The history of Val Pesarina

"Val Pesarina" was inhabited since the 2nd century B.C. first from the Carni (Celtic tribes from which the name is derived *Carnia*) then conquered by the Romans and then by the Lombard. Then, in 1077 the constitution of the Patriarchate of Aquileia. From the medieval era remain just the parish churches that were not only religious places, but real centers of reference of community life, all located in strategic position. At this historical period belongs the restoration of the street that, crossing the valley, led to Comelico. This road probably existed already in Roman times and had a post office in Sostasio.

With the arrival of Venice it became a fief of the *Savorgnan* who had the task of guarding the *Lavardêt Pass.* This *Pass* gave many problems to the Venetians during the war against the *Cambrai* league, because it was poorly defensible. Under the Patriarchate and under Venice, *Val Pesarina*, also called *Canale Pedarzo* or *S. Canciano*, was divided into 8 municipalities or "*vicinie*", each one headed by a "*meriga*" elected by the heads of families of the individual villas.

Val Pesarina changed its name during this period. In 1421 the Republic of Venice took possession of Friuli and Carnia. The construction of noble palaces with the venetian typical structure dates back to the Venetian period. In Carnia, alongside these precious building, develops spontaneous architecture, linked to popular needs, strongly connected to the territory and the harsh climate. The French invasion of 1797 put an end to these orders.

Between the end of the 19th century and the early 20th century, take root socialist and anarchist ferments. The first "Casa del Popolo" of Friuli was create in *Pieria.* The whole territory suffered during the first and second world wars due to the occupation of the Germans and Cossacks.