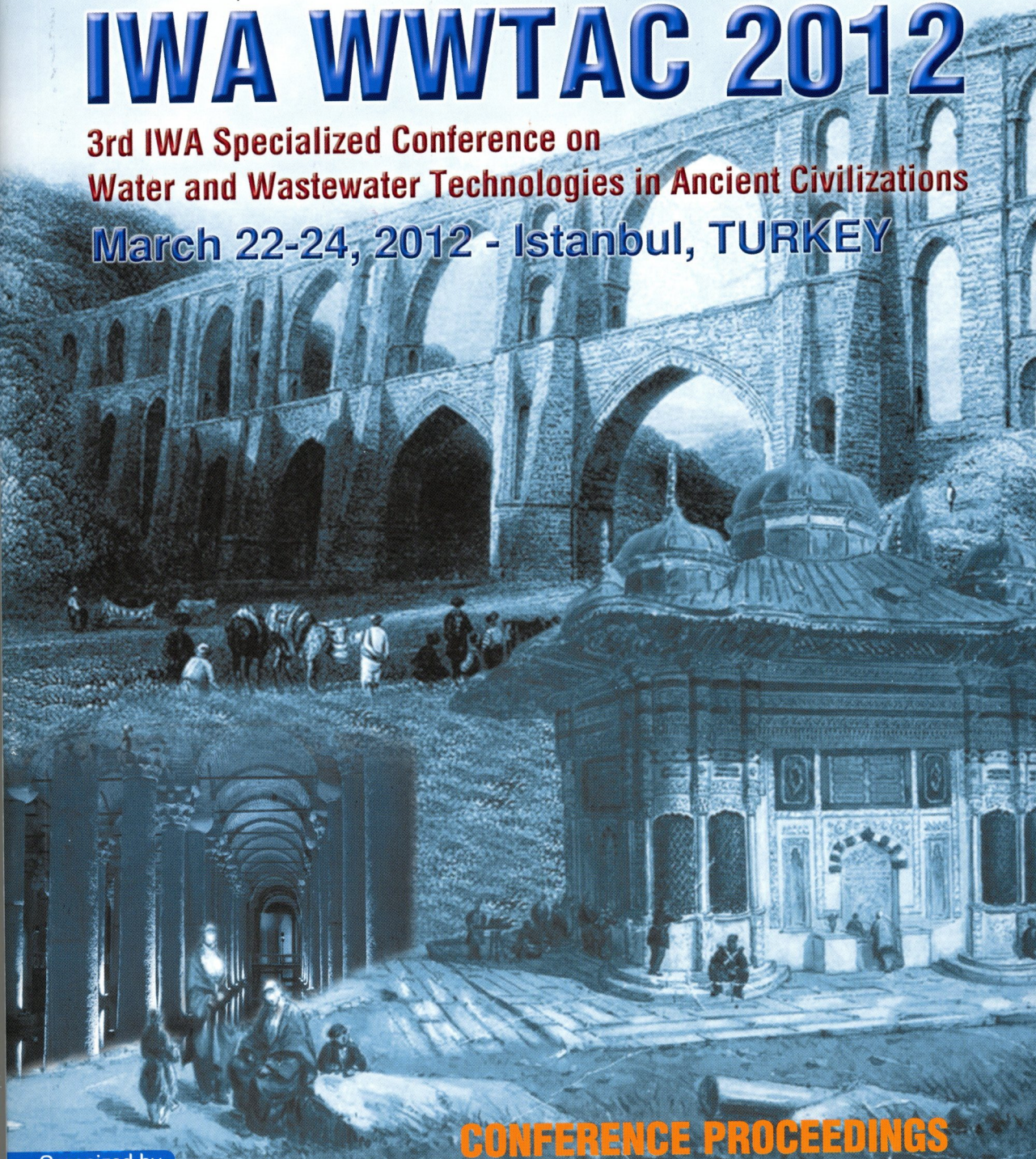




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# Underground Aqueducts: A First Preliminary Bibliography Around the World

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**Abstract** Underground aqueducts represent a valuable documentation of the skill and engineering techniques of the ancient communities; at the same time they are among the main works that testify the efforts by man to manage the territory, and to develop urban civilizations. Since 2003 the Italian Speleological Society has started a nationwide project entirely dedicated to ancient underground aqueducts: "The Map of Ancient Aqueducts of Italy" has allowed so far to collect information on more than 140 aqueducts. In many cases, due to the mostly underground development, these works have been preserved intact for millennia. Following such an activity, a bibliographic analysis was started about underground aqueducts in the world, also aimed at attracting the interest of other scholars in different parts of the world about this topic.

**Keywords** Aqueducts; Bibliography; Water; Inventory

## INTRODUCTION

Following the project "The Map of Ancient Aqueducts of Italy", started in 2003 by the Italian Speleological Society and still in progress, a list of the bibliographic references about ancient underground aqueducts at a worldwide scale is here presented. The present bibliography (listed in alphabetical order) is not comprehensive, and represent only a first attempt in putting together the references on this issue; at the same time, it may provide the opportunity for other researchers and scholars to share the knowledge and data in their possessions, in order to enrich this list, and make it more solid and complete. Thus, any indication of other works is warmly acknowledged.

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**Figure 1.** View of the Siq at Petra (Jordan), showing at the base on both the flanks the channels for water transport; to the right, close-up view of the channel.

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**Figure 2.** The Carolino aqueduct (Campania, Italy): the white dotted line marks the underground development (photo courtesy S. Del Prete).

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**Figure 3.** Arches of the Pont du Gard, France (photo courtesy C. Germani).

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