The intervention deals with a XVIII century wooden roof (including reused parts probably dated 16th cent.) suffering from an important state of degradation, whose spatial position permitted an unusual conservation strategy. The roof no longer fulfills its structural function as a slab with hollow clay tiles was built on top of it in the 1950s. During the renovation of the underlying flat, it was required to improve the thermal performance of the roof. Due to the inability to work from the outer side, in order to add a high performance insulation as well as to perform a better restoration of the elements, a dismantling and then a meticulously recomposition was carried out. The treatment of the gaps of sub-floor does not foresee integration: the observer immediately understands that it is not a creative act but rather a faithful reproduction of the original. It is thanks to its operational methodology that this experience is framed in the restoration approach. The objective is to analyze this experience in order to reflect on the mitigation of the dispute between conservation goals and private needs in unlisted buildings. The inevitable loss of authenticity due to the dismantling and the price increase that the individual faces for restoration and recomposition of the elements produced valuable results both in terms of aesthetics and of real estate business as a whole and enhance the permanence of the material culture in the unlisted building environment of the historical town.

Key-words:
unlisted building, wooden roof, restoration, energy efficiency