

**La conservazione del paesaggio culturale
attraverso il recupero cartografico
della toponomastica del passato.
Alcuni casi di studio italiani**

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Abstract

The Preservation of Cultural Landscapes through the Cartographic Recording of the Toponymy of the Past. Italian case studies

The official cartography of modern states has imposed a standardized toponymy that often partially refers to the oral tradition of autochthonous peoples or, in other cases, has arbitrarily replaced it after the cultural assimilation imposed by political power. In Italy there are many examples, especially of the latter, concerning the process of linguistic assimilation in the provinces of Bolzano and Aosta, where native populations of German and Franco-Provençal languages live respectively. Here, the imposition of an Italian toponymy did not take into account the pre-existing cultural identity of places and traditions. In the case of the Walser municipalities of north-eastern Italy, the original Alemannic toponymy survives in some contexts of the official cartography, but it is likely to disappear largely with the extinction of the minority still retaining its memory.

Keywords: toponymy; cultural heritage; Bolzano; Aosta; Walser.