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**Cultural heritage,
landscape and
metropolitan system: is
planning possible?***Maria Mautone,
Maria Ronza*

When applied to metropolitan planning, landscape represents a cultural turning point in territorial homologation; the scarce recognition given to environmental and cultural matrices has slowly steered strategic planning decisions towards a situation in which landscape dimensions and significance have fallen into obscurity. The connection between a geographic vision of the landscape and the stratigraphic method of matrix archaeology ensures enhanced objectivity in analyzing territorial armature which, in turn, triggers planning processes even in situations where an area's patrimonial significance appears to be compromised and secreted. The localisation of cultural heritage sites, descriptions of their significance and interpreting the relations and vocation of resources: these are the inevitable phases of geographic analysis which view planning as a concrete perspective for the requalification of urban metropolitan systems. In order to ensure that landscape and patrimony be considered as reference parameters in the Ptcp planning process, the metropolitan system was divided upon the basis of prevailing, well-established territorial factors utilising a methodology which distinguishes between the various areas of geographical sciences. This process consequently led to the identification of geological, hydrographical, vegetation, settlement, infrastructural, cultivation and industrial 'territorial matrices' which, during the initial phase of the study, proved to be suitable in synthesizing the complex

dynamics of morphogenesis in the Naples area. Subsequently, this process allowed for systematization of the georeferenced data. The natural and cultural elements, compartmentalized in the matrices, previously identified and sectioned according to temporal intervals, provided the basis for defining landscape spheres and, in turn, made it possible to identify landscape units, or rather, the various contexts of limited territorial extensions which, like tesserae of a mosaic, cover all aspects and determine overall characterisation yet differentiate owing to the limited number of variables. Thanks to the range of digitized components, the description level was enhanced by highly detailed cartographic elaborations so that allocation could be evaluated in terms of the progress of the identifying framework and the degree of structuring and persistence in the Naples metropolitan area. Based upon these theoretical-methodological assumptions, it is essential that the Naples Ptcp have access to maps of the historical structuring of the territory. Processed in Gis format, the cartographic and aerophotogrammetric sources allow researchers to trace territorial imprinting, thereby eliminating any superstructures attributable initially to agglomeration processes and subsequently to deconcentration processes. This research leads to the gathering of numeric cartography and the digitalization of existing cartography into a relational-type, vectorial geodatabase: the use of data which is diversified in terms of objectives, level of detail and reference periods would thereby generate various levels of information. Promoted within the Ict, the innovation of software for the

geographic investigation of sites has projected the concepts of cultural heritage and landscape into the planning processes for territorial systems such as that of the Naples area where the quality of life substantiates the collective demand for territorial management.