

# VARIOUS AUTHORS

# BIOGRAPHY OF A RURAL

# LANDSCAPE

*History and environmental archaeology for the requalification of the Lovara homes  
(Mesco promontory – La Spezia)*

A research path that has been open since the 1970s from historic ecology of European origin has developed a specific historical approach inspired by the local or topographical historical experiences to problems of environmental and cultural conservation. This historical approach has rarely been adopted in the countries of southern Europe due to the choice of local history that has essentially become foreign to historical-geographic continental research, and also due to the managerial and political problems that emerge as a result. The historical approach places at the centre of the environmental resources government (and therefore their potential redevelopment in existing conservationist and productive guidelines) the disregarded and cumbersome historical and environmental heritage (often still present) of the practices and knowledge related to the management of local environmental resources and landscapes. Rediscovering these environmental and historical ties between local production and environmental resources, calls for an urgent reconsideration of the Mediterranean mountains definition of farming and environmental policies, so as to move towards a dynamic conservation of resources and rural landscapes through

forestry, agricultural and silvicultural production and abandoning policies aimed at mere “re-naturalisation”. This is the humus that the volume originates from, which collects the research developed by geographers, ecologists, historians and archaeologists in collaboration with the Italian Environment Fund (FAI) for the reconstruction of the “biography of an individual landscape”, a historical characterisation of an individual rural landscape, as applied to the restoration of a historically significant rural landscapes in Lovara (Park of the Cinque Terre - Liguria).

The Series. The “vacant lands” in this series are widespread geographic spaces that are on the rise across all of Europe: an issue of the geographic and historic analysis on the environment on which the authors of this volume has felt prompted to intervene, using increasingly refined tools, for both research and action.

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