

A necessary restoration in which it puts the best careful to the damaged ancient buildings and, moreover, to the hit population. The proposed method has been applied to the Nocera Umbra case and three steps compose it: the first, the most exacting, is finalised to the knowledge of the place. For more of six months living around Perugia, Nocera Umbra,

Foligno, Assisi, Appennino Umbro Marchigiano and Valnerina mountains, has been discovered small historical towns damaged by the earthquake of 1997.

It has adsorbed, as more as possible of that culture, of that living the seismic experience and of those traditional and actual constructive techniques that characterise the ancient Umbria towns as unique. The formulation of specific seismic scenery, for the Nocera town, has been faced with the troubles of institutions, library and archives often destroyed by the earthquake.

The historical, architectural, artistic knowledge of Nocera has been based on the direct observation of buildings, on the critical lecture, to comprehend the structural, material, building conception and their historical evolution; fundamental has been the comparison between architects, engineers, historians and seismologists of the place.



The concrete results of this first step were:

- geometrical, dimensional relief of Nocera Umbra's representative building;
- material and structural relief ;
- disarrangement's relief and construction of a schematic model of damages; the formulation of historical evolution's hypothesis of the area, signed by the ancient seismic events, a difficult test for the local employees' technical and constructive ability.



The second step is about the restoration. It tried to pursue the building's conservation and safety without the will of creating new solutions, proposing new alternatives about intervention on ancient structures hit by the earthquake. In this phase, the contribution of personalities such as A. Giuffré and S. Mastrodicasa was indispensable with their important knowledge and researches. Otherwise engineers such as G. Tosti and M. Tosti were important for the practical experience. At last, the *Manuale per la riabilitazione e ricostruzione postsismica degli edifici* by Umbria Region was a reasoned guide for the technicians' work.

Different projects has been observed and then it has been chosen the most suitable to correct and to eliminate the defects of the examined buildings without losing the principal aim: proposing a method for the knowledge, the restoration and rehabilitation of the damaged ancient buildings by the earthquake.

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