



MULTILATERAL COMENIUS PROJECT  
"Green Building"  
ISTITUTO TECNICO STATALE



"L. Vanvitelli"  
Cava de' Tirreni  
Italy



School year: 2012-2013



# CAVA AND ITS SURROUNDINGS



Lifelong Learning Programme





Cava is a link between the geographical area of Agro Nocerino- Sarnese (flat, with an agricultural and industrial economy) and the Sorrento Peninsula (mountainous, with an economy based on tourism).

The soil of the valley and the plane called Agro Nocerino Sarnese is very fertile because ,thanks to Mount Vesuvius, it is a rich volcanic soil ; in fact two large eruptions 35,000 and 12000 years ago, left the region blanketed with very thick deposits of tephra which has since weathered to rich soils. The region has been intensively cultivated since before the birth of Christ. The land is planted with vines, vegetables, or flowers. Every square foot of this rich soil is used.



# CAVA DE' TIRRENI



The valley was certainly inhabited during the Roman Age: the discovery of several archeological relics dating back to that period stands as evidence.



# CAVA DE' TIRRENI

Cava de' Tirreni developed in the late 1300, when Pope Boniface IX raised the territory's status to that of a city, separating Cava from the Archdiocese of Salerno, in a valley surrounded by mountains and its downtown is completely inclosed in it. The main features of the town are the so called "portici" that together with The Benedictine Abbey and the numerous traditions such as the "disfida dei Trombonieri" make Cava an interesting historical centre.

The Portici were constructed in the XIII century and soon they had a crucial role as the Borough became part of the Regia road which linked Salerno to Napoli.

# THE PORTICI



# The portici

- ▣ The Portici flank the two sides of the street for more than 1 kilometer. Borgo Scacciaventi, so called after the name of one of the first families that lived there , has still a lot of features of medieval age : low palaces with a central courtyard. The diversity of palaces and porticos is due to the mastery of the local masons known all over the reign of Naples.



# Techniques and materials

- ▣ The building techniques used by those masons have remained so far. They used materials easily available locally, such as the piperno, a weather -proof greysh stone of volcanic origins , no longer available. It was used to erect the bearing walls of the porticos, blocks of piperno were laid without mortar , a material introduced later; the timber was used to build the floors and finally the cement that mixed with pozzolana was used for the other parts of the house.





# Other elements

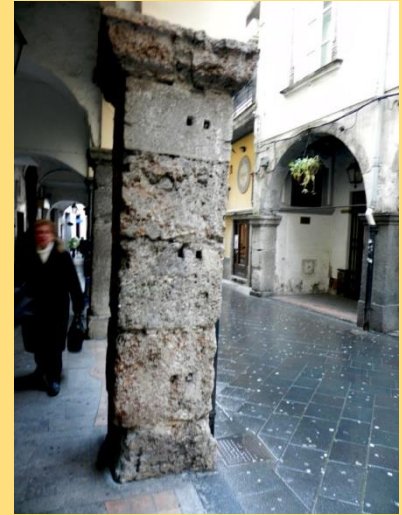
Facade with classical decorated windows



Decoration on the main door

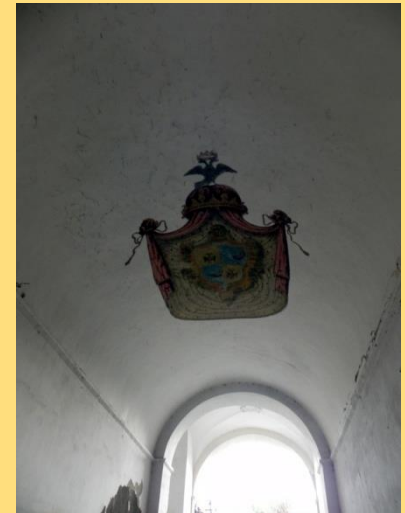


Railings decoration



Column

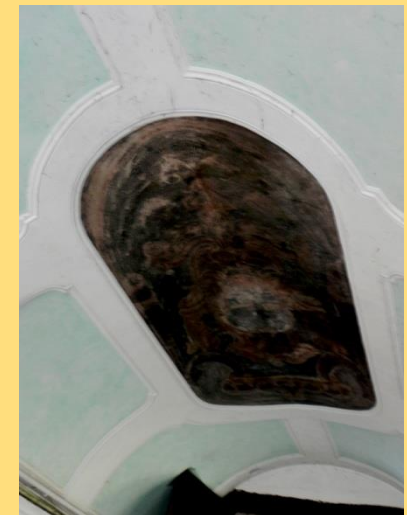
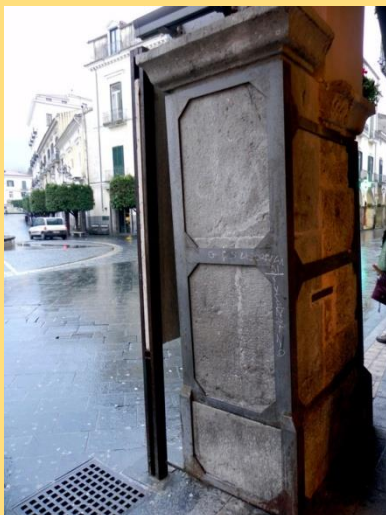
Painted ceiling with a family coat of arms



# Some corners of the porticos



Atrium with an ancient well made of stone



# NOCERA SUPERIORE

It is a small centre not far from Cava.

Its main building is the **Santa Maria Maggiore** paleochristian  
**Baptistry**





# The paleochristian baptistry

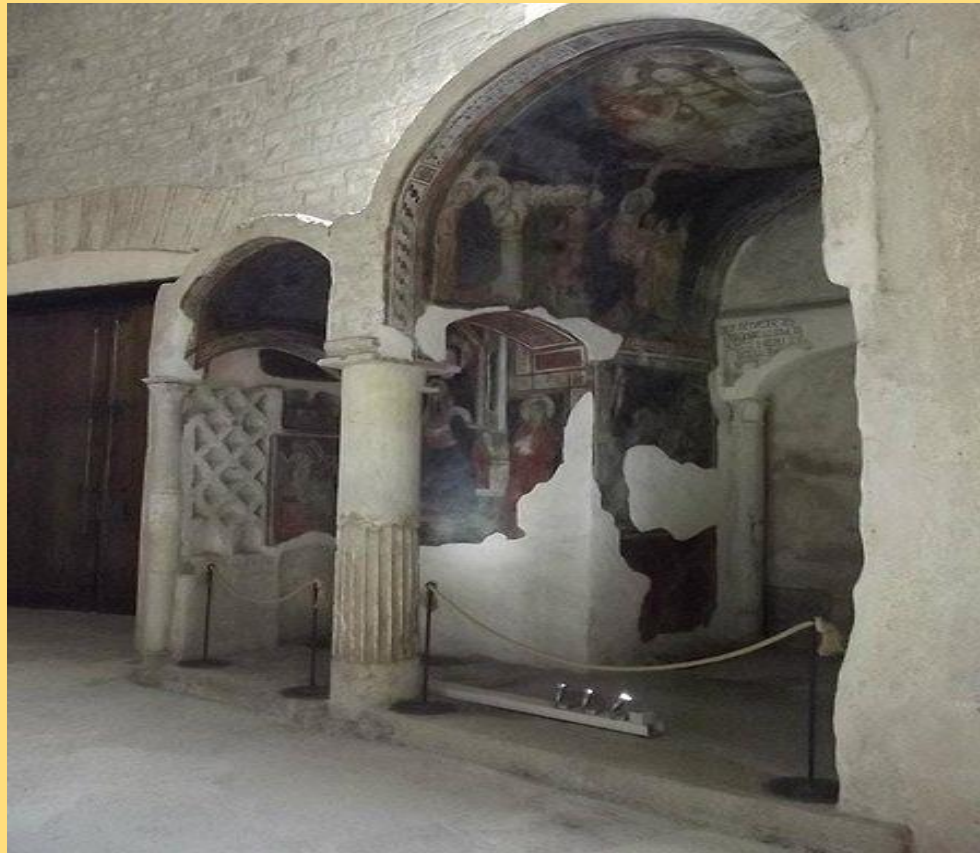
The **Paleochristian baptistry of Santa Maria Maggiore** also called **La Rotonda** was founded in the second half of the VI century A.D. probably built near the disappeared cathedral .



The building was built after the Byzantine model. It has a round plan with a double row of columns which support a dome . The plant is similar to the mausoleum of Santa Costanza in Rome. It has the second biggest font in Italy . The font is surrounded by columns coming from Roman temples dating back to the II and III century.



In the building, in two side chapels there are medieval paintings that need extraordinary repairs.





**NOCERA INFERIORE**



- **Nocera Inferiore** is a town at the foot of Monte Albino, 20 km east-south-east of Naples by rail.  
It lies within the territory of ancient *Nuceria*; its historic centre presents itself as a small medieval village.

# Cathedrals and monasteries

- San Prisco cathedral XIV century



- Monastery of Sant' Antonio  
XIII century



- Monastery of Sant' Anna XIII century





The most interesting places to visit are the Tofano Barracks, the 9th century Lombard Castle, the 14th century Palazzo Gueritore Broia and Palazzo Fienga.



The wealth of the town is due not only to the fertility of the soil ,but also to the underground from which grey tufa ( nocerite)is extracted and that is considered a good building material.

The tufa is due to the volcanic eruptions dating back to 35000 years ago



# ANGRI

Angri is a small centre not far from Cava in the valley of the river Sarno. It is an important agricultural centre and it is famous for the canning industry.





# Doria Castle



Main entrance of the Doria Castle



# Doria Castle

It houses the offices of the local town hall . It has got facades with porticos and loggias and a round tower. It dates back to 1290 when carlo II d'Angio gave the feud to Pietro Braherio . In the castle we can distinguish three parts :the two round towers , the imposing entry staircase of the 18° century and the palace after the manner of Vanvitelli. As a matter of fact in 1756 the princes Doria renovated the castle with the help of architect Francescani, who adopted most of Vanvitelli's features..

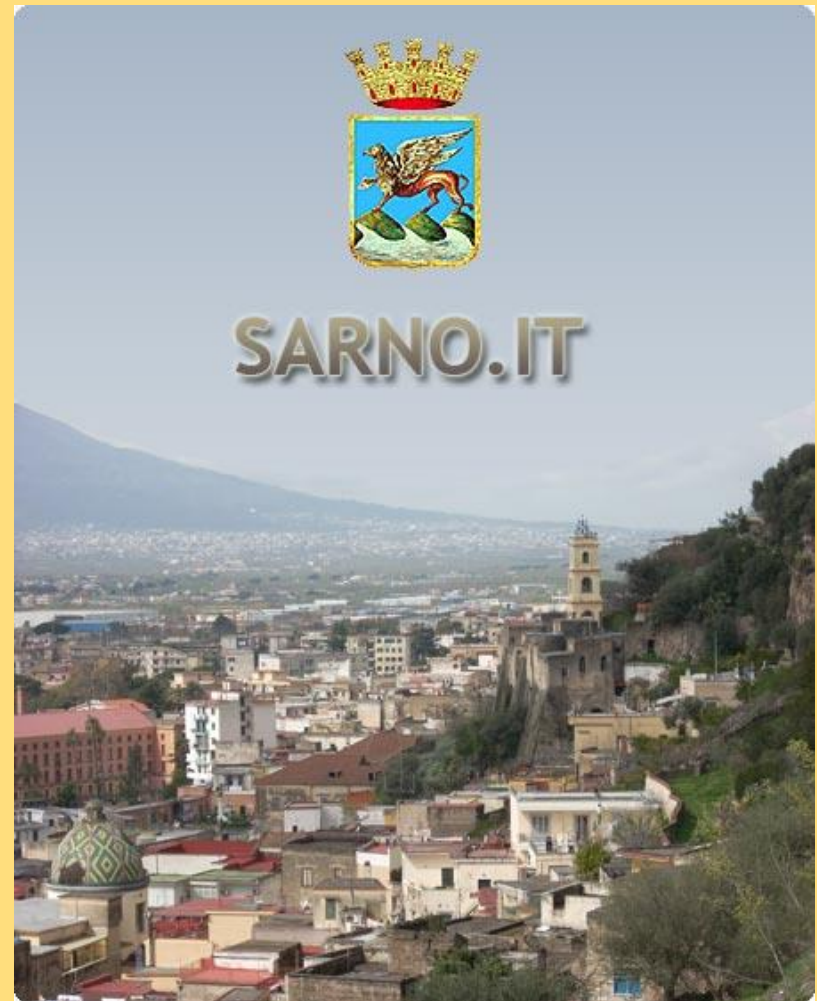


# SARNO



It lies at the foot of the Appennine Mountains, near the sources of the river Sarno , called Sarnus in ancient times, a stream connected by canals with Pompey and the sea.

The travertine which forms round the springs of the Sarno was used even at ancient Pompey as building material. Its first settlements date back to the neolithic era, it was probably abandoned after the catastrophic eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D.





# THE CASTLE

Sarno was conquered by the Romans, by the Normans, by the Aragonese, so the castle on the top of Mount Saro has both Norman and Aragonese characteristics. It presents a triangular plan, a typical Norman square tower and round towers.





# San Francesco Palace by Luigi Vanvitelli



The Palace houses the Town hall , its facade has been planned in Neo Classical style.

The interior is characterized by an imposing staircase and several paintings from local churches....

# SIANO



Siano is a small agricultural centre between the plane called Agro Nocerino-Sarnese and the valley of the river Irno.



An important historical building is Palazzo Iennaco that needs an intervention of conservation and restoration to prolonge the life and integrity of its architectural character. This intervention is considered important also because the territory is included in the list with high seismic activity.



# Ancient building techniques stone works

Romans are famous for their advanced engineering accomplishments, although some of their own inventions were improvements on older ideas, concepts and inventions.

- ▣ **Opus quadratum** is an ancient Roman construction technique, in which squared blocks of stone of the same height were set in parallel courses, often without the use of mortar. It was used from the VI century B.C.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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