

Pordenone, Piazza Cavour

Initially the square was called Piazzetta di Sopra because it was located outside the Porta de Sora (or Porta Trevisana, or Porta delle Beccarie (because animals were slaughtered nearby), or Porta della Bòssina) and the gate known as the Tower of the Clock, which closed the city to the north and led to the main street of the Contrada Maggiore. At the Clock Tower there was probably the drawbridge, presumably made of wood, preceded by two pyramids on the sides; a second bridge, between the Clock Tower and the Trevisan Gate, crossed the moat connecting the two irrigation ditches from the north that surrounded the city to the west and east, respectively the Codafora canal and the Mulini canal.

The buildings that rose around the square at the beginning were rather modest, and only at the end of the 17th century was built on the north side the elegant Venetian-style building Badini. The space has always been an important crossing point that connected the road for those coming from the north and from Treviso to the Contrada maggiore and also a branching point for the roads that led to the villages of S. Antonio on one side and the Colonna on the other.

Subsequently, in the first twenty years of the 1800s, the construction of the royal postal road, traced along the Roggia dei Mulini in the direction of the Noncello, gave even more prominence to the square as a junction for further routes; the square was named *Piazza Centrale*, in 1882 *Piazza Cavour* and during the First World War *Von Belw-Strasse*. Until 1909, when it was paved, the square was on clay and in the centre there was a hand-operated water pump. Today the square is still, if not more, an important point of passage that connects Corso Vittorio Emanuele II and Corso Garibaldi, Via Mazzini leading to the Station, and the street that leads to the adjacent Piazza XX Settembre.

Curated by: Dr. Martina Solerte and Dr. Nicoletta Rigoni
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