Honors thesis

COURSE OF ARCHITECTURE HERITAGE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Abstract

Santa Giustina of Sezzadio
history and architectural survey of a medieval architecture

Tutor
Prof. Carlo TOSCO

by
Alessandro PIOVANO

Advisors
Prof.ssa Silvia BELTRAMO
Prof. Fulvio RINAUDO
Prof.ssa Roberta SPALLONE

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Important events, historical figures, legendary events, are just some of the elements that define briefly the Abbey of Santa Giustina of Sezzadio, a place rich in history where the local events have, always, been intertwined with the most important historical facts and the most influential figures of Italy between the middle ages and the Renaissance, to end in a progressive decay that has led on the brink of oblivion. From the legendary Foundation by king Liutprand, passing by the Government of Abbots, protected by the Holy See, and the Napoleonic wars, then to the 19th century with the first historical and architectural research, the Abbey of Santa Giustina has always brought with it many questions that often found no answer; Here’s that the alexandrian Francesco Gasparolo, scholar of medieval, undertakes a great research work aims to understand the history of what can be described as one of the most important abbeys of the middle ages. Unfortunately, the scarcity of documentary sources preserved, partially lost or inaccessible, made it unique and valuable the work of the historian Alexandrian, and right from his text of 1912, began the study path that led to the drafting of this thesis. Comparing research of the scholar and those carried out in recent times, by authors such as Simone Caldano or Alberto Scolari, proved what moment of critical analysis and revision of then the light of discoveries and current research. Combining architecture and archaeology you can investigate aspects that often risk being overlooked or even themes on which only the archaeological investigation of mold is able to shed some light, without forgetting the second purpose of the union of the two subjects in order words the discovery of new questions that may remain without explanation, but that surely will contribute, in the years to come, to keep alive the interest in the Abbey of Santa Giustina of Sezzadio. Experimentation, this is the character of the thesis that in an original and innovative brings together different disciplines that architectural themes, investigating artistic ones, make it possible to reach a different level of knowledge of the building. The lack of
drawings appropriate to the type of investigation to be carried out on the Abbey Church laid the foundations for the use of modern technologies terrestrial LIDAR and aerial photogrammetry from drone for the architectural survey, increasing the level of experimentation and offering multiple avenues of analysis arising from large precision instruments and especially by the amount of information that these technologies allow to acquire. In conclusion, we can say that the tangle of multiple subjects, or rather more knowledge, has been an important teaching to understand the role of the architect under the restoration, where the need to investigate the past is crucial for the correct definition of this. The thesis is structured in three parts: the first, cognitive character, aims to achieve an adequate level of knowledge of the historical and architectural appearance of Abbey Church; in the second part the knowledge gained are compared to the architectural survey of the current status, such as opportunity for discussion between the notion of historical character and its current evidence, as well as reference for the formulation of hypotheses relating to modularity in plant used by manufacturers; Finally, in the third part, the archaeology of architecture, with emphasis on the analysis of high, in particular running a brick mensiochronology analysis (conducted with traditional methods and experimental), allows the formation of a foundation for a future stratigraphic survey and mensiochronology accurate, using historical and architectural contributions will enable the definition of a complete and clear picture of the building.

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For further information please contact:
Alessandro Piovano, ale.piovano@gmail.com