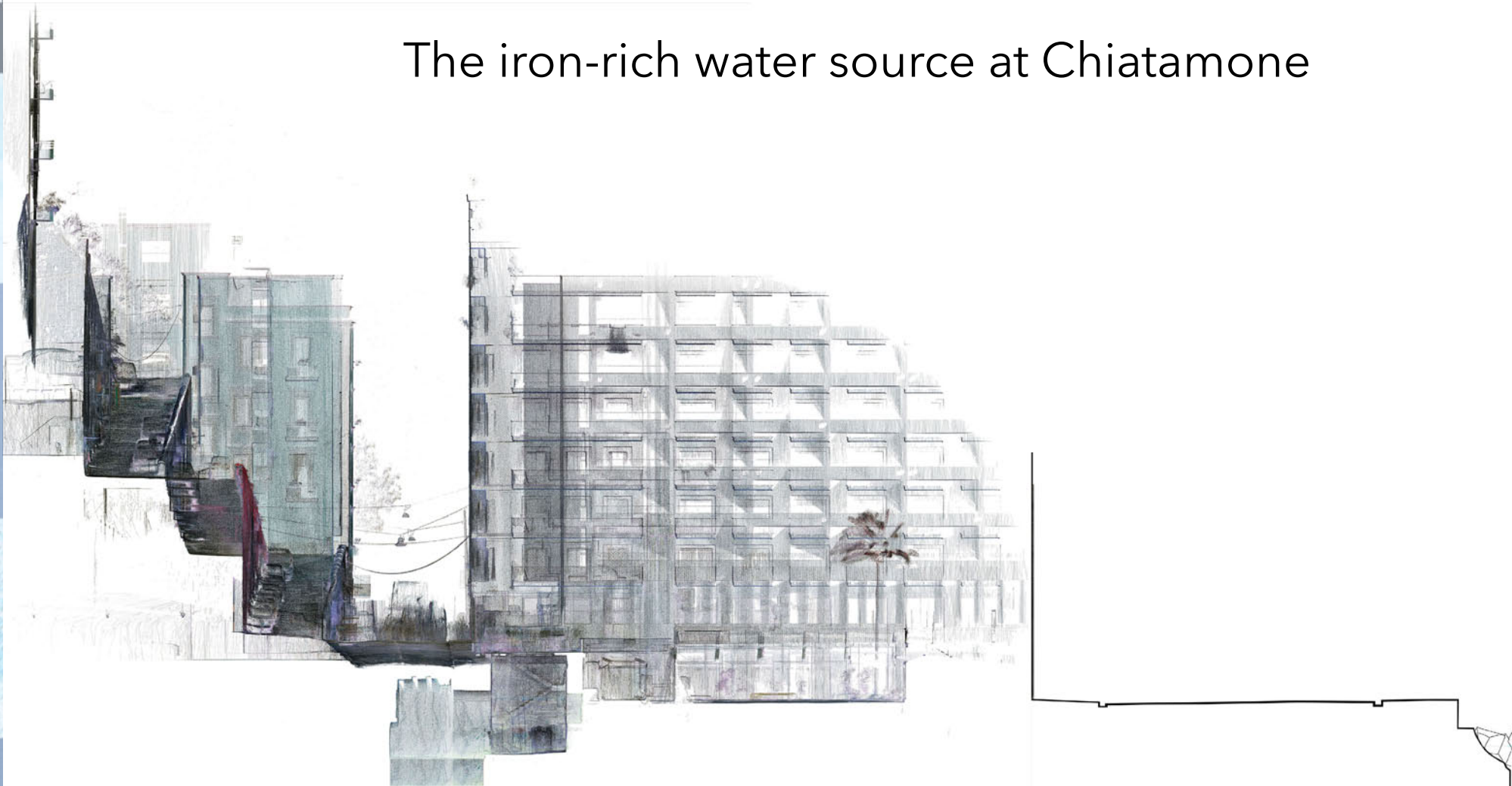
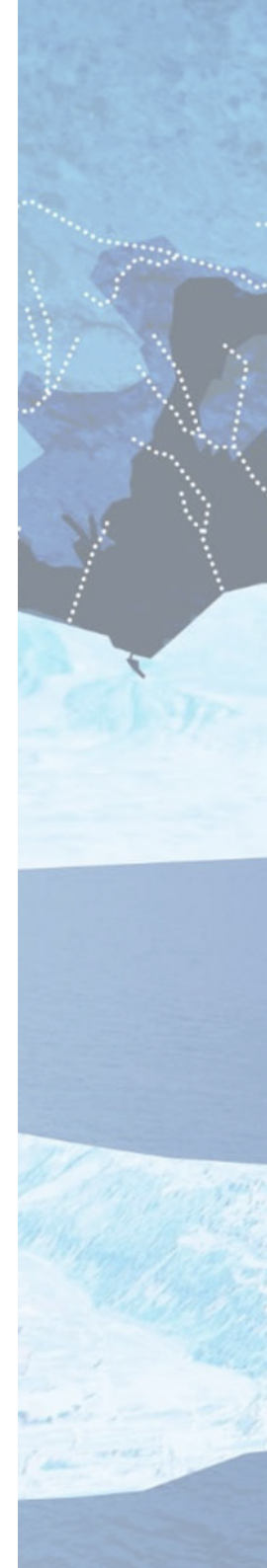



The iron-rich water source at Chiatamone



The iron-rich water source at Chiatamone
CoolCity_HHydrotopia
laboratorio architettura nomade
info@lanhub.org
napoli - dicembre - 2022





The name Chiatamone comes from the Greek word *platamòn*, which means a marine rock dug from caves. The tufa-ceous ridge of Mount Echia, close to Via Chiatamone, is characterized by numerous caves already inhabited in prehistoric times, some characterized by the presence of spring water. Here was Phalerols, Partenophe, and then Palepoli, before merging with Naples. A real passage road on the coast was only built in the Aragonese period. With the construction of the eighteenth-century Casino Reale surrounded by plane trees and holm oaks, the Grand Hotel Hassler and other residential buildings that directly overlooked the sea, the street, already very popular, became one of the most elegant in the city.

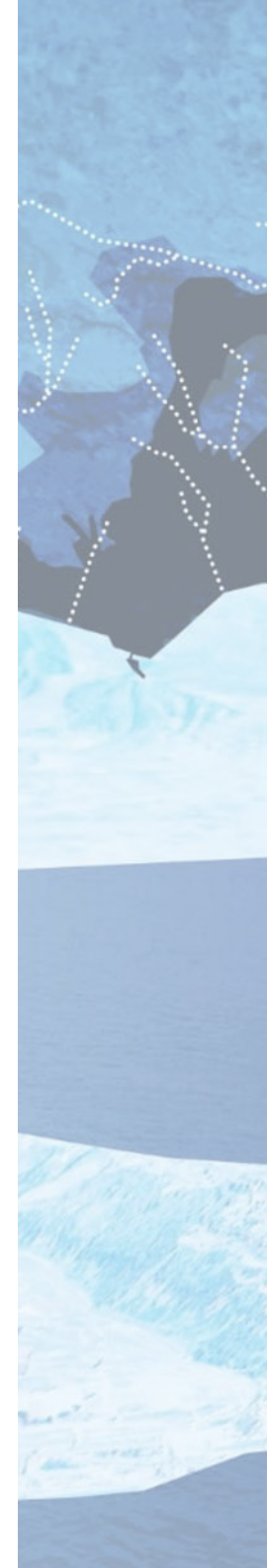
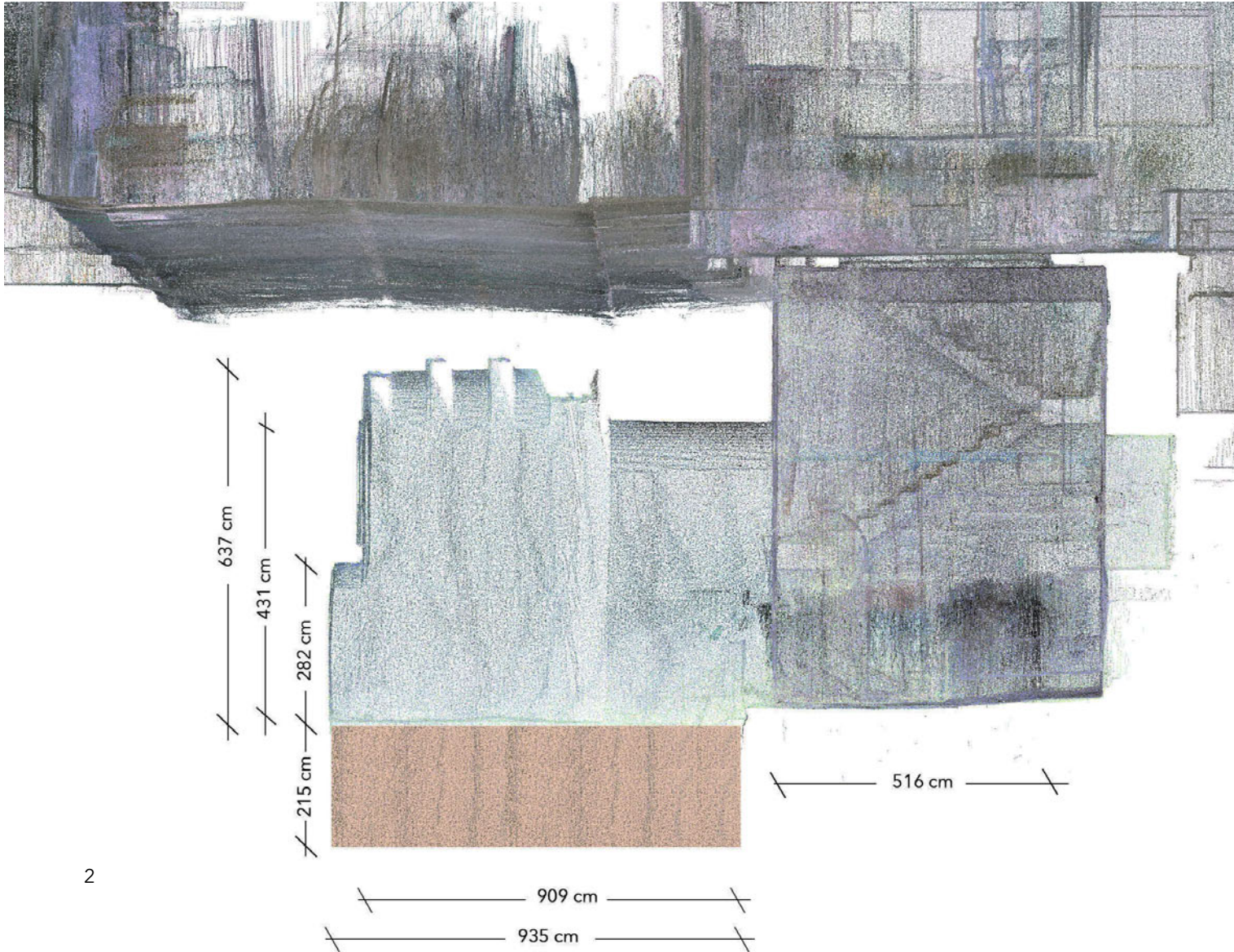
In 1869, with the creation of the new coastal area promoted by the then Mayor of Naples Domenico Capitelli and the Belgian entrepreneur Baron Herman Du Mesnil, work started on what is now called via Partenope, which runs parallel to via Chiatamone. The numerous springs lying between Santa Lucia and the Chiatamone were buried under the building work but the Chiatamone iron-rich water continued to be used by the people of Santa Lucia, who did business transporting the water in the famous terracotta jugs known as *mummare*.

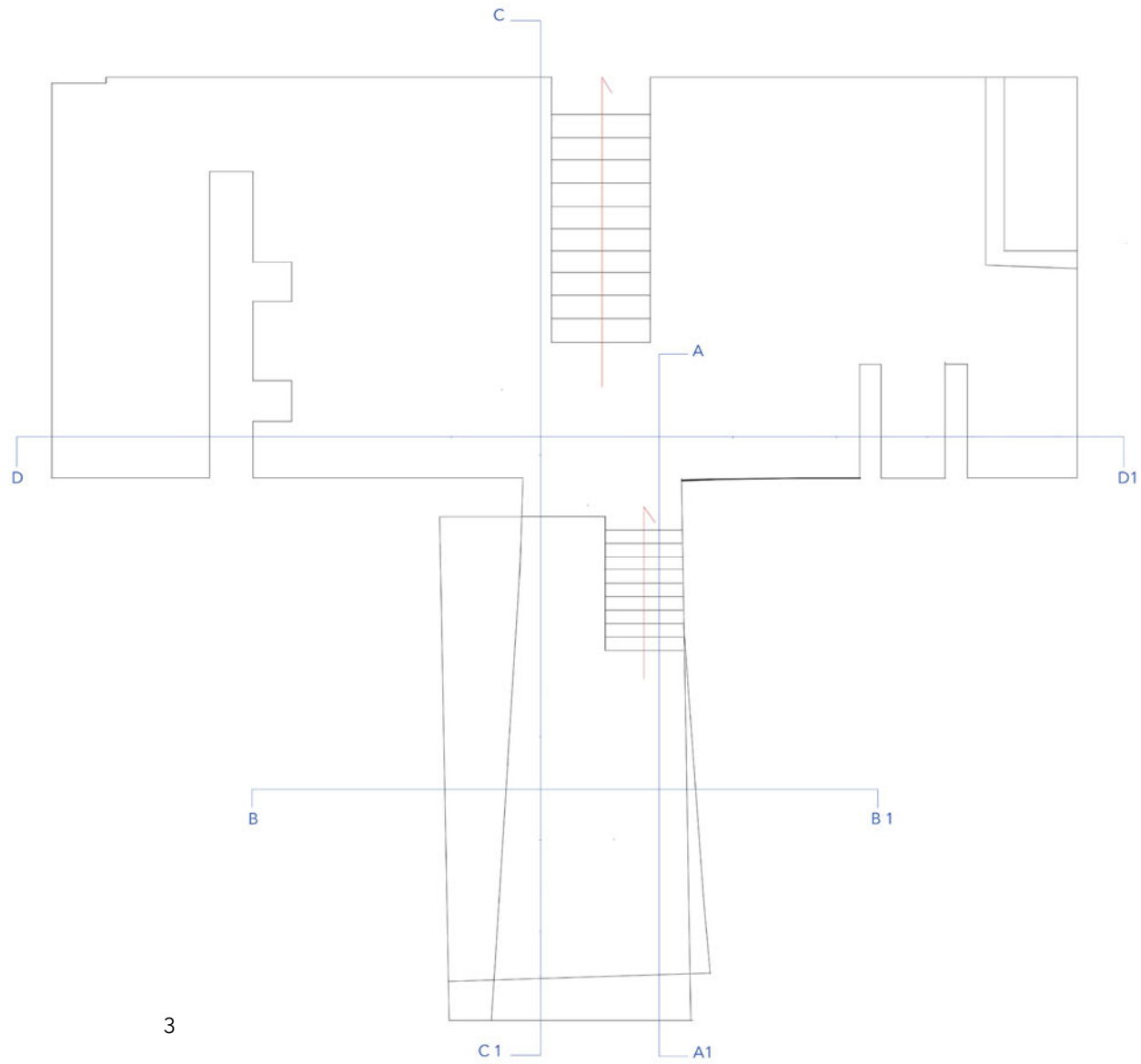
With the construction of the Grand Hotel Royal Continental designed by Castagnaro and built in 1911 there were new attempts to privatize the spring, but a buffer strip from via Chiatamone to today's via Partenope, owned by the Municipality of Naples, continued to guarantee its public use.

The hoteliers, the new bourgeoisie and the new culture established in the city repeatedly and insistently called for the closure of the springs and the regulation of the supply and trade of *mummare*, but the insistence of public opinion and of the Lucian water sellers repeatedly fail these attempts.

After the Second World War, due to the damage suffered by the bombings, the old buildings were demolished and new controversies arose against the privatization of the property with the taking over of the new owners. Only in 1973 with cholera in Naples and the demonization of water as the source of the epidemic was access to the source definitively prohibited. The reconstruction work on the hotels ended in 1976 based on a project by Izzo and Gubitosi.

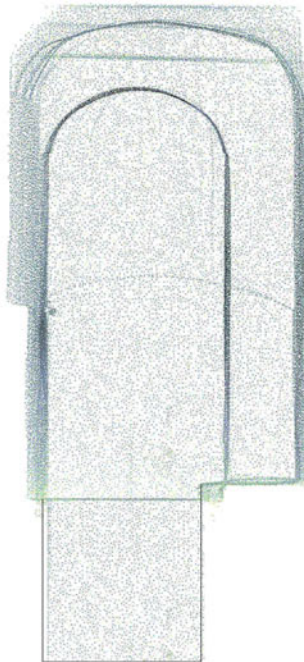
Since then the space has lain silent and hidden underground.





3

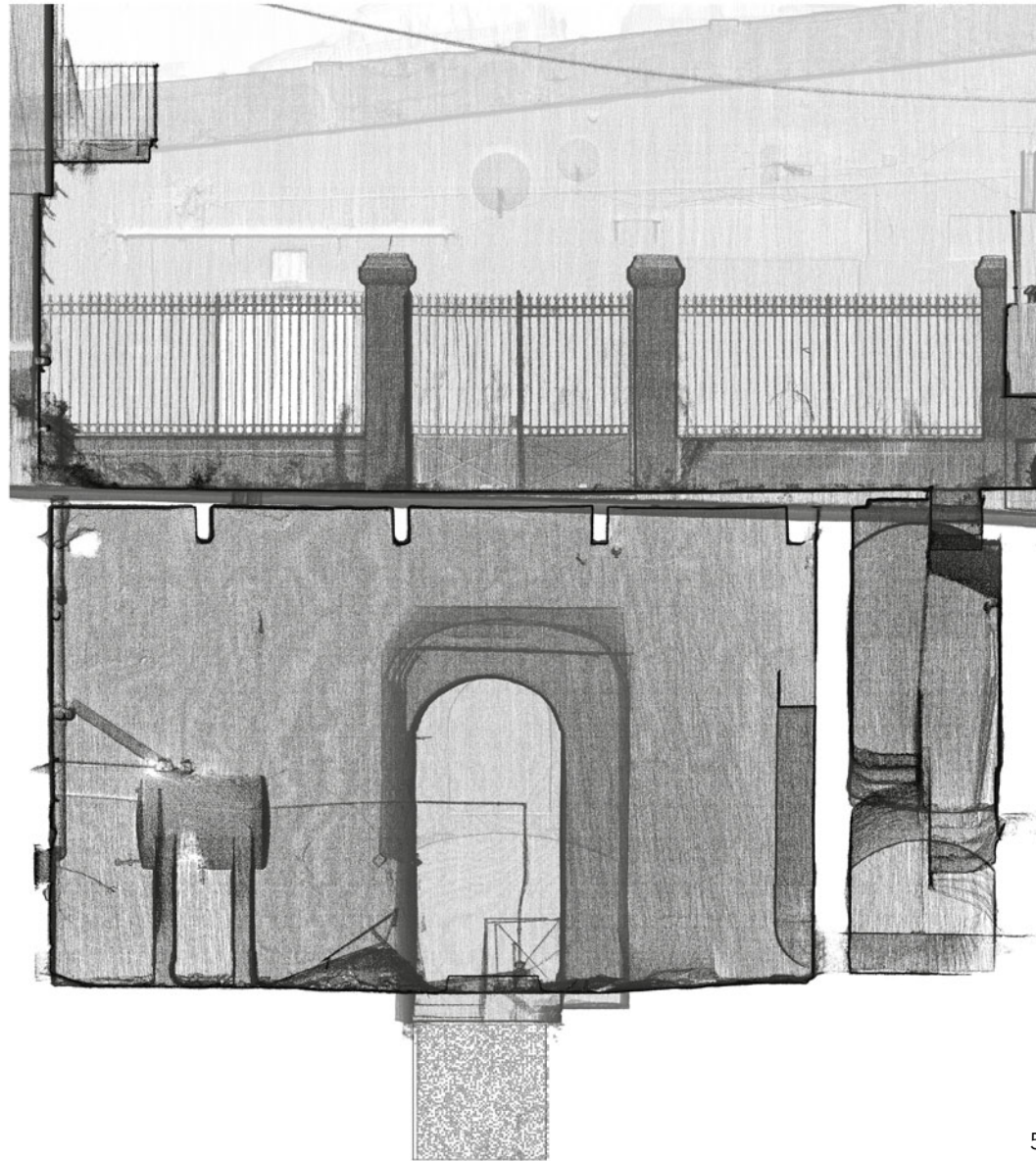
Plan of the hypogeum A - A1 - IMG 3



4

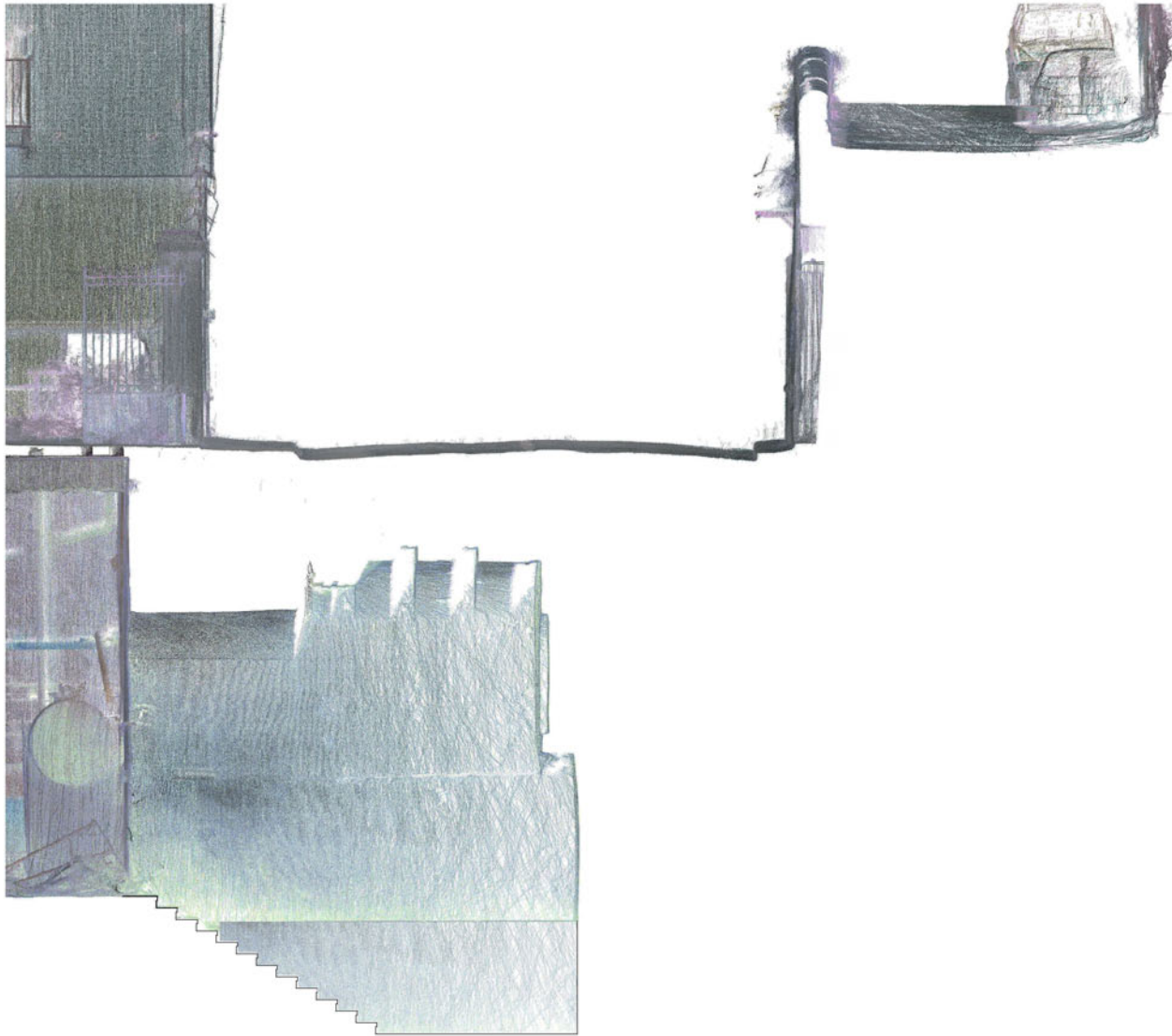
Section B - B1 - IMG 4

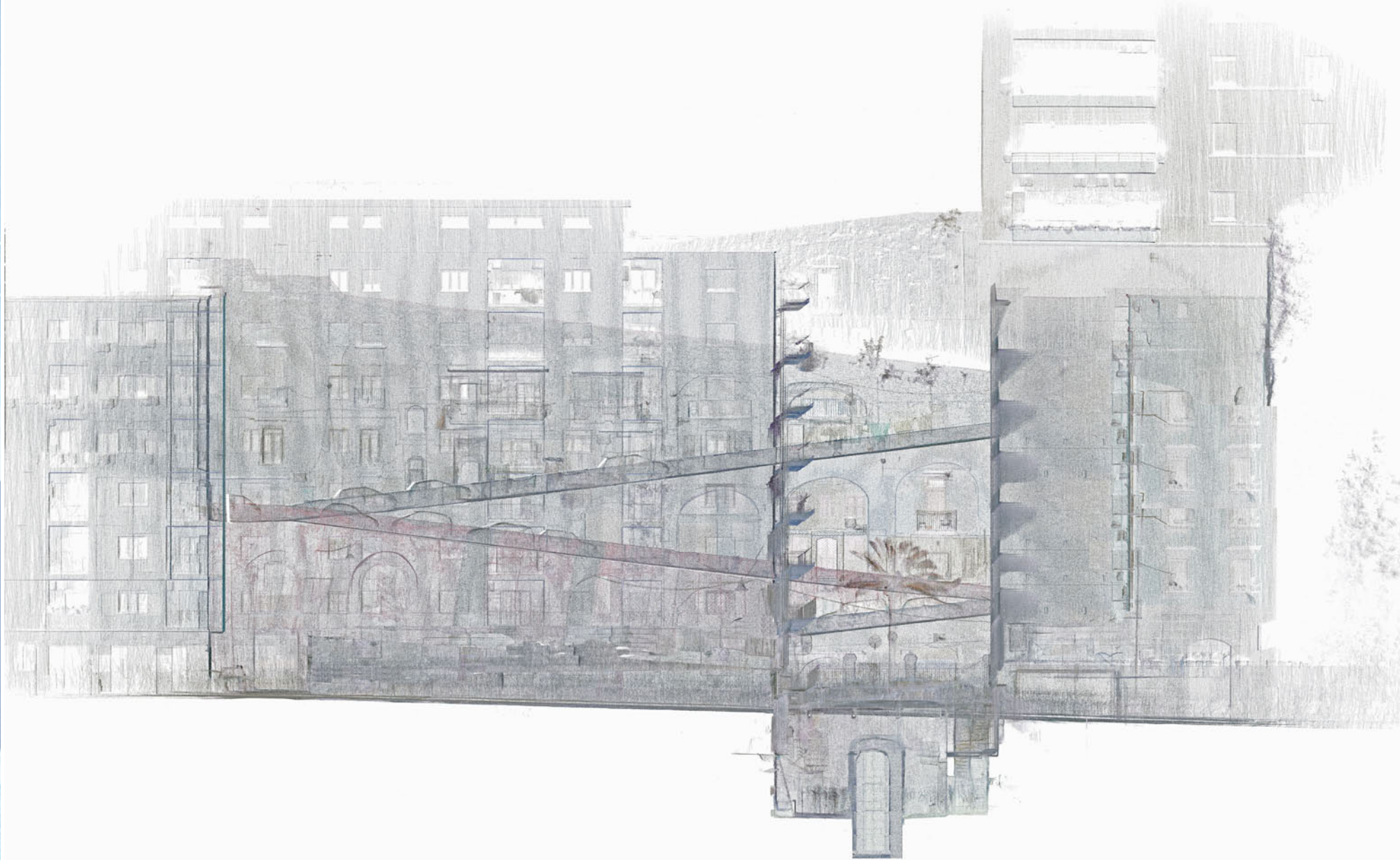




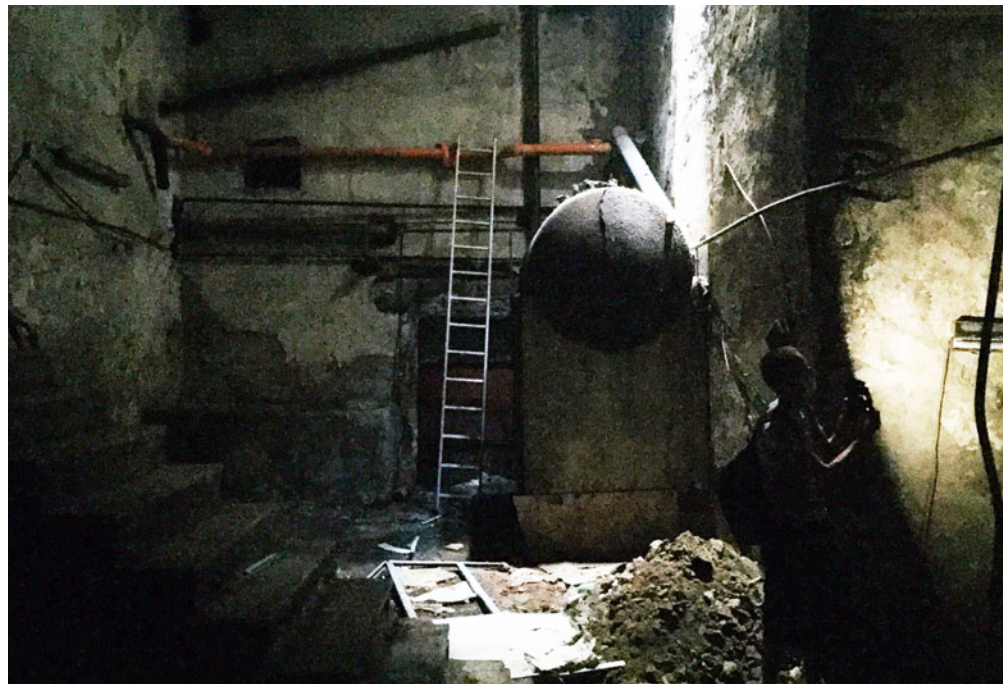
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Section D - D1 - IMG 5





Section parallel to via Partenope - IMG 7



9



10

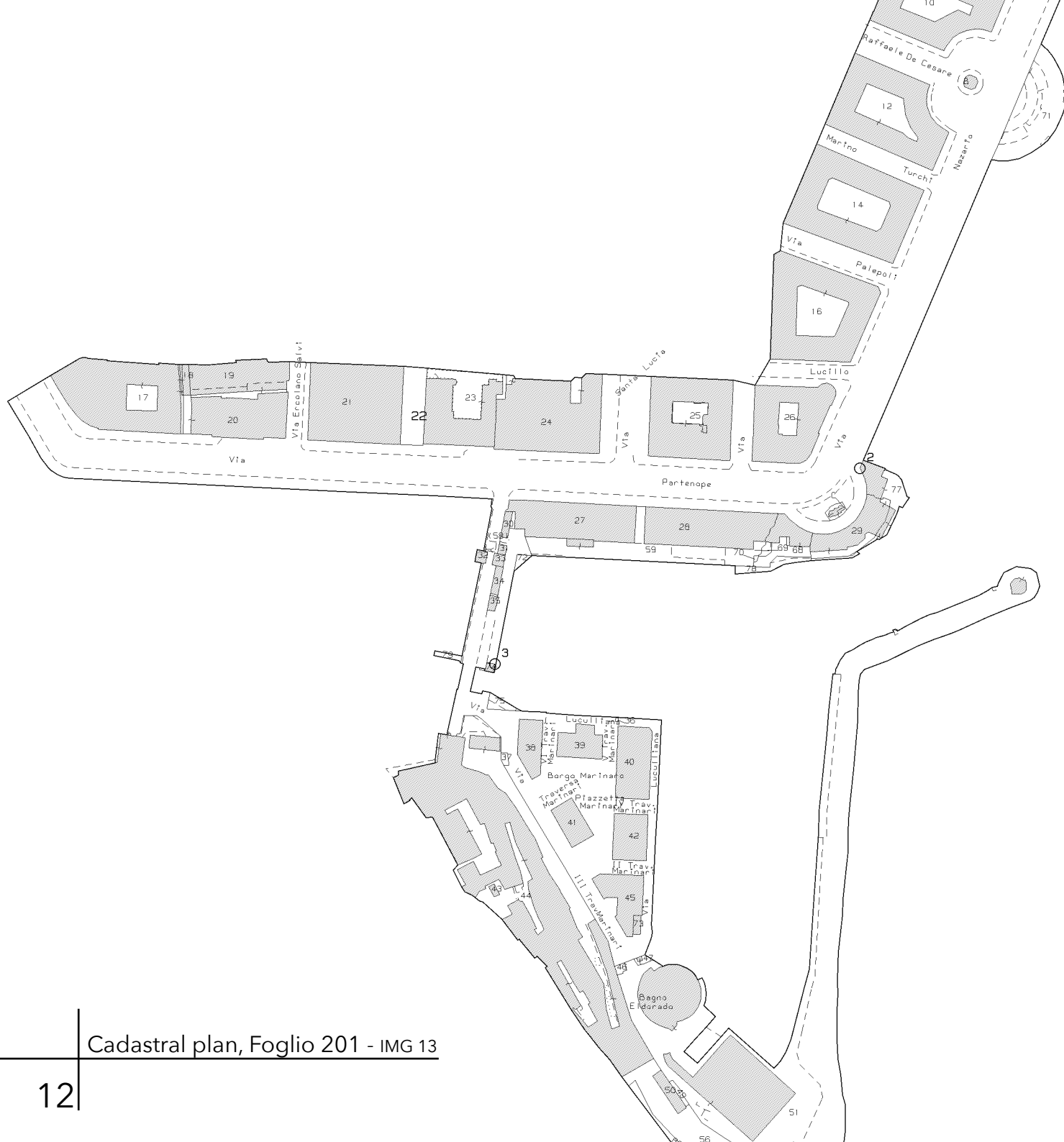


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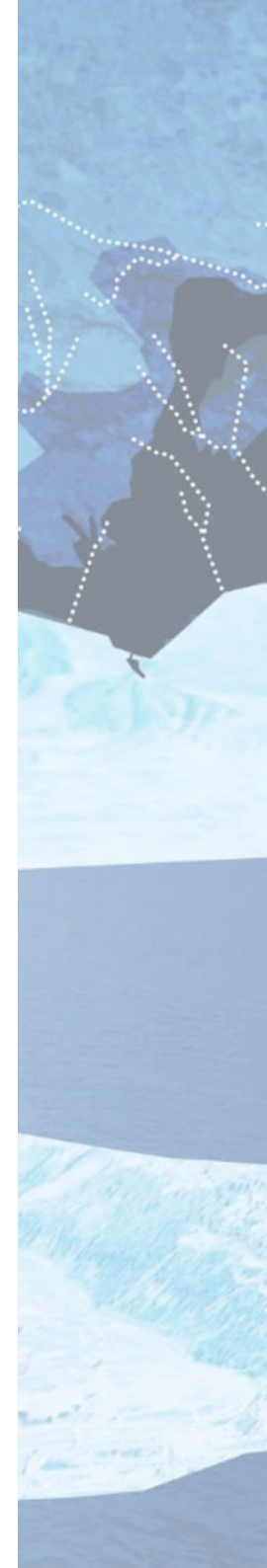


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Access stairs from via Partenope - IMG 9 - Spring cave - IMG 10
Access room - IMG 11 - Fresco at the head of the spring cave - IMG 12



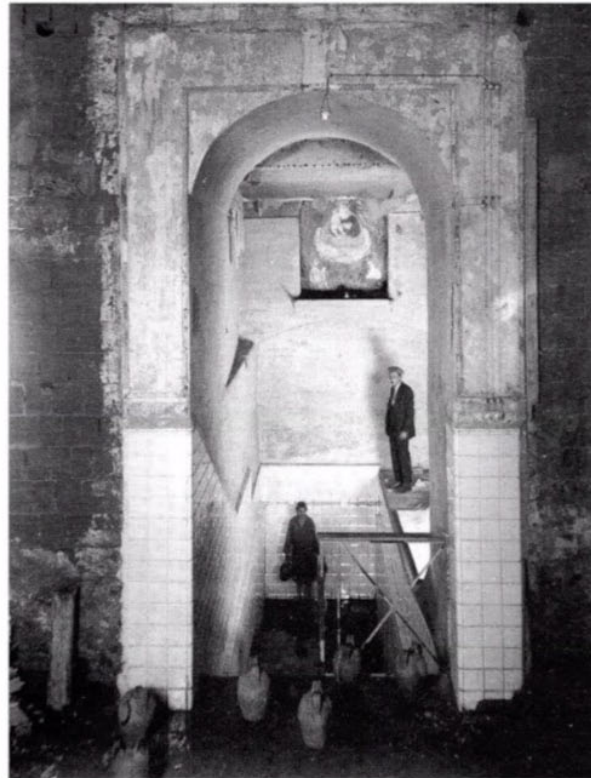
Cadastral plan, Foglio 201 - IMG 13





Call of Duty: Warzone

14



15





16

Access to the hypogeum below via Chiatamone (2022) - IMG 14 - Idem (1930 c.a) - IMG 15 - During the filling of the "mummare" (1930 c.a) - IMG 16

FALDE NEL CENTRO CITTADINO

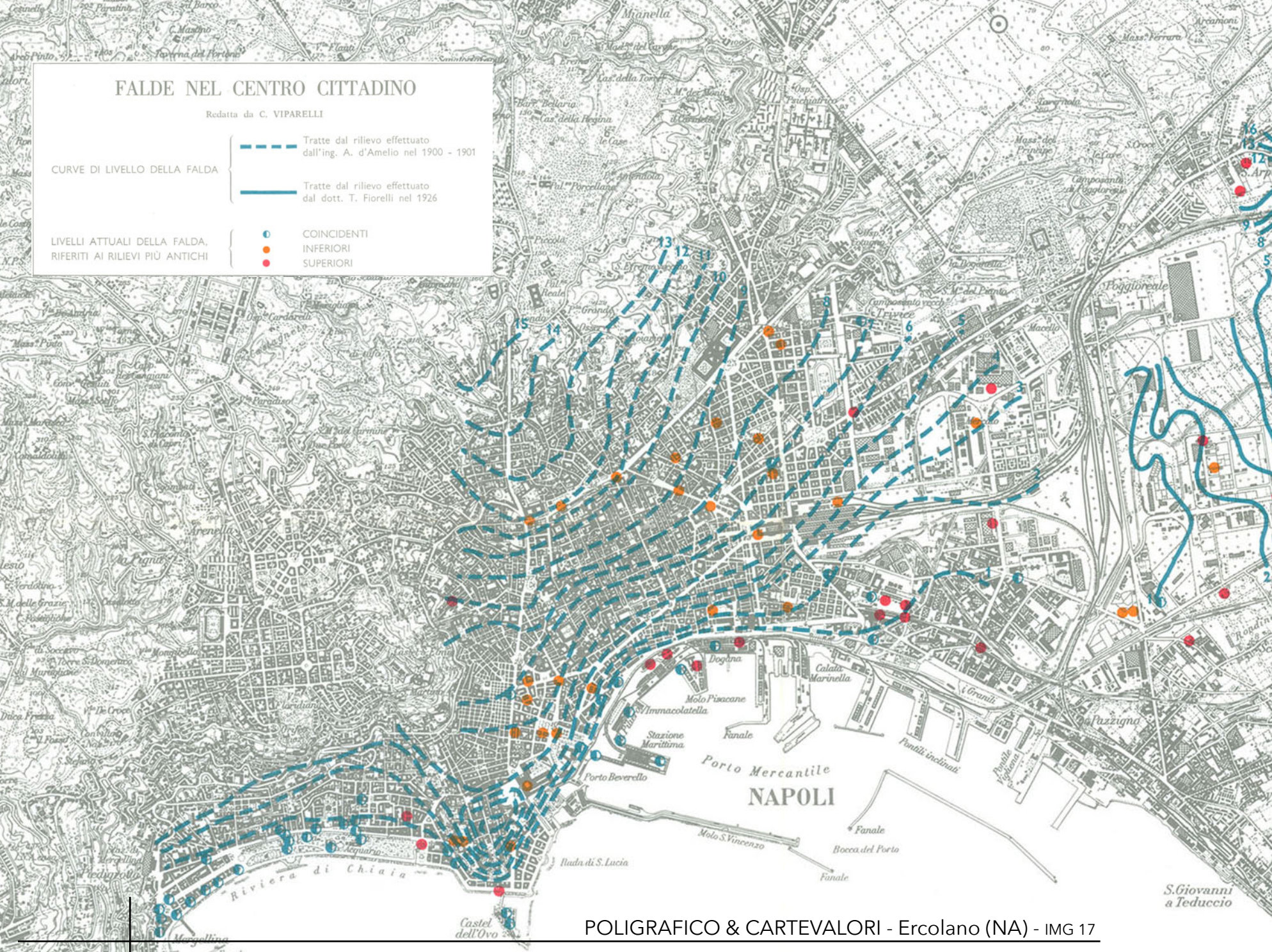
Redatta da C. VIPARELLI

CURVE DI LIVELLO DELLA FALDA

-  Tratte dal rilievo effettuato dall'ing. A. d'Amelio nel 1900 - 1901
-  Tratte dal rilievo effettuato dal dott. T. Fiorelli nel 1926

LIVELLI ATTUALI DELLA FALDA, RIFERITI AI RILIEVI PIÙ ANTICHI

-  COINCIDENTI
-  INFERIORI
-  SUPERIORI





18

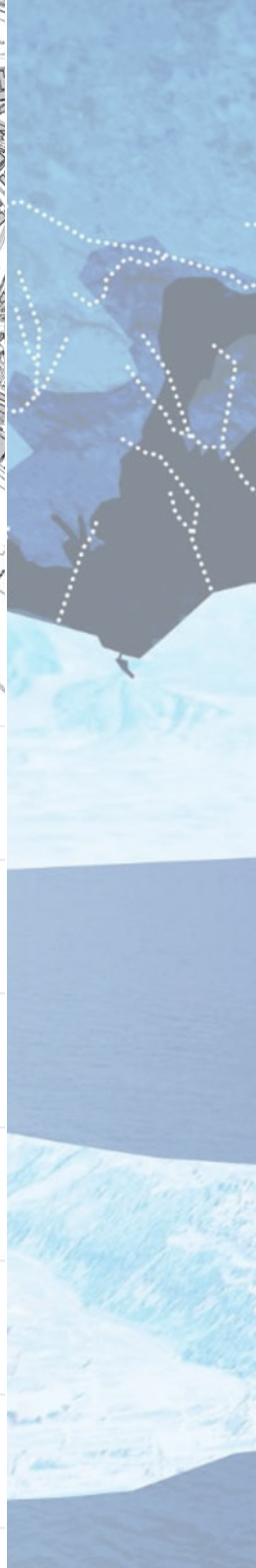
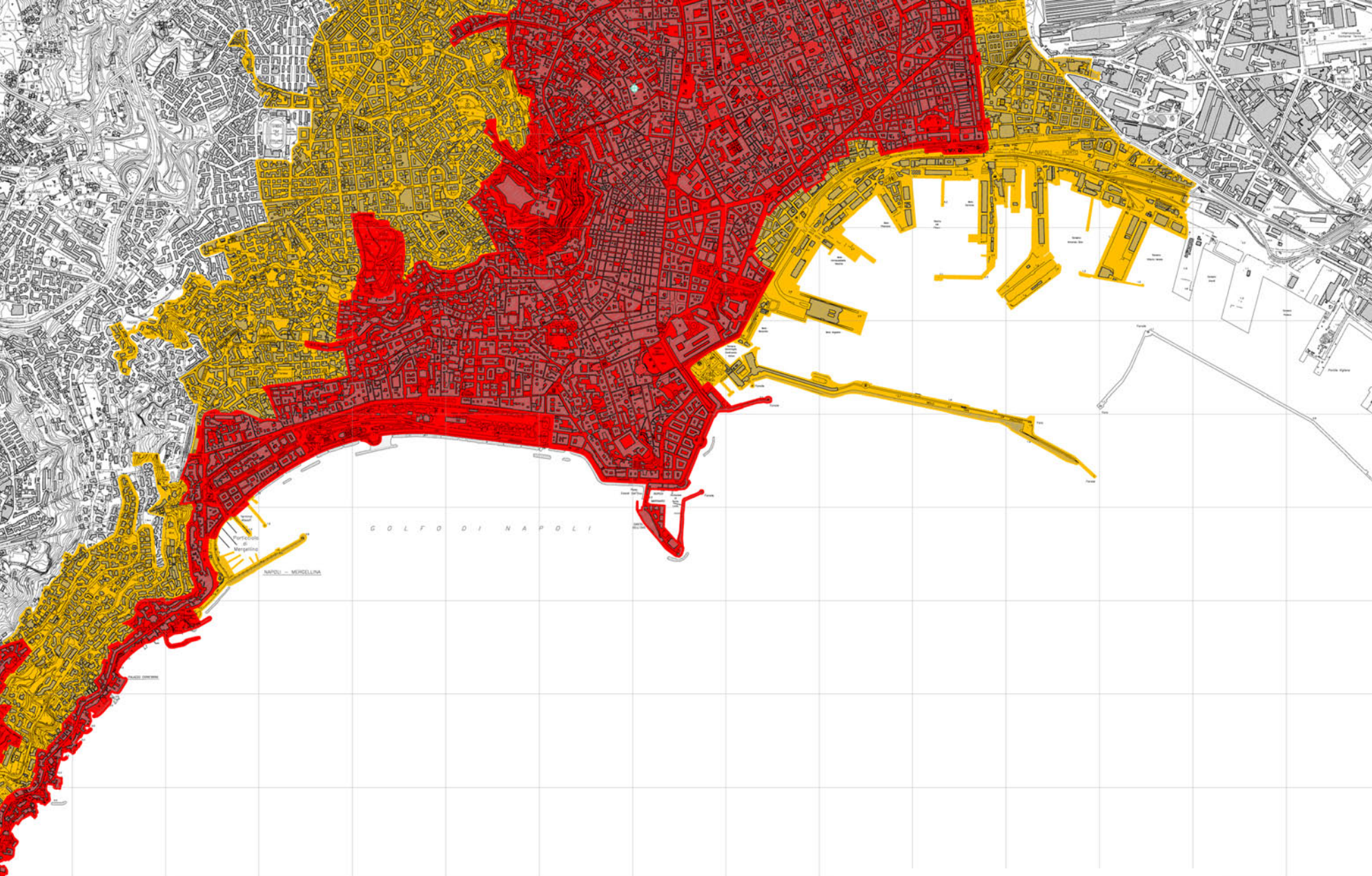


19

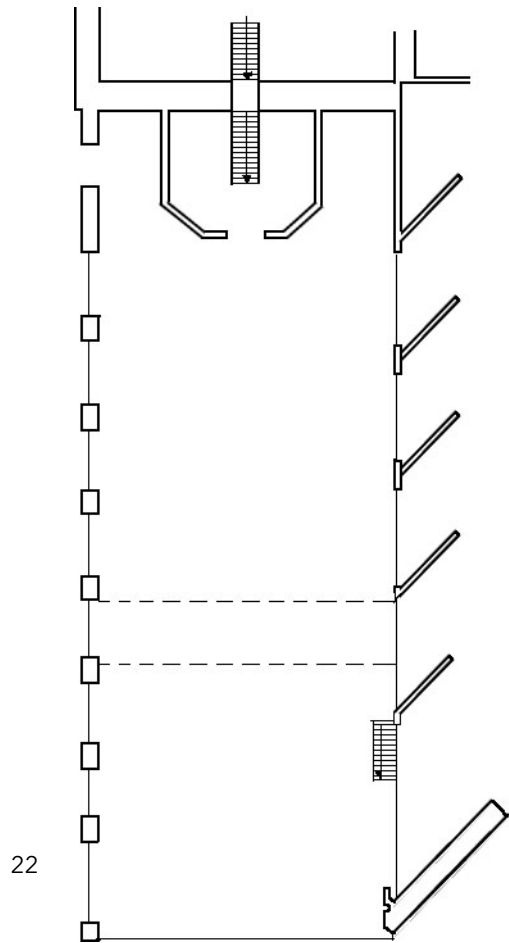


20

Entrance from via Chiatamone - IMG 18
View from the Lamont Young Ramps - IMG 19-20



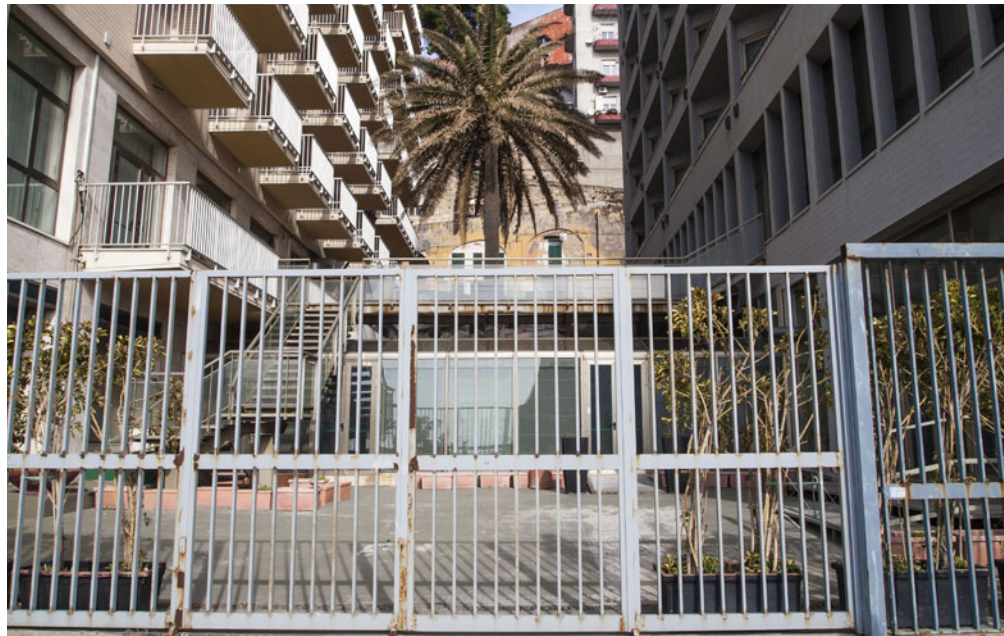
Plan of U.N.E.S.C.O. site and buffer zone - IMG 21



23



24



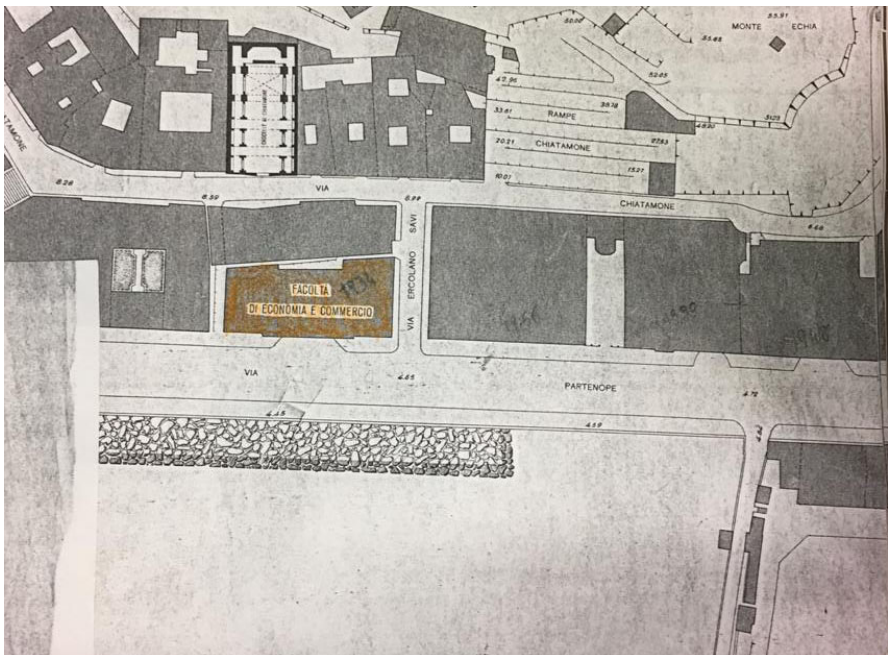
Surface owned by the Municipality of Naples - IMG 22 - View from via Partenope - IMG 23-24



25



26



27

Duca Di Noja (1750) - IMG 25 - Society Diffusion Useful Knowledge (1835) - IMG 26 - Municipality of Naples (1920) - IMG 27

When the first Greek settlers entered the Gulf, as they approached the coast they immediately became aware of the richness of the territory and the abundance of the water present on the coast. The choice to found a commercial outpost was certainly dictated by the favorable strategic position in the gulf, the ease of shelter for ships, but also by the rich presence of waters, already known and exploited by previous local populations.

First Phaleros, then Partenophe, today Neapolis, incorporate in their genesis the springs emerging in the caves of the hill above, Mount Echia, Pizzofalcone, Monte di Dio. The history of the city is steeped in its waters. Naples has resisted for three millennia thanks to the abundant water resources that characterize its geological and physical nature.

The springs that emerge on the Gulf coast, the rivers, streams and lakes that mark its orography, have been hidden by the urbanization of the last 150 years and today are completely forgotten by the population. The mineral waters bottled by numerous commercial labels are certainly appreciated for their quality and fame. Completely despised, however, are the waters of the aquifer that crosses the city and which were among the most proclaimed and mythologized in local history, such as those that occurred between the Pizzofalcone Hill and the Ancient Santa Lucia.

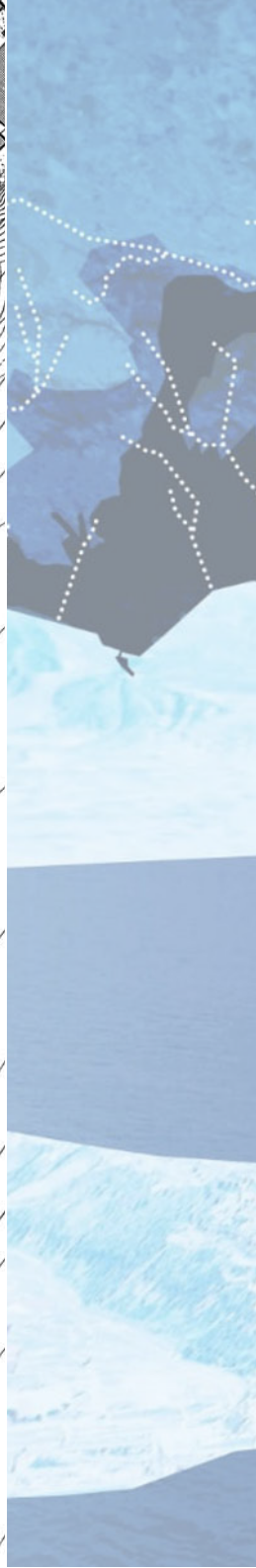


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29

Via Chiatamone - IMG 28-29



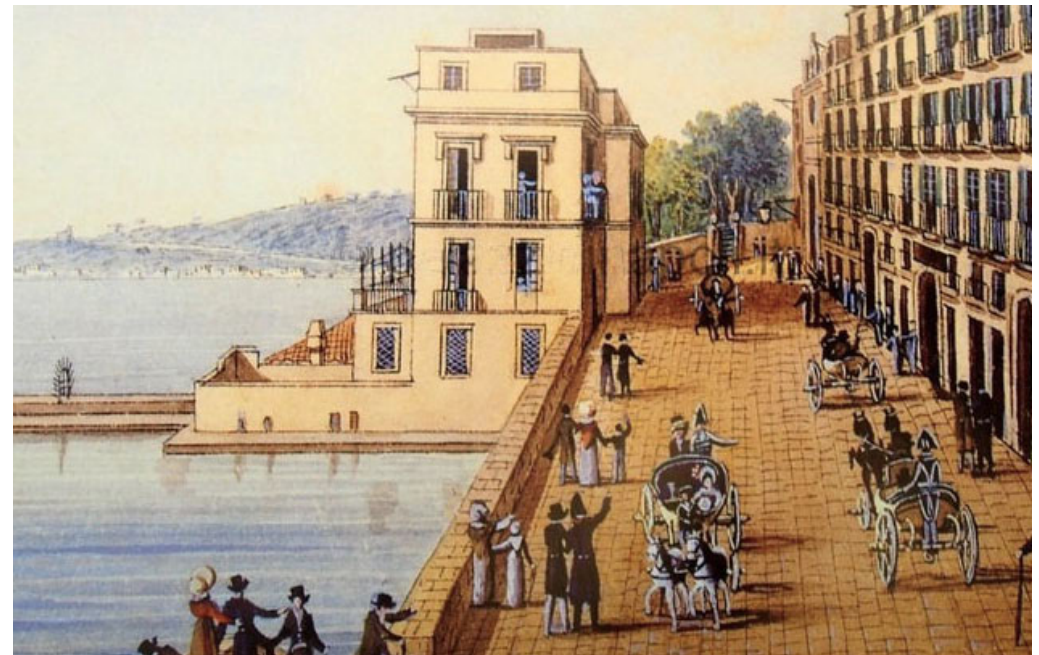
Federico Schiavoni (1872-1880) - IMG 30

To describe the excellent qualities of the springs located between the shores of Santa Lucia and the "Reale Casina" of Chiatamone for the Italian Exhibition scheduled in Florence in 1861, the "Acqua Ferrata del Chiatamone" was cited as acidic ferric water. It was written that it flowed near "the Real Casina", at the time the only building built towards the sea on Via Chiatamone, "almost meeting Castel dell'Ovo". "You reach the source via a narrow and not very decent staircase that leads to a large hollow from which on the right the boiling water rises copiously from the volcanic tuff, releasing carbonic acid; which often grows in such a quality as to almost prevent it from being harvested: and this especially not due to strong atmospheric disturbances". Its physical qualities were summarized as follows: "it is clear, with a slight pungent odor, and a strong, iron-like flavour.

At the air becomes cloudy and gives off a light sediment which after some time turns yellowish. It marks + 17° R. Ricci found there mainly: carbonic acid, sodium bicarbonate, calcium, ferrous; and the Lancellotti, vestiges of alkaline iodides. It is restorative and tonic. It is widely used in Naples, especially by women, and mostly by mixing it with wine. It is administered not only as a drink, but for ablutions or recent prolapses of the uterus and for baths in incipient rachitis. This water is also trafficked by common people in the summer months."



31



32

Alexandre Dunouy, Eruzione del Vesuvio nell'anno 1813, detail - IMG 31 - Via Chiatamone in historical representations - IMG 32



The seaward expansion of the new district of Santa Lucia and Via Partenope, Google - IMG 33

During filling works 1880 c.a

This water sources, as well as the so-called "Fontaniello" spring also on via Chiatamone (enclosed in the Albergo Vesuvio), or the "suffregna" water of Santa Lucia (incorporated in the Palazzo Santa Lucia today the seat of the Campania Region), were collected , distributed and sold in terracotta jars of various sizes all around the bay of Naples.

Intellectuals and artists have come to Naples from all over the world to prevent the distruction of one of the most beautiful and characteristic neighbourhood of the city, reporting with frescoes, paintings, sculptures, songs postcards and photographs which bring back to us the peculiar life and mood of the ancient district and the custom of "mummare" for the conservation and diffusion of the water.

Even the traditional water kyoaks used to resell these famous and saving local water resources.

The progressive and inexorable decline of the mineral waters of Naples is marked by the construction of the new coastline, which overturns state property favoring the owners of the newly built buildings.

Thus the splendid Santa Lucia disappeared and many Lucians, persecuted as supporters of the Bourbon king and orphans of their sea, emigrated en masse to New York.

View of the Villino Reale before demolition from the east - IMG 34 - and from the west - IMG 35



34



35

APPARTENENDO AL NRO TRIBLE LA PIENA CURA SU QUE
ACQUA FERRATA SPERIMENTATA GIOVEVOLISSIMA A NO
STRI CIT TADINIE CONCORRENDO AL USO DI ESSA MOLTIS
SIMA CENTE BISOGNOSA DELLA VIRTU DI LEI, PERCHE TUT
TI SENZA LA MINIMA ECCEZIONE POSSONO CODERNE DEL
L UTILE, SENZA DISPEDIO ALCUNO, ORDINIAMO CHE
NESSUNO ARDISCA INTROMETTERSI NELLE DISTRIBUZION
NE DI ESS'ACQUA, SENZA ESPRESSA LICENZA DEL NRO
TRIBLE, NE PER ESSA SOTTO QUALSIV' COLORE, E PRETO, EST
GERE DENARO ALCUNO, BENCHE MINIMO, SOTTO PENADE
DOCATI CINQUANTA, E MESI SEI DI CARCERE. IN SAN
LORENZO IL PRIMO DI SETTEMBRE 1731.
GIUSEPPE CAPECE SCONDITO. DUCA DI CAMPOCHIARO.
BARTOLOMEO ROSSI. GAETANO F. LCINELLI.
INDICO GUEGUARA. GIULIO PALUMBO.
PRINCIPE DI PALO. AGNELLO VASSALLO SECD°

36

Marble epigraph located on the slopes of Mount Echia in Via Chiatamone - IMG 36

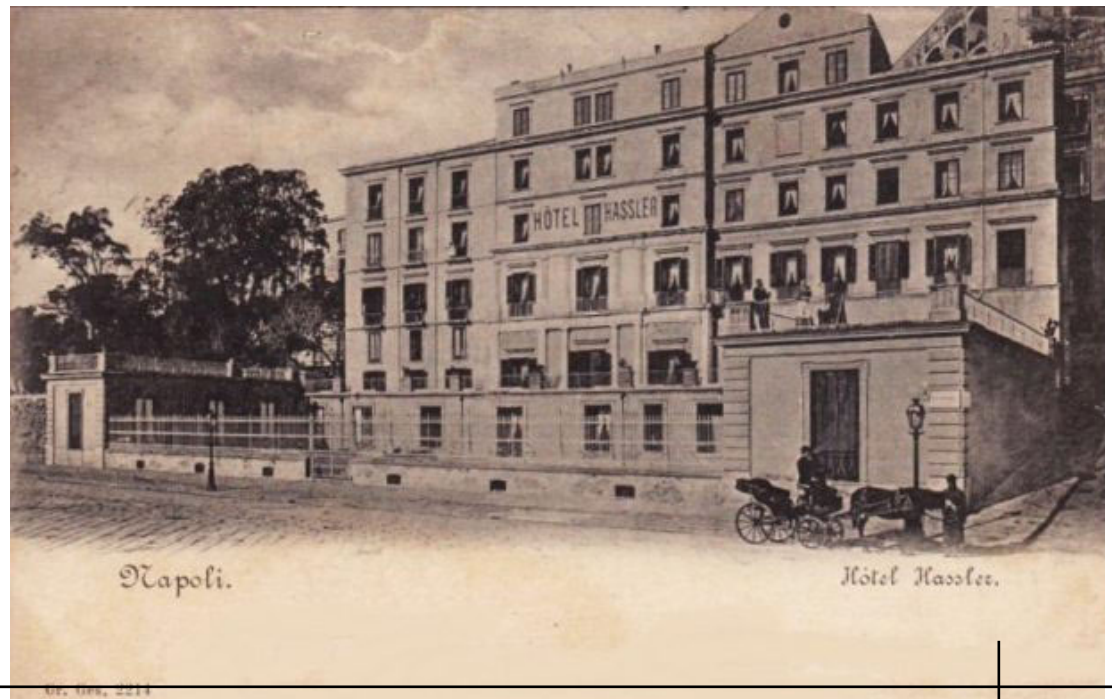
The new owners of the hotels, rebuilt on the rubble of the Second World War, tried again to get their hands on these waters, sparking a heated discussion, with public opinion opposing the privatization of the property. The cholera of 1973 was the right opportunity to ban the use of that water, demonized as the main cause of contagion, and close the spring.

In December 2022, the rental contract between the Municipality of Naples and the owners of the Hotel Continental for the use of the land that gives the only access the hypogeum, expired and was not rennovated.

The Municipality Heritage Office started then the procedures to bring the historic site to the attention of the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage. With the decree number 313 of June 16th the Ministry of Culture subjects the property to "all possible protection provisions" declaring the site of historical and cultural interest, as demo-ethnoanthropologist pursuant to the cultural heritage code (art. 10, paragraph 1).



37



38

The village of Santa Lucia (1890 c.a) - IMG 37
Hotel Hassler on Via Chiatamone (1890) - IMG 38

Mod. 30 Telegr. 1932
(^A/_{XI})

UFFICIO TELEGRAFICO
DI

N. ¹⁶⁸⁹ di recapito - rimesso al fattorino ad ore.....

= PREFETTURA PER INTELLIGENZA

Il Governo non assume alcuna res.
Le tasse riscosse in meno per errore
Il destinatario è invitato a firmare la ric.
di tali indicazioni, il destinatario perde il diritto a recita

Ricevuto il 22/10/19 ore 19
Ricevente [Signature]
Pel circuito N. [Signature]

Le ore si contano sul meridiano corrispondente al tempo medio dell'Europa centrale, e per telegrammi interni con vari paesi esteri di seguito da una mezzanotte l'altra.
Nei telegrammi impressi in caratteri romani, il primo numero dopo il nome del luogo d'origine rappresenta quello del telegramma, il secondo quello delle parole, gli altri la data, l'ora e minuti della presentazione.

QUALIFICA	DESTINAZIONE	PROVENIENZA	NUM.	PAROLE	DATA DELLA PRESENTAZIONE		VIA E INDICAZIONI EVENTUALI D'UFFICIO
					Giorno e mese	Ore e minuti	
= FCM FF NAPOLI	56103	110/101	21	22./30-			

BENITO MUSSOLINI RCMA

= DA SECOLI IL POPOLO NAPOLETANO DI SANTALUCIA HA SEMPRE TRATTO DA GENERAZIONE IN GENERAZIONE MEZZO PER VIVERE DALLA FONTO DI ACQUA SOLFUREA AL CHIATAMONE PER ESSA LAVORAVANO NUMEROSISSIMI CAPI FAMIGLIA ORA PER IMPROVISA CHIUSURA ORDINATA DALLE AUTORITA QUATTROCENTO CAPI DI FAMIGLIE NUMEROSE SONO SENZA LAVORO DA OLTRE UN MESE CHIEDONO INTERESSAMENTO ECCELLENZA VOSTRA SICURI DI ESSERE TENUTI NELLA BENEVOLE CONSIDERAZIONE ESSENDO IN MASSA MILITI E FASCISTI E MUTILATI ITALIANI DEgni NELLA LOTTA DEMOGRAFICA LAVORATORI CHE CHIEDONO SOLO IL MEZZO PER VIVERE , = CON DEVOZIONE , = P LA COMMISSIONE CRISCUOLO VINCENZ , = CRISCUOLO RAFFAELE , = CALONE VINCENZO , = CON RECAPITO PARROCCHIA S LUCIA , = MITT CRISCUOLO VINCENZO PALLONETTO , = TESS PARTITO NAZ FASCISTA 1935 N 1691592 , =

Telegram addressed to Benito Mussolini from water merchants (1935) State Archive, Napoli - IMG 39



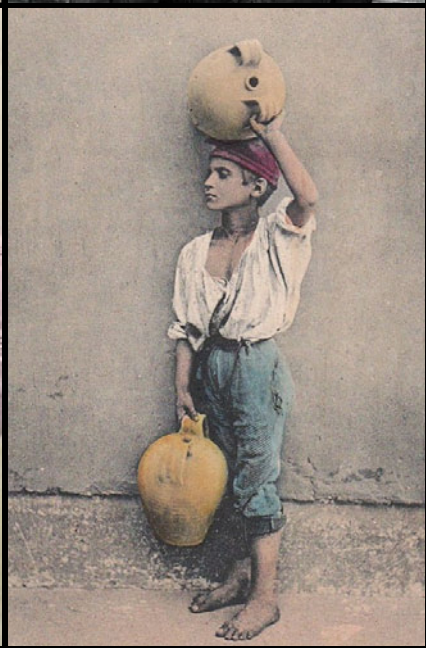
40



41



42



43

Con l'auspicio che la procedura di Interesse Culturale porti nuova linfa per:

- il recupero per un ri-uso sostenibile delle acque sorgive affluenti sotto la Collina di Pizzofalcone e al Chiatamone, oggi versate in mare.



- una programmazione di interventi per il miglioramento della fruizione culturale e ambientale dell'area compresa tra Santa Lucia, il Pallonetto, la Collina di Pizzofalcone e il Chiatamone, con un'attenzione al rapporto ancestrale di queste zone con le acque locali.

- lo studio e il monitoraggio delle pregiate acque di Santa Lucia (suffregna) e del Chiatamone (ferrata); attenzione e protezione dell'ambiente acquatico e degli ecosistemi a esso connessi.

- la diffusione della cultura dell'acqua alle generazioni future, evidenziando il ruolo che queste acque hanno avuto nella realizzazione della cultura locale e la necessità di conservarne l'integrità, per il bene di tutta la città.

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