

LE SUPERFICI MURARIE A VISTA: RESTAURI A PALERMO E A RODI (FINE SEC. XIX - PRIMA METÀ XX)

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ABSTRACT

The essay investigates the particular technique of restoration for exposed wall surfaces of medieval architectures considering some cases in the city of Palermo and Rhodes in Greece (end of the 19th century - first half of the 20th century). In particular, after having eliminated the layers of plaster, even those coeval to the construction, the medieval architecture was subjected to interventions of remaking both internal and external surfaces by means of the "impellicciatura" technique, by reconstructing the rows of the ashlars of the masonry with material having same characteristics, size and color, or extracting the degraded stone ashlars, resecting the damaged part and relocating it into the masonry. With this technique, which combined pre-existing blocks marked by time, with new ones, with different color, of course, we wanted to give an ancient, harmonious image to the building, with the time spent almost frozen at the time which they were built. Before any intervention on any monument it is necessary to study them to better preserve them. Therefore it is also correct to investigate the technique, just presented, of restoration of exposed walls, because only by knowing thoroughly the architecture and restoration techniques of the past is it possible to better and effectively intervene for its conservation, for our generation, but especially for the future ones.

Key-words: Palermo (Italy), Rodi (Greece), medieval architecture, masonry veneer, restoration