

ELEMENTI DECORATIVI DI FACCIATA: NUOVI PROCESSI E PRODOTTI TRA STANDARDIZZAZIONE E TIPIZZAZIONE

Decorative façade elements: new processes and products between standardisation and typification

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Abstract

It is impossible to overlook the decorative apparatus that characterises many façades of both historic and modern buildings within Italy's vast building heritage. Many of these decorative elements are characterised by minute details that, on the one hand, give uniqueness to the façade, but on the other represent an operative challenge in restoration and maintenance activities; this leads to a condition of visual discomfort in the perception of built space and a much more serious lack of safety due to frequent detachments. Environmental sustainability principles, encouraging the use of secondary raw materials, and the growing interest in the typification of materialisation processes and engineering of the design phases, require a synthesis of techniques and technologies that aim to generate original paradigmatic forms also in unexplored fields for applications like rapid prototyping and innovative materials; implementing these approaches could open up new lines of experimentation for the use of new products for the restoration of façade decorative elements through the prototyping of matrices suitable for punctual elements by using new mixtures compatible with the substrate.

The aim of this contribution is to analyse the current state of the art in terms of activities and tools set up for relief and installation of punctual elements, in order to identify technologies, compositions and production phases related to the characterisation of façades through digital modelling tools.

Keywords: *innovative products, materialisation processes, building heritage*