

Publishing a National Environmental History: Notes from the Italian trenches
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If national histories depend on nations, we are hard pressed to talk of an Italian "nation" before its unification of the 1860s. But as any parliamentarian in Rome today knows, Italy is hardly unified even now, despite valiant efforts by Garibaldi, Mussolini, the Touring Club Italiano, and the Miss Italia pageant. It may therefore be as possible--or impossible--to speak of "Italian" environmental history in our 21st as in Dante's 13th century. Having recently co-edited and published the first compilation of Italian environmental history in English (*Nature and History in Modern Italy*, Ohio University Press, 2010), I will review my own struggles to adequately define and select essays that were truly and primarily Italian. Like Giuliano Procacci's, *Storia degli Italiani* (History of the Italian People), it may be better to speak of environmental histories of Italian people rather than of their country.