

**Macello's mill: yesterday a place of work, today an empty container. How to use it as an ecomuseum**

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The work on Macello's mill was born developing a theme of the final course "*progetto nel nuovo intervento e nella rifunzionalizzazione*". The mill of the nineteenth century is placed in Macello, a country-town at the south-east of Pinerolo.



The new use of this mill, closed in 1995, has a double aim: the preservation of the building, as "itself museum", and the realization of an "ecomuseum", as a memory.

The regional act n°. 31 March 14, 1995 - *Istituzione di ecomusei del Piemonte* - amended with the regional act n°. 23 August 17, 1998 safeguards and increases the value of territorial peculiarity. Piemonte is been the first region in Italy that has passed a law concerning ecomuseums.

The mills in Riva, Buriasco, Garzigliana, Osasco and San Secondo with Mainero's mill in Macello creat a system of museums, as an ecomuseum of the mill activity.

The more interesting historical period concerns the raising and the widening towards south and above the municipal canal of the mill, during the years 1930 – 1935.

This work, made by Giovanni Battista Caffaro, gives us an idea of the changing in the production cycle and underlines the connection between the building and the production cycle itself.

The project deals with the following topics: change of the building and the production cycle, survey of the mill, study of imperfections and the hypotheses of resolution, drawing up of the tender and the estimate, verify of the fire safety necessity and an hypothetical realization of an ecomuseum.

The plan foresees expositive panels and computers: the visitor can consult maps, virtual images, pages of book... with the help of a cd-rom "*Macello. L'Archivio virtuale*".

Atmosphere and noises live again in a videotape dated May, 1995, concerning the production cycle.

During the visit the callers can observe elevators, containers of the meal, silos...

Openings of the glass panel in the front of the elevators, makes possible to examine skip hoists.



To make this ecomuseum becomes a reality we have to hope in people curiosity and interest, avoiding to loose part of our common culture.

The dialog with the owners and the workers make possible to know a world of hard work and intelligence. It makes us part of a far-off atmosphere still existent.



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