



N° 7



DOKUMENTIERTE LANDSCHAFT
DOCUMENTED LANDSCAPE

ETH-Bibliothek
Scheidegger & Spiess

Documented Landscape

The Photo Archives of Carl Schröter and Geobotanical Institute Rübel

Ruedi Weidmann

Edited by Michael Gasser

Edited by Nicole Graf

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- Features outstanding images taken by the Swiss pioneers of environmental and landscape conservation
- An invaluable contribution to the academic field of geobotanics as well as to the history of the Alpine ecoregion
- Volume 7 in the *Pictorial Words* series published by the Image Archive, ETH-Bibliothek

Documented Landscape, the seventh volume in the *Pictorial Worlds* series, presents a selection of images from the archives of the Geobotanical Institute Rübel and of Carl Schröter, which are being kept as part of the ETH Zürich's extensive image archive. Founded by Eduard Rübel (1876-1960) in 1918 in Zurich and later donated to the ETH, the 'Geobotanical Institute Rübel' conducted pioneering research in the area of botanical biodiversity in the Alps. Rübel's teacher, the botanist and ETH professor Carl Schröter (1855-1939), was himself a pioneer of biodiversity and landscape conservation. Rübel and Schröter were some of the earliest botanists to use photography as a means to document their research, thus making it available to a wider public and drawing attention to their early efforts in environmentalism. While the photo archives bear witness to a bygone era, their depiction of a changing landscape and progressing human interference are still strikingly on topic today. Sometimes showing near-arcadian scenes, the images are nevertheless highly realistic in their exact scientific documentation of the alpine biosphere. An in-depth introduction by historian and writer Ruedi Weidmann accompanies some ninety exceptional images selected from the comprehensive collection. Text in English and German.

Ruedi Weidmann is a Zurich-based historian and publishes widely on topics of architectural, landscape, urban and infrastructural history.