

Gli affreschi della Cripta del Santuario di S. Maria del Piano in Ausonia (FR). Problemi conservativi e verifica dei risultati degli interventi storici di deumidificazione

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S. Maria del Piano in Ausonia's Crypt's frescoes (FR).

Preservative problems and tests regarding historical dehumidification attempts.

The theme that it's going to be discussed in this paper is that of the preservative effectiveness of a monument's transformation, from an original condition in which water is a pervasive element, to one in which it would be absent. The S. Maria del Piano Sanctuary was built in the place where the Virgin Mary appeared to a milkmaid named Remingarda on the 23 April 1100. The hypogeous environments are frescoed with the story and the life of S. Remingarda and scenes from the Old and the New Testament. The presence of a spring in the proximity of the crypt soon lead to its frescoes' degradation. An initial restoration was attempted between 1908 and 1912, followed by a second attempt during the 70', a third one specifically focused on the frescoes by the ICR, and a final one during the 90'. The current tests of the surfaces reveal an impoverishment in the pigments, with decohesed and extended plasters and homogeneous white veils, which is in obvious contrast with the expected results of the operations. Studies of the located sample areas, together with the experimental data, monitor the stability of the surfaces that have been freed from the saline sediments and the remainders of previous operations. Hygrothermal surveys provide the seasonal microclimatic pace thanks to the implementation of data loggers and superficial thermal sensors. The data loggers measure the air's temperature and the relative humidity, while the sensors, which have already been placed along the stonework, observe the physical parameters for at least one year.