

NUOVI DATABASE PER IL PIANO DEL COLORE DI SIENA: INTONACI DECORATI E TROMPE L'OEIL DI PORTE E FINESTRE

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ABSTRACT

In old towns that have an extraordinary architectural heritage and high-quality continuum of buildings in the entire historic centre, like Siena, restoring non-monumental or ordinary building's plasters without a deep knowledge can led to the loss of important decorative details that are essential to read, understand and transmit the image of these buildings and their urban context. The databases we are proposing in this essay are a fundamental instrument for architects, workers, customers and public administrations, and also an example of a correct methodology of intervention. We counted 284 facades in Siena city centre, all of them characterized by different decorating elements, making a deep analysis of any kind of them. The two databases, one regarding the decorating plasters and the other one the *trompe l'oeil* of doors and windows, have also a list of decorative elements, divided in five different typologies: plasters that simulated stone and clay bricks, corner *bugnato*, windows *cornici* and *trompe l'oeil*. A recent recognition of these facades pointed out an alarming situation, since many of them in the last few years were completely cancelled by inadequate restoration works, and Siena's urban environment is now much poorer in terms of quality and variety.

Key-words: Decorated plasters, Siena, Historic centres Conservation, Urban decoration, Correct methodology of intervention