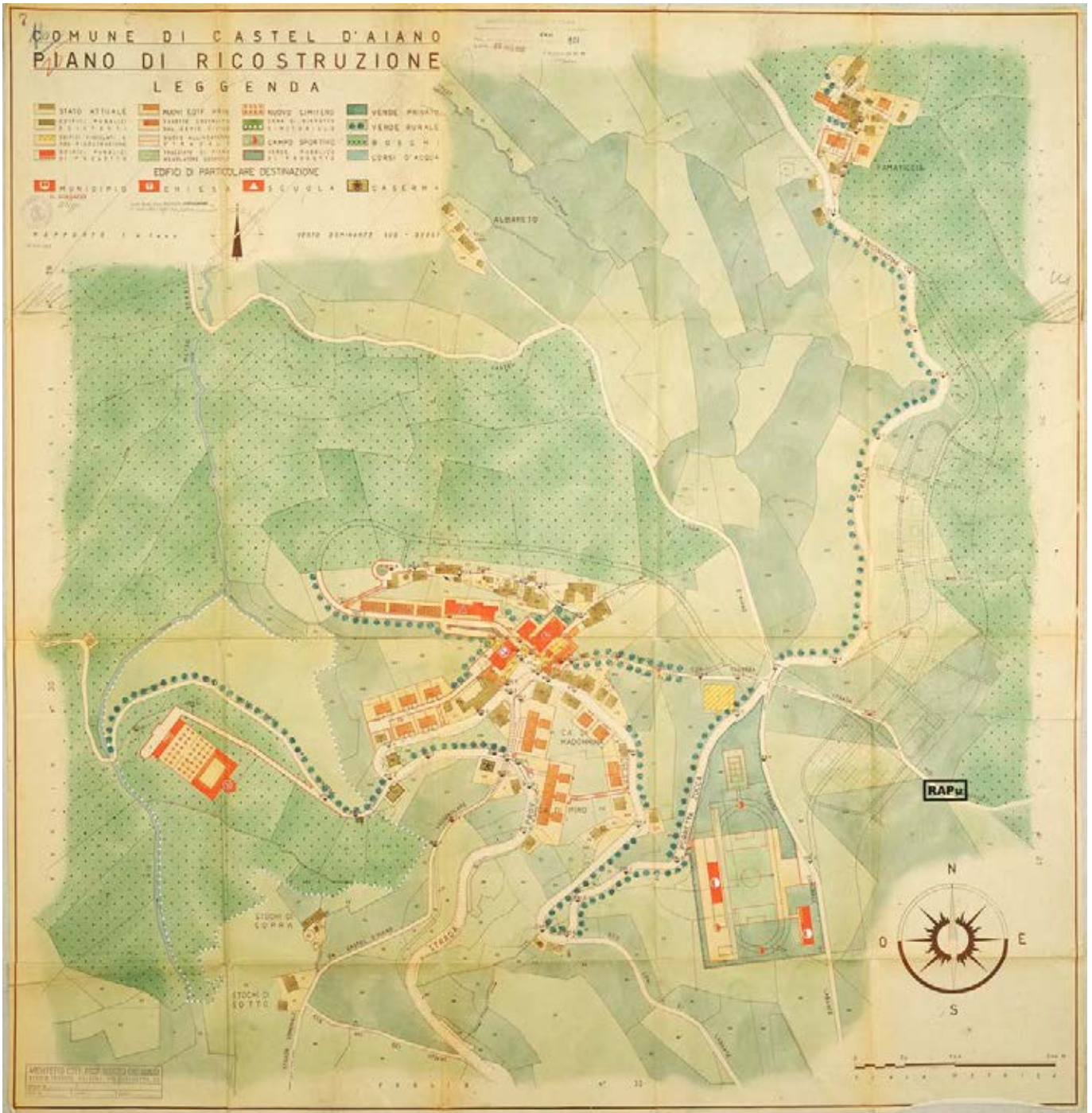
39. Il nuovo mercato in Corso Cairoli
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/665.jpg>

40. Nuovo passaggio nelle mura presso la Porta Mercato
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/666.jpg>

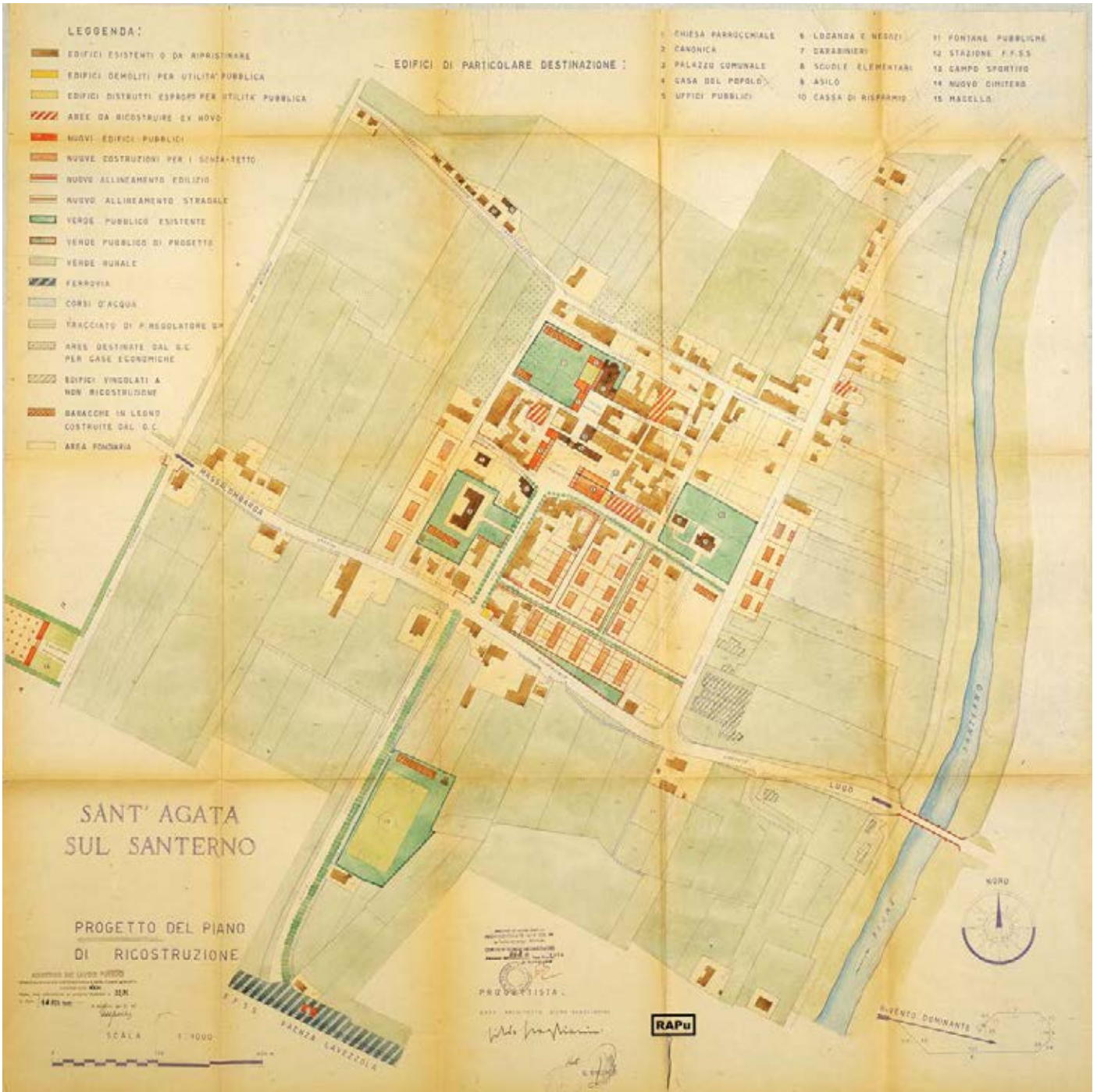
Piano parziale di ricostruzione di Grosseto, 1948
ing. Giovanni Cavallucci
3. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – **plate III**
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/817.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Castel d'Aiano (Bologna), 1948
 arch. Giorgio Giovannini
 4. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – plate IV
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/168.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Sant'Agata sul Santerno (Ravenna), 1949
 arch. Guido Scagliarini
5. Progetto del piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – plate V
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/283.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Marzabotto (Bologna), 1951
arch. Giorgio Giovannini
6. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:2000) – **plate VI**
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/180.jpg>

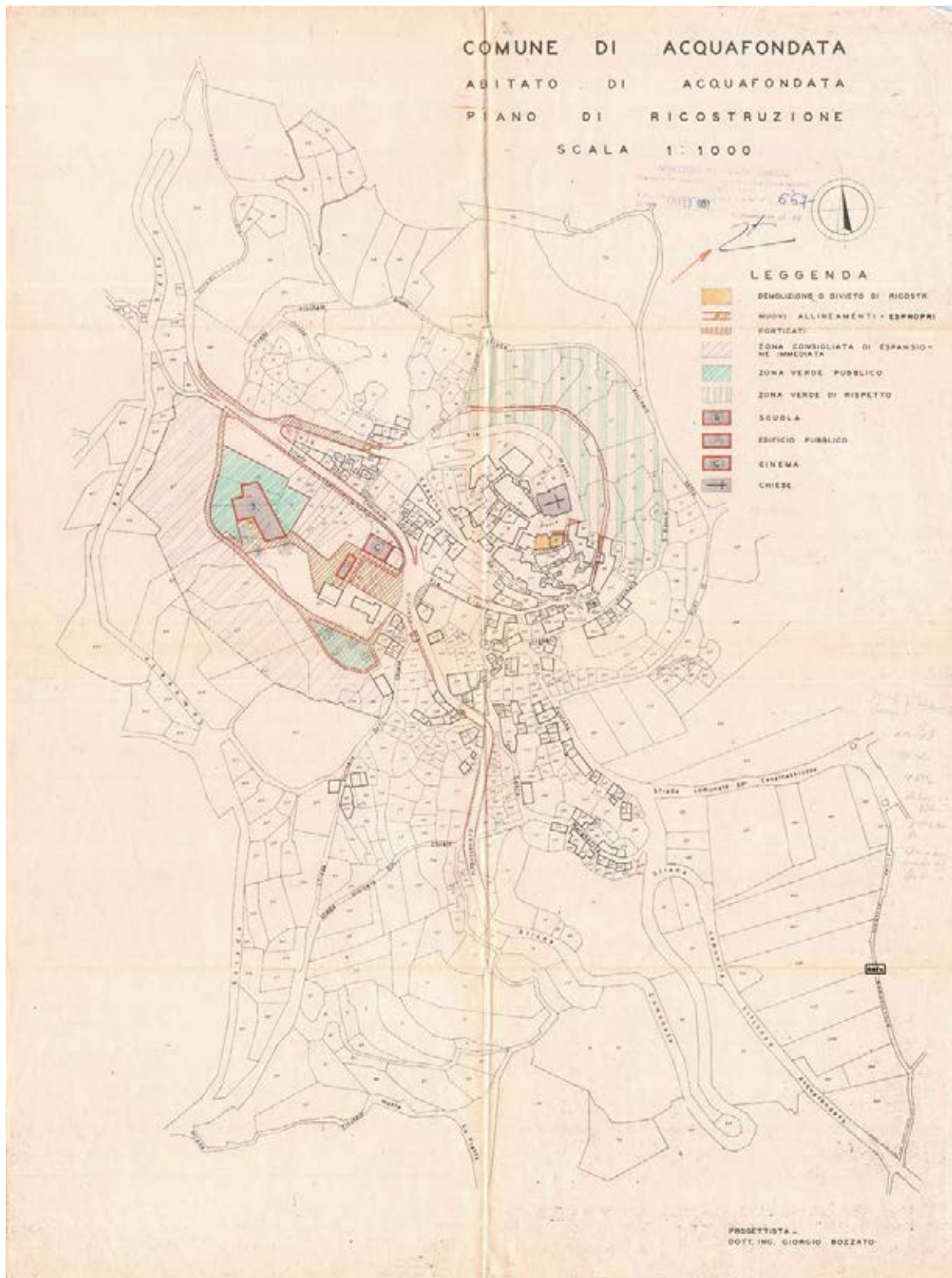


Piano di ricostruzione di Marzabotto (Bologna), 1951
arch. Giorgio Giovannini
7. Piano regolatore generale e di ricostruzione (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/181.jpg>

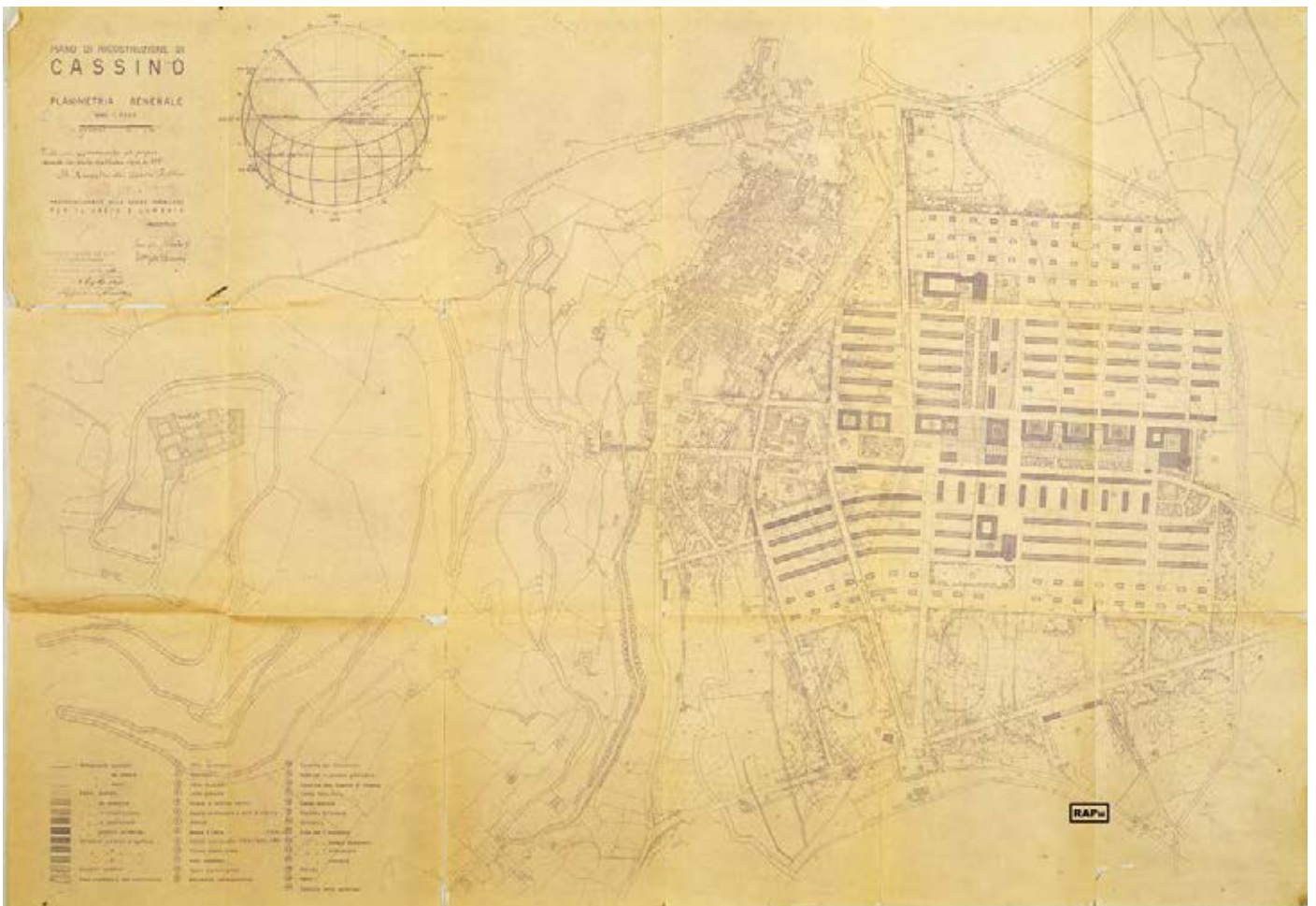


Piano di ricostruzione di Acquafondata (Frosinone), 1957
ing. Giorgio Bozzato

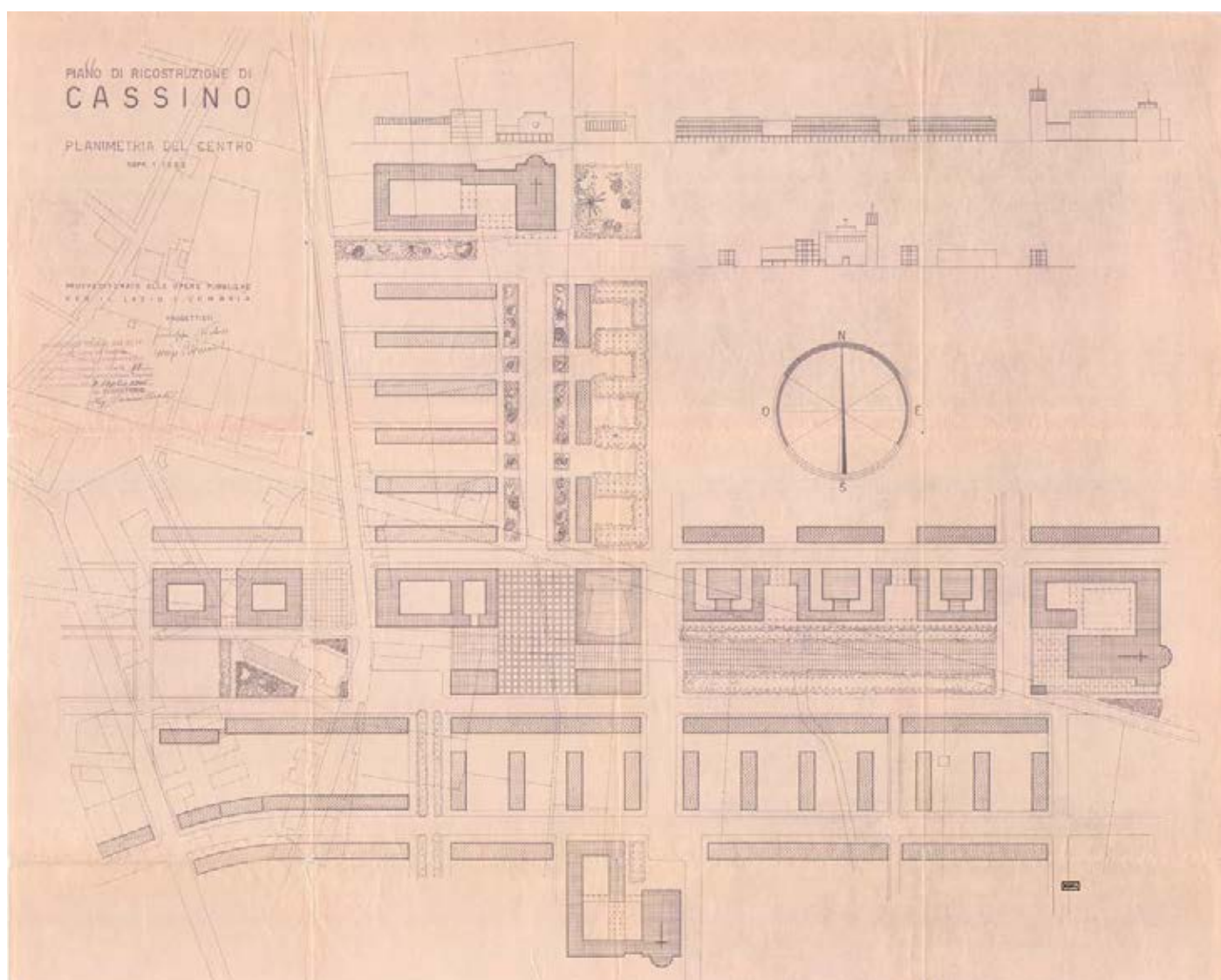
8. Abitato di Acquafondata: piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000) – plate VII
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/364.jpg>



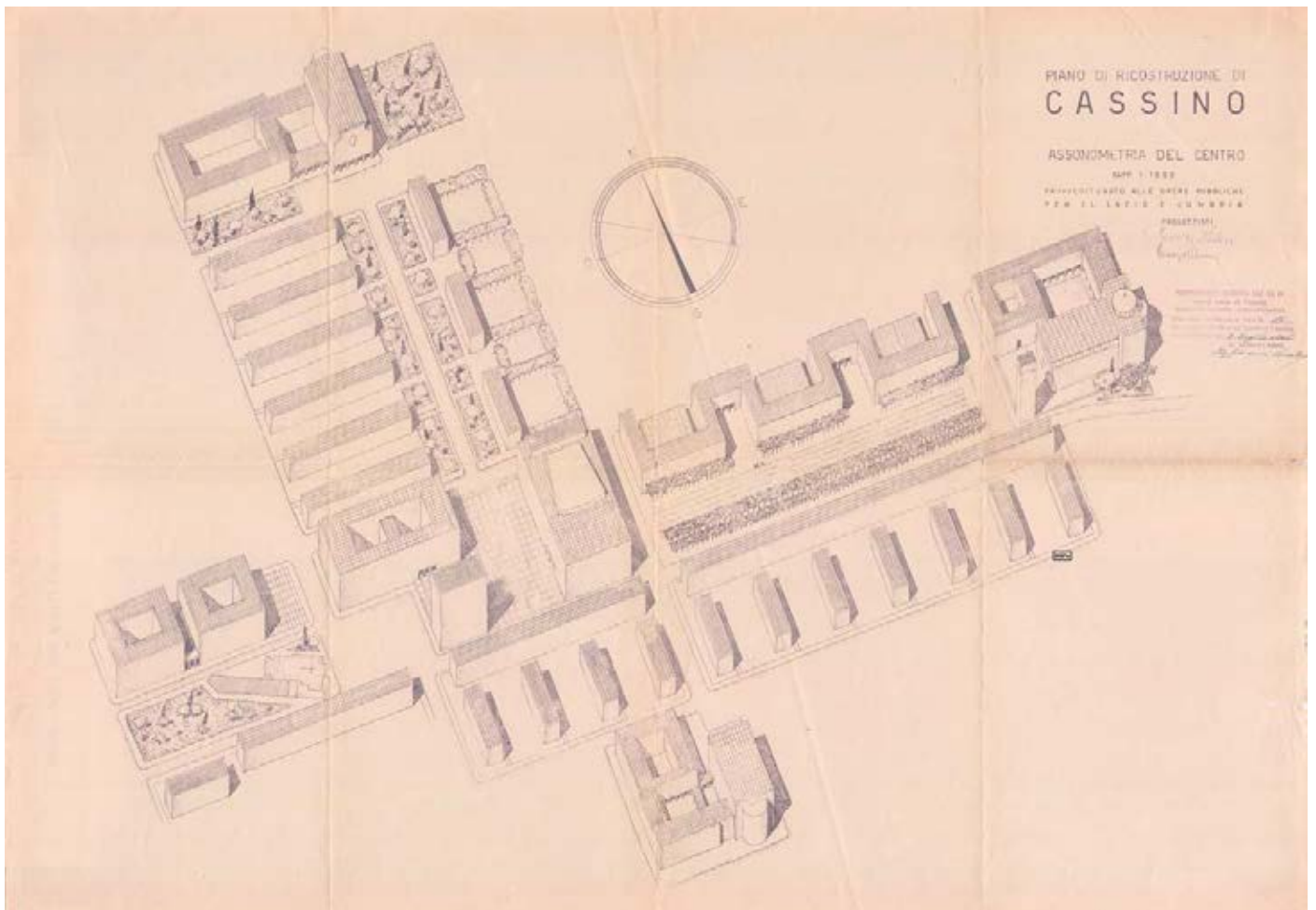
Piano di ricostruzione di Cassino (Frosinone), 1945
ing. Giuseppe Nicolosi, arch. Concezio Petrucci
10. Planimetria generale (scala 1:2000) – **plate IX**
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/374.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Cassino (Frosinone), 1945
ing. Giuseppe Nicolosi, arch. Concezio Petrucci
11. Planimetria del centro (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/375.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Cassino (Frosinone), 1945
ing. Giuseppe Nicolosi, arch. Concezio Petrucci
12. Assonometria del centro (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/376.jpg>



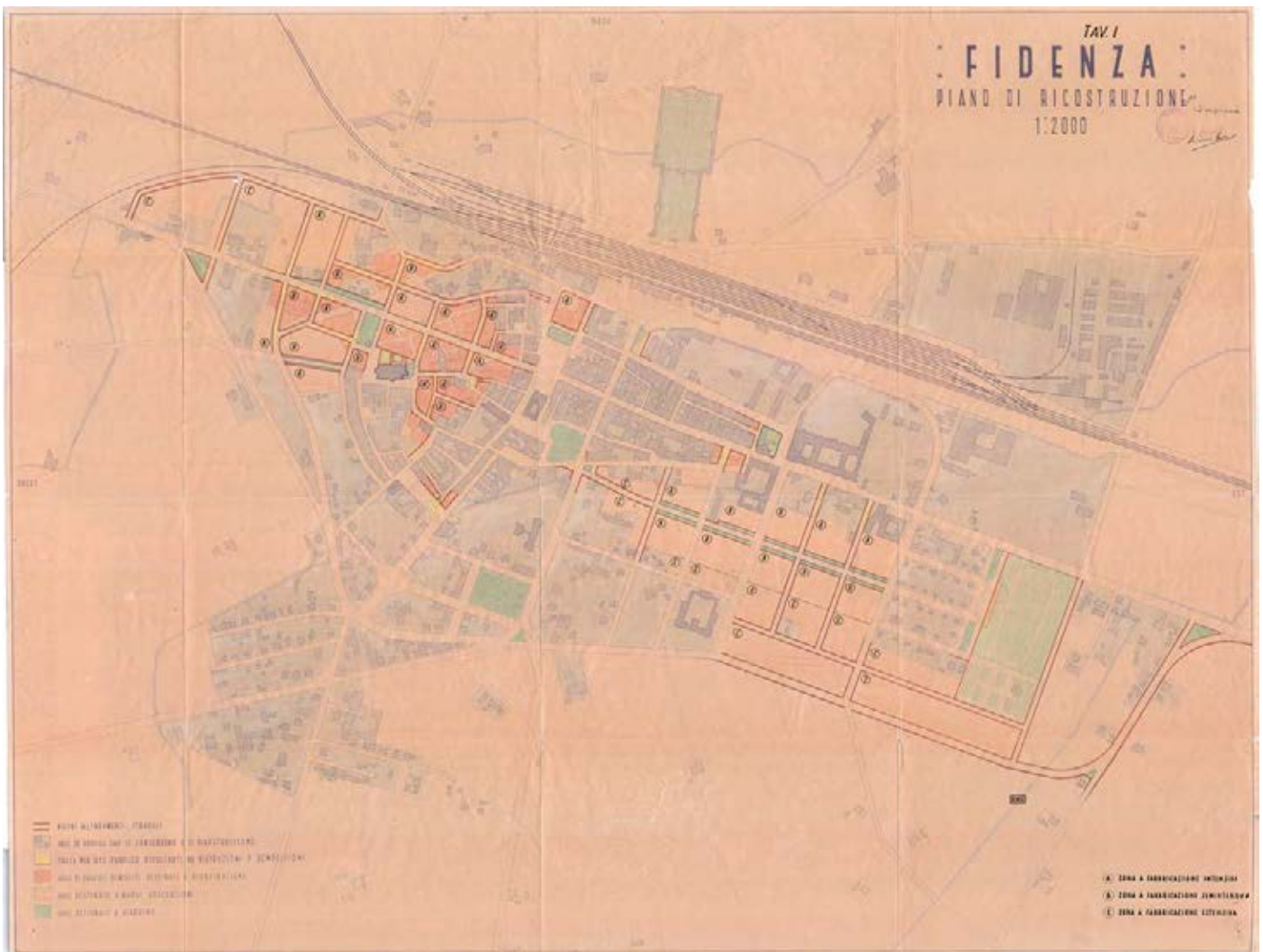
Piano di ricostruzione di Frosinone, 1946
ing. Marino Marini, ing. Armando Vona, arch. Giovanni Jacobucci, ing. Edgardo Vivoli
13. [Piano di ricostruzione del centro urbano] (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/357.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Frosinone, 1946
ing. Marino Marini, ing. Armando Vona, arch. Giovanni Jacobucci, ing. Edgardo Vivoli
14. [Piano di ricostruzione e di ampliamento delle zone circvicine] (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/356.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Fidenza (Parma), 1947
ing. Cesare Chioldi
15. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione, Tav. I (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/255.jpg>

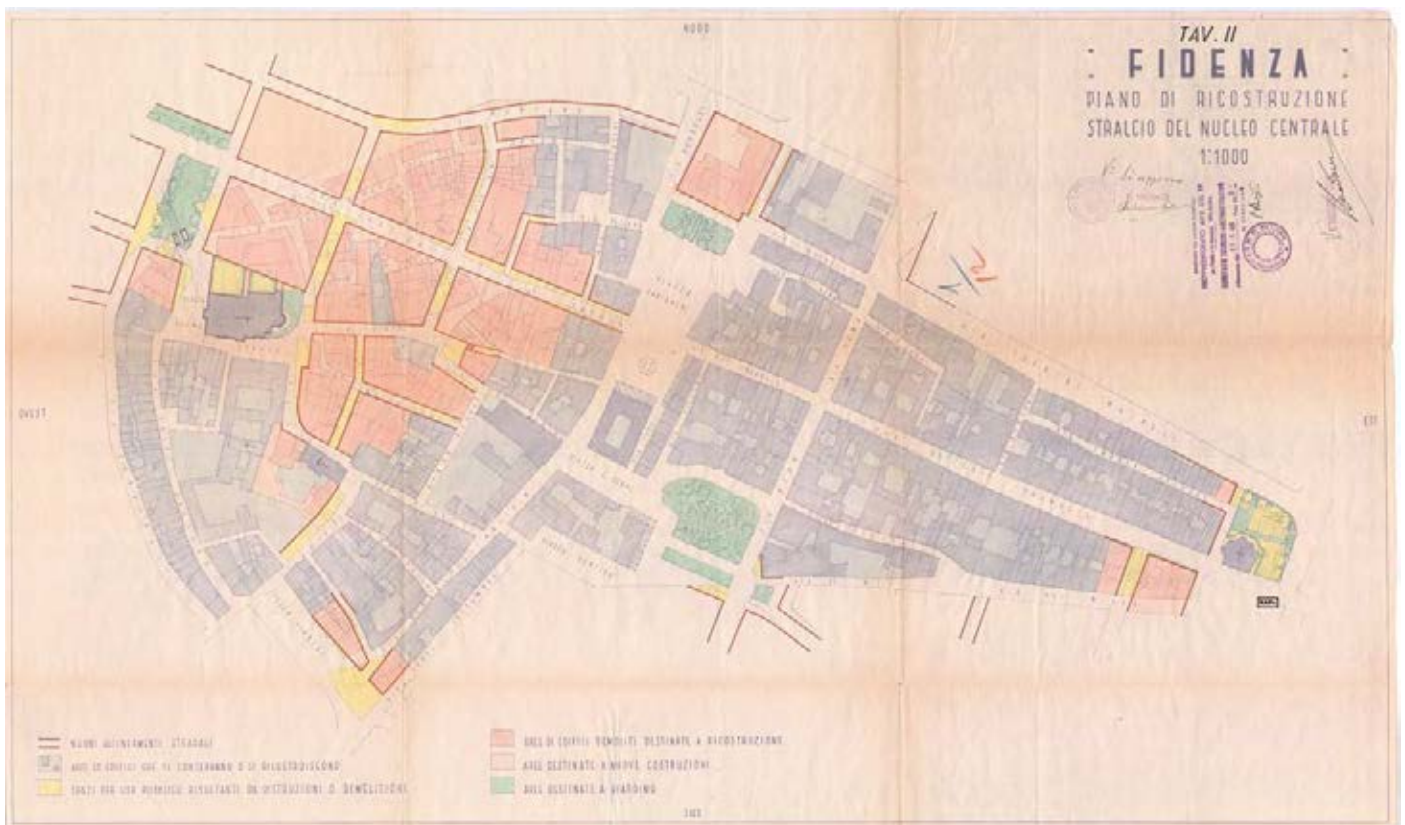


Piano di ricostruzione di Fidenza (Parma), 1947

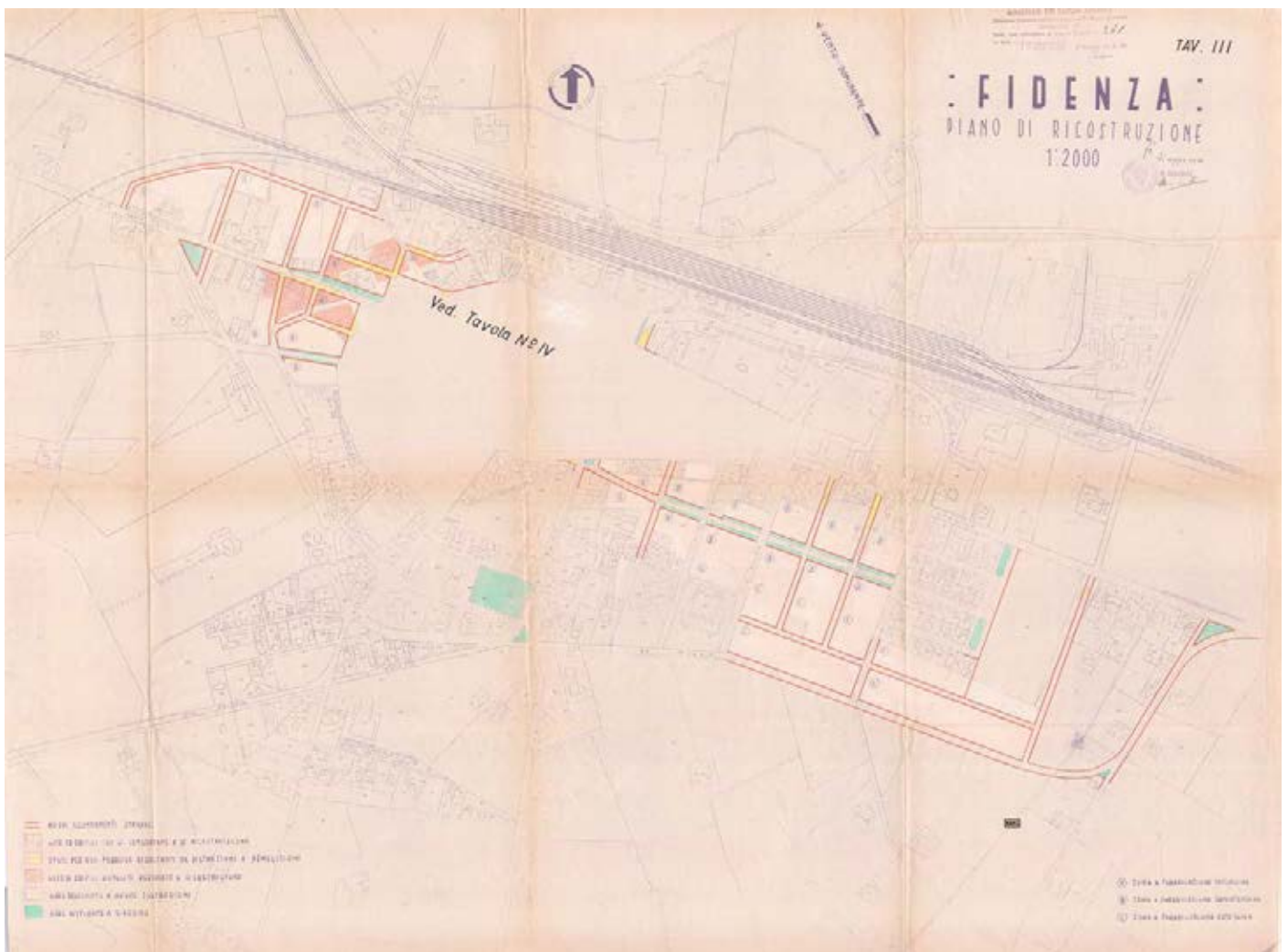
ing. Cesare Chioldi

16. Piano di ricostruzione: stralcio del nucleo centrale, Tav. II (scala 1:1000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/256.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Fidenza (Parma), 1947
ing. Cesare Chioldi
17. [Progetto del] Piano di ricostruzione, Tav. III (scala:12000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/257.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Fidenza (Parma), 1947

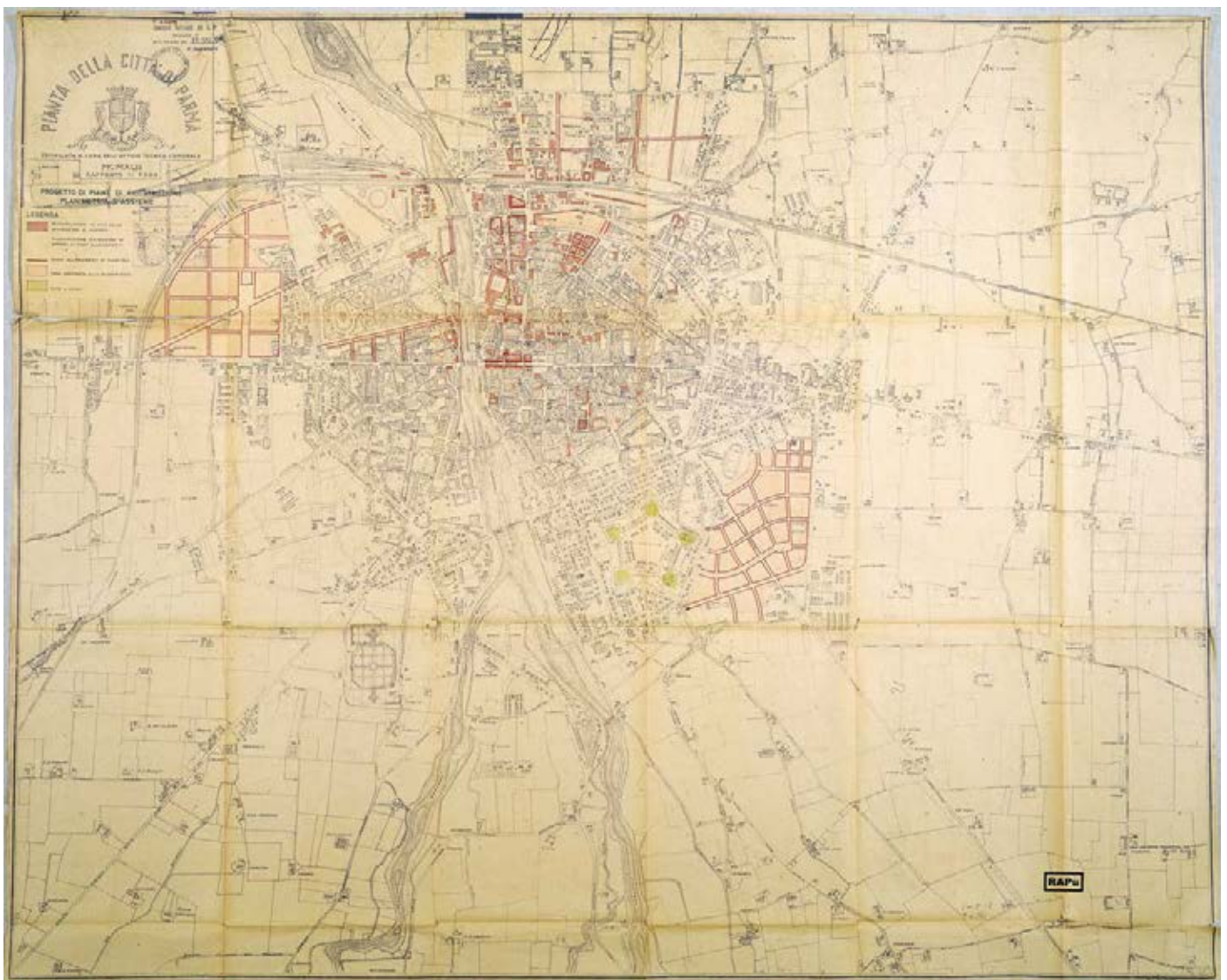
ing. Cesare Chiodi

18. Piano di ricostruzione: stralcio nucleo centrale, Tav. IV (scala:1250)

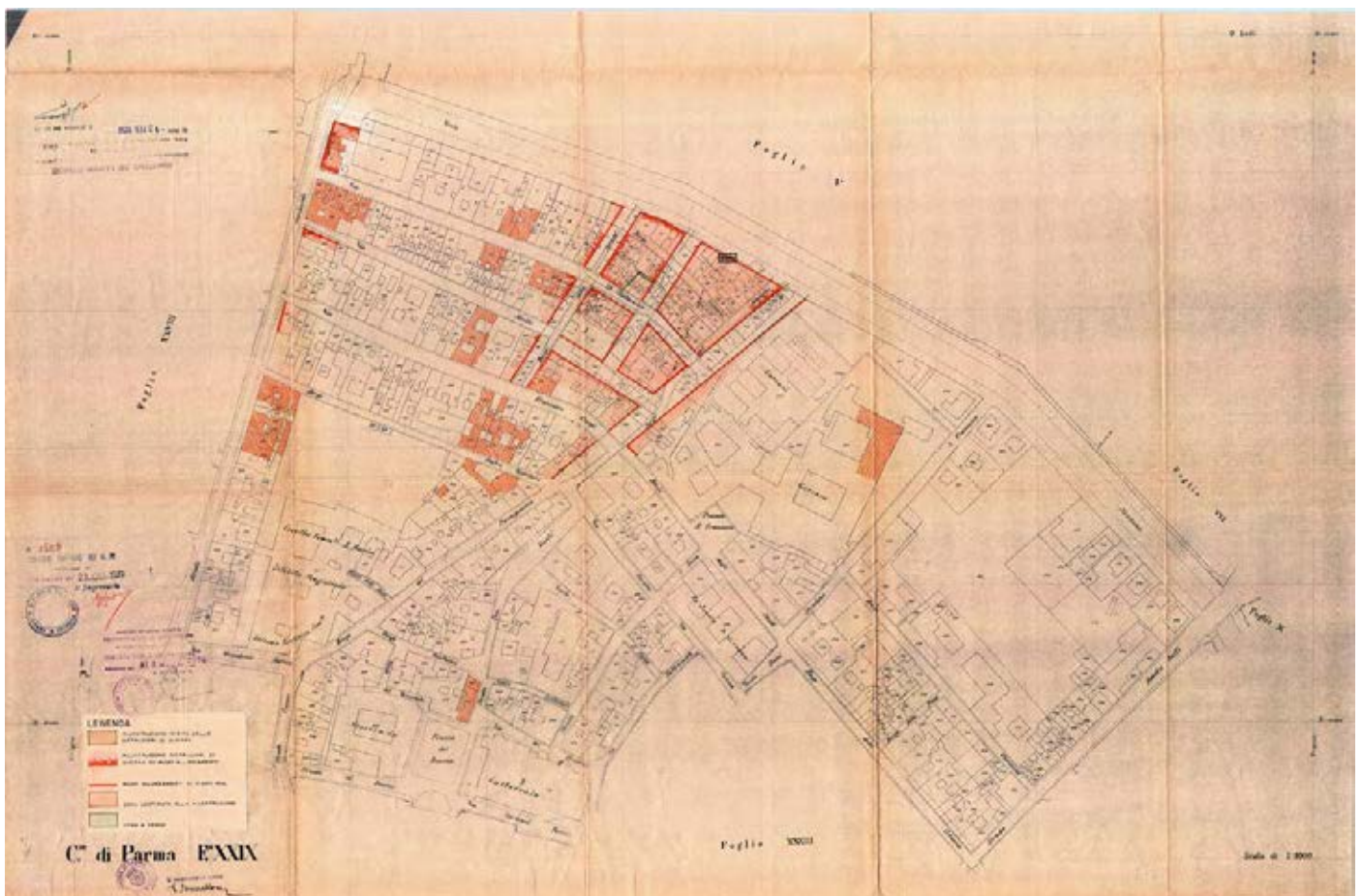
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/258.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Parma, 1950
Ufficio tecnico comunale
19. Progetto di piano di ricostruzione: planimetria d'assieme (scala 1:5000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/248.jpg>



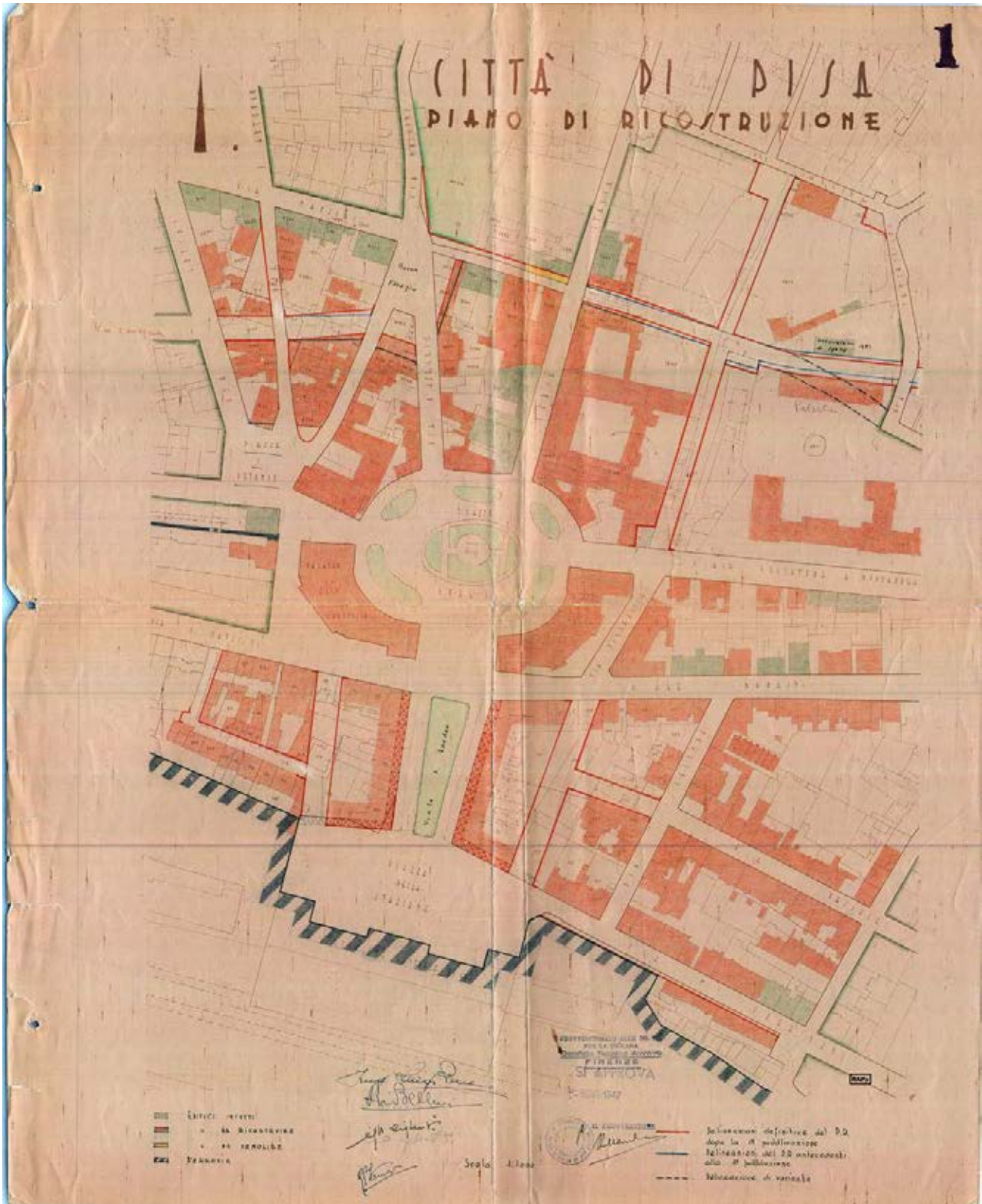
Piano di ricostruzione di Parma, 1950
Ufficio tecnico comunale
20. [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione:] Foglio XXIX (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/251.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Pisa, 1947
ing. Luigi Pera, arch. Renzo Bellucci, ing. Ugo Ciangherotti, ing. Giulio Fascetti
21. [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione: planimetria d'assieme] (scala 1:4000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/849.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Pisa, 1947
ing. Luigi Pera, arch. Renzo Bellucci, ing. Ugo Ciangherotti, ing. Giulio Fascetti
22. [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione: foglio] 1 (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/850.jpg>

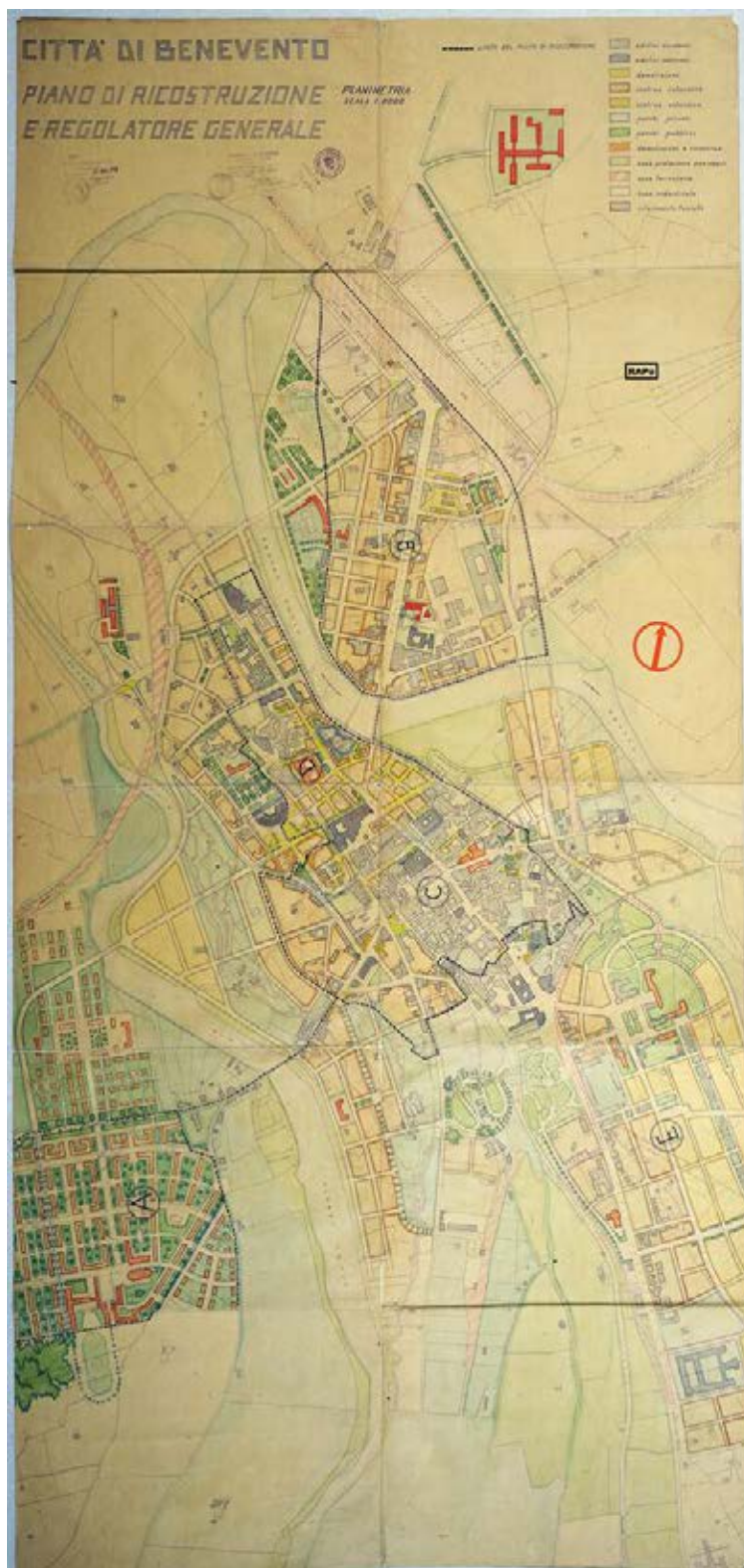


Piano di ricostruzione di Benevento, 1948

Ufficio tecnico comunale

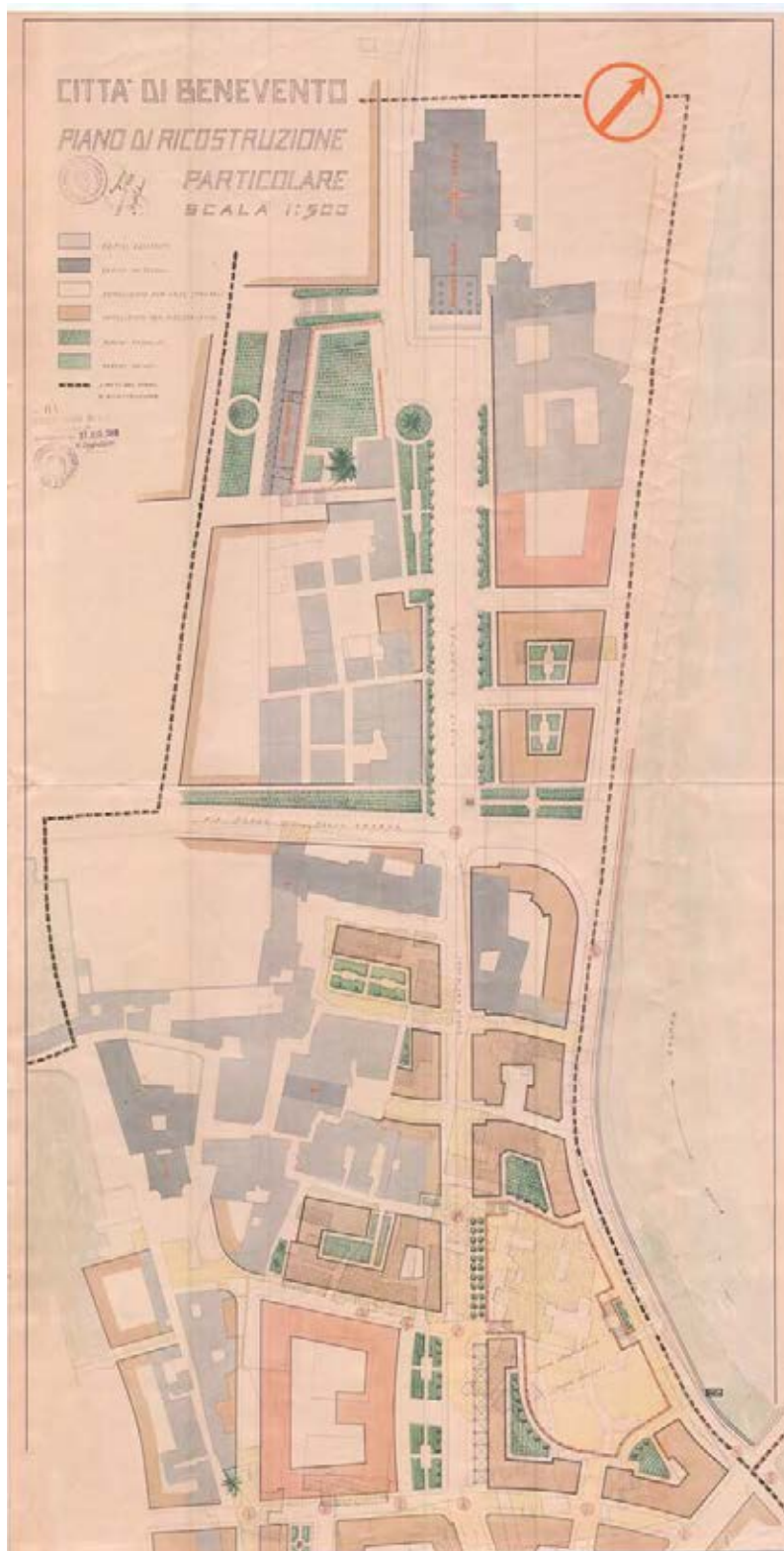
23. Piano di ricostruzione e regolatore generale (scala 1:2000)

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/108.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Benevento, 1948
Ufficio tecnico comunale

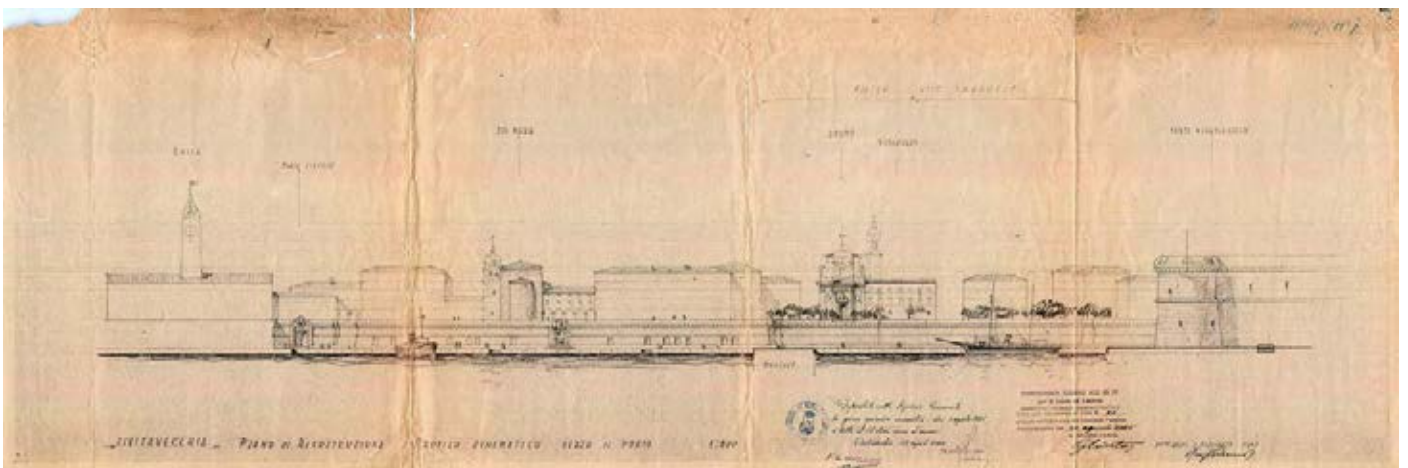
24. Piano di ricostruzione: particolare (scala 1:500)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/109.jpg>



Piani di ricostruzione di Civitavecchia (Roma), 1945
arch. Luigi Piccinato
25. Pianta di Civitavecchia: [Progetto di piano di ricostruzione] (scala 1:2000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/524.jpg>



Piani di ricostruzione di Civitavecchia (Roma), 1945
arch. Luigi Piccinato
26. Profilo schematico verso il porto (scala 1:500)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/525.jpg>

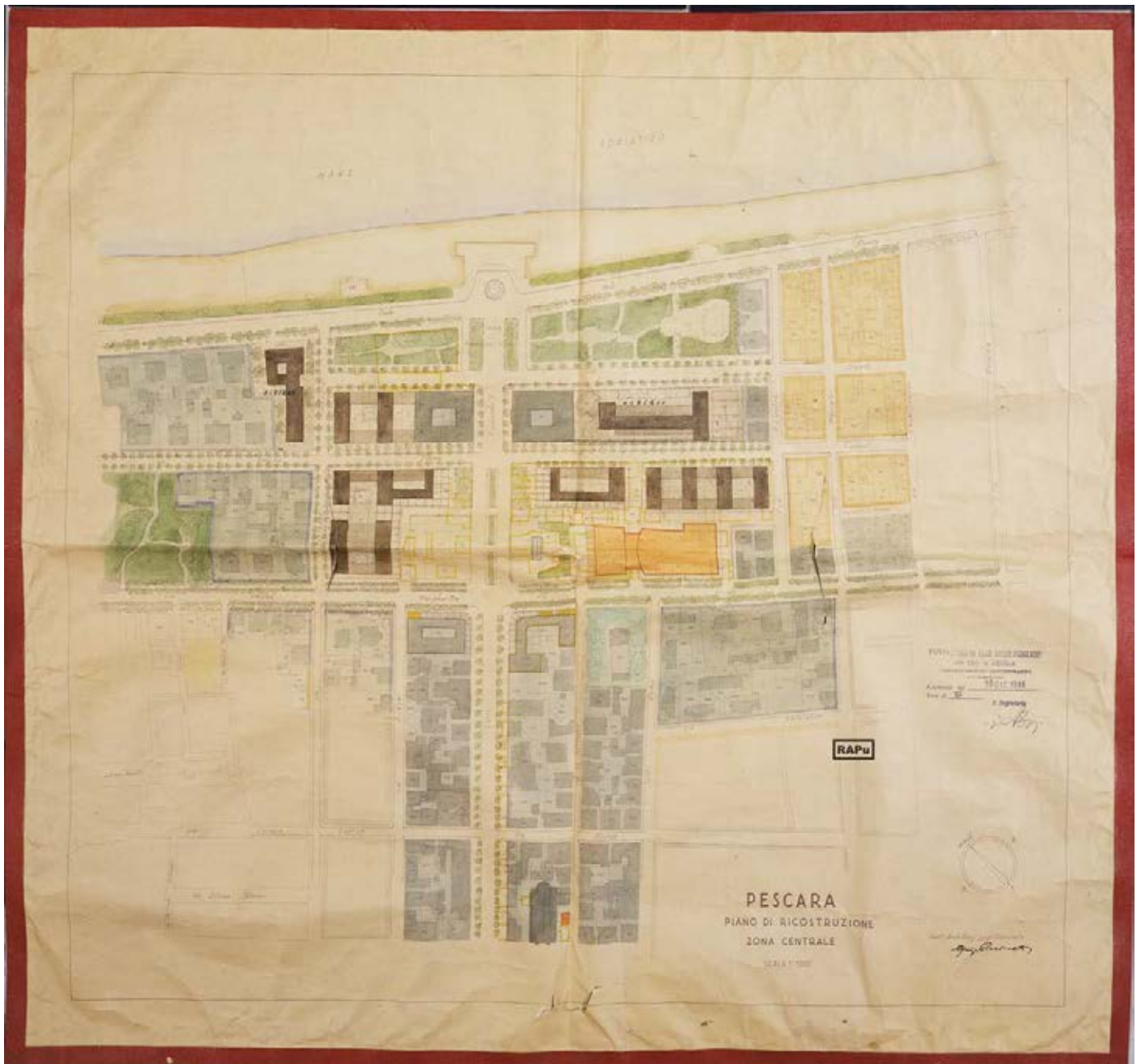


Piano di ricostruzione di Pescara, 1947

arch. Luigi Piccinato

27. Piano di ricostruzione: zona centrale (scala 1:1000) – plate X

<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/038.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Pescara, 1947
arch. Luigi Piccinato
28. Studio per la sistemazione della zona centrale
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/041.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Pescara, 1947
arch. Luigi Piccinato
29. Studio per la sistemazione del centro civico
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/040.jpg>



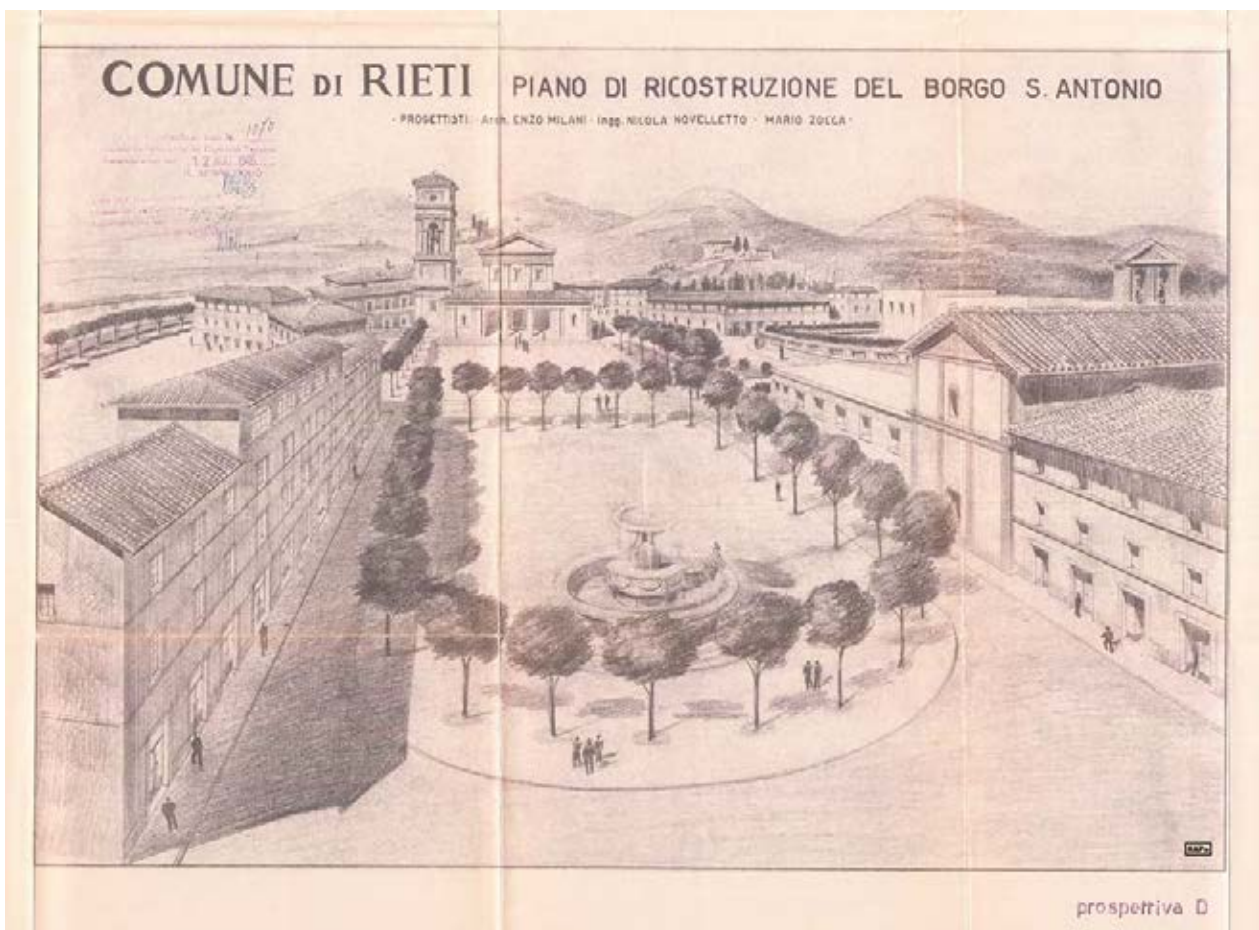
Piano di ricostruzione di Borgo Sant'Antonio a Rieti, 1947
 arch. Enzo Milani, ing. Mario Zocca, ing. Nicola Novelletto
30. Planimetria nuove sistemazioni (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/415.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Borgo Sant'Antonio a Rieti, 1947
arch. Enzo Milani, ing. Mario Zocca, ing. Nicola Novelletto
31. Prospettiva C
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/416.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Borgo Sant'Antonio a Rieti, 1947
arch. Enzo Milani, ing. Mario Zocca, ing. Nicola Novelletto
32. Prospettiva D
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/417.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Borgo Sant'Antonio a Rieti, 1947
arch. Enzo Milani, ing. Mario Zocca, ing. Nicola Novelletto
33. Prospettiva E
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/417A.jpg>



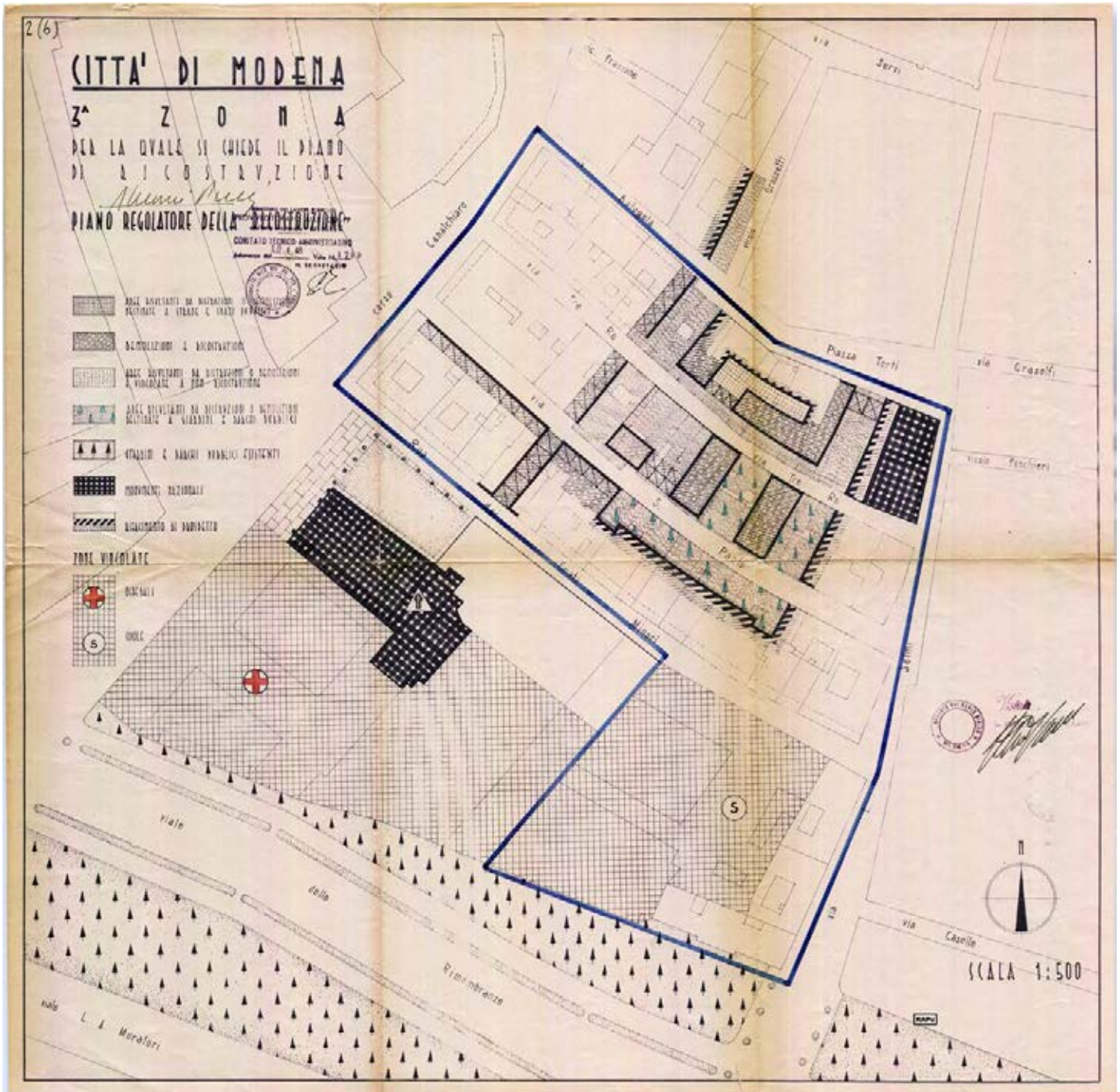
Piano di ricostruzione di Modena, 1948
ing. Mario Pucci

35. Prima zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: prospettiva
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/225.jpg>



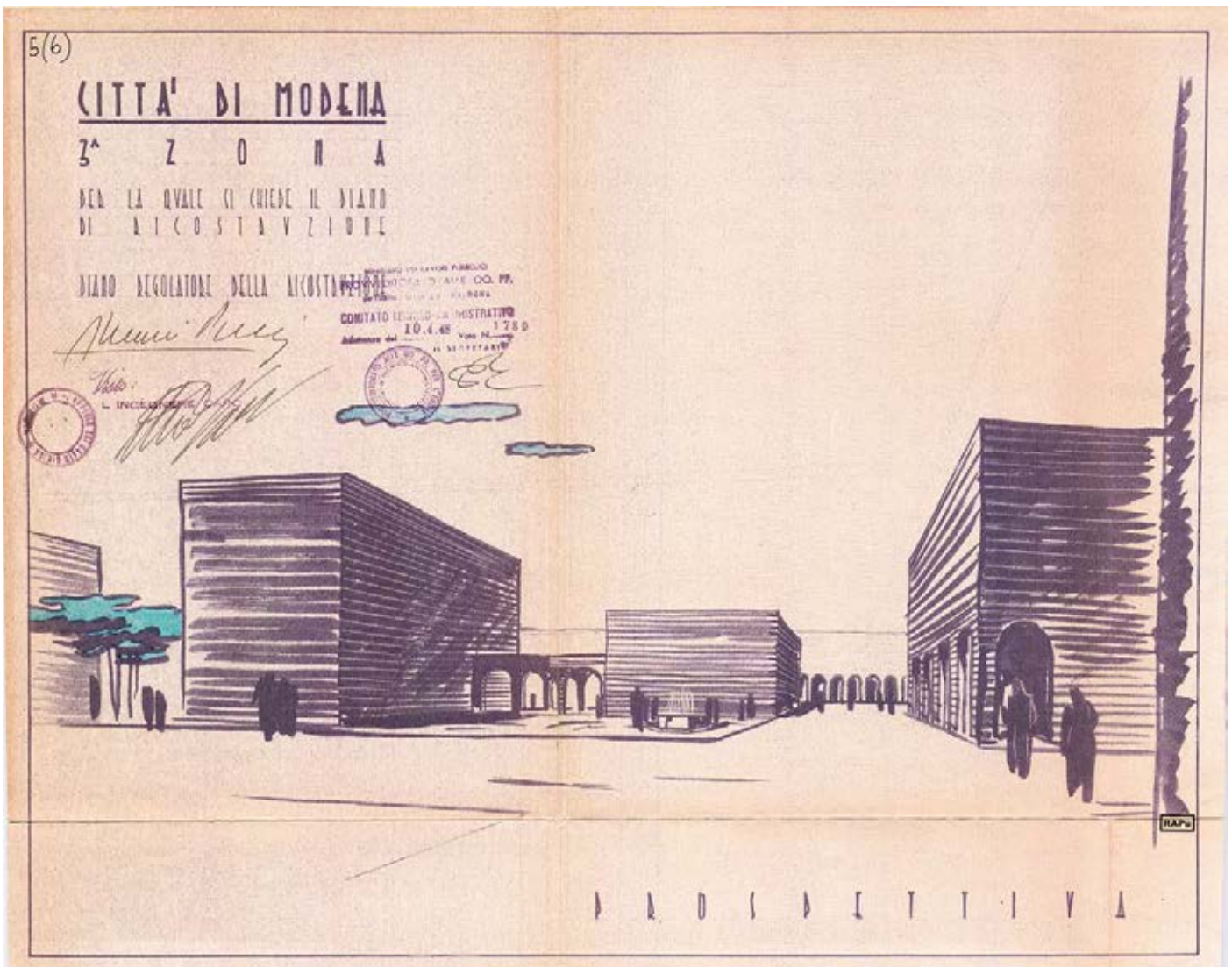
Piano di ricostruzione di Modena, 1948
ing. Mario Pucci

36. Terza zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: piano regolatore della ricostruzione (scala 1:500)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/227.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Modena, 1948
ing. Mario Pucci

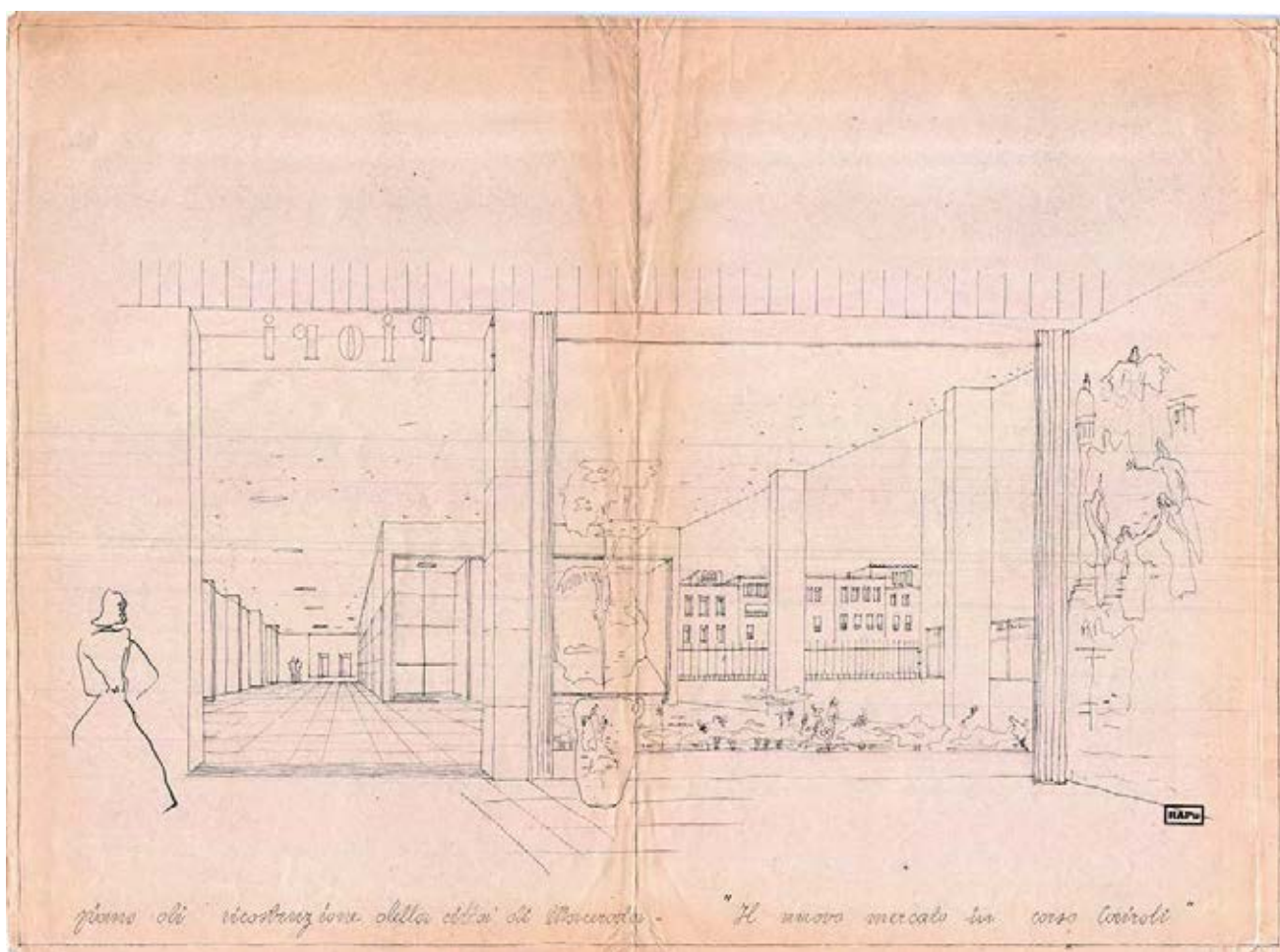
37. Terza zona per la quale si chiede il piano di ricostruzione: prospettiva
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/228.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Macerata, 1948
arch. Mario Paniconi, arch. Giulio Pediconi, arch. Giuseppe Perugini
38. [Progetto di] Piano di ricostruzione (scala 1:1000)
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/664.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Macerata, 1948
arch. Mario Paniconi, arch. Giulio Pediconi, arch. Giuseppe Perugini
39. Il nuovo mercato in Corso Cairoli
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/665.jpg>



Piano di ricostruzione di Macerata, 1948
arch. Mario Paniconi, arch. Giulio Pediconi, arch. Giuseppe Perugini
40. Nuovo passaggio nelle mura presso la Porta Mercato
<https://www.rapu.it/ricerca/jpg/666.jpg>



PLANUM. The Journal of Urbanism

Bertrando Bonfantini, (2021), "Elements and figures of urban space design in the Italian post-war reconstruction plans. An illustrated essay", *Planum Magazine* no. 42, vol. I/2021

ISSN 1723-0993

