



Working for an electronic database of historical stone resources in Friuli Venezia Giulia region (Italy).

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Friuli Venezia Giulia region occupies the northeastern corner of Italy, at the border with Austria and Slovenia. Due to a great availability of stone materials, quarried in the northern mountains, the Alpi Giulie, as well as in the southern hilly area and in the eastern Karst, a variety of different stone resources were employed in its historical buildings. The provision areas of these building materials, as well as the location of ancient quarries, are well documented in historical references and in archive documents. They indicate that local quarries of reduced dimension were a constant presence throughout a two thousand years old history of construction in the area. In modern times these quarries were progressively dismissed, abandoned and, finally, forgotten. Only recently, a new attention was paid to historical building resources and detailed studies regarding the use of natural stone materials in times were carried on, both in the field of geological and building researches. The results acquired are of great importance not only for the history of constructions, but they also constitute a useful help for proper restoration analysis and interventions.

Nevertheless, the lack of a comprehensive tool, organizing the great amount of data coming from historical documents and recent researches restricts the field of action of the collected material to specialists, preventing the development of a shared knowledge. In order to overpass this limit, a research work is on going, addressed in organizing an electronic database of historical stone resources of Friuli Venezia Giulia region. Having as starting point the indication of historical quarries, as described in two 19th century reference inventories Friuli area, the database will relate the sites with existing buildings and constructions in which the quarried materials were employed, integrating, when possible, these basic knowledge elements with images and

specific references. The aim of the work is not only to evidence the high variety of stone resources in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region and their influence for the history of buildings, but also to permit a multiple cross correlation among architectural, material and geographical data. Once the database will be implemented, the hope is it will become, as well, an operational tool, to be continuously upgraded, supporting future preservation and restoration intervention plans.