



Vecchio (old wharf). Genoa had a working waterfront where trade and commercial activities came together. Deals were made under the Ripa's arcades. Tall brick warehouses spread around the harbor, directly overlooking the landing stages, and were equipped with *logge* and *embroli* for storing goods. The appearance of the port, formed during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, remained substantially unchanged from then to the industrial expansions of the nineteenth century. Due to a private donation, a reconfiguration occurred in the nineteenth century and the commercial and working aspects of the port became separated. The industrial harbor, constructed with new berths and warehouses, became functionally and physically separated from the city by fences and rail tracks as the port and the city industrialized.

7.4 Inside the old port, Genoa.

Beginning in the nineteenth century, a new inland urban center, with residential areas extending into the nearby hills, emerged from the city's ancient walls. During the twentieth century, the local residents abandoned the historic center in favor of newer accommodation. The city expanded, encompassing the districts to the west and east, while the creation of new, large industrial structures and urban services led to extensive urbanization of the Pocevera and Bisagno Valleys perpendicular to the new coastline.

The industrial port shifted gradually to the west at the beginning of the twentieth century. With the advent of containerization, this expansion included the construction of new structures built to handle cargo. This, in turn, led to the abandonment of the historic port facing the old city. Like many cities around the world, this led to a crisis in the industrial sector, once the driving force of the city's economy. In response, the public administration began a complex and ambitious plan to redesign the waterfront, establishing important tourism activities and services for the city.

Throughout its history, Genoa has gone through alternating periods of great prosperity and profound crisis. After each crisis, the city has changed