

IL RECUPERO DELLE ANTICHE CARCERI DELLA VICARIA IN CASTEL CAPUANO, UN POLO DI RIGENERAZIONE URBANA NEL CENTRO STORICO DI NAPOLI

AMALIA SCIELZO

Architetto, già funzionario Soprintendenza ABAP Napoli
amalia.scielzo@gmail.com

Abstract.

THE RECOVERY OF THE ANCIENT PRISONS OF THE VICARIA IN CASTEL CAPUANO, AN URBAN REGENERATION POLE IN THE HISTORICAL CENTER OF NAPLES

Since the mid-sixteenth century Castel Capuano has been the seat of the Court of the Vicar and the annexed prisons of the vice-kingdom, then of the kingdom of Naples and, finally, after the Unification, of the Neapolitan area: a intended use that has been decisive for the transformations and adaptations suffered over time - originally a defensive fortress and then a palace - but it is also today for its enhancement because it represents an important cultural heritage of the city and a resource for future development. Starting from this strong suggestion, one of the objectives of the restoration and re-functionalization intervention is to overturn a gloomy and only punitive vision of justice with the new uses of its symbolic building. When the works are completed - with the free opening to the public to the courtyard area, the basement and the ground floor, connected by a new urban lift and the setting up of civic, social and cultural activities in the old prisons - the current "barrier "Urban to go around is transformed into a " building to cross ", the fulcrum for an urban regeneration with a powerful symbolic value.

The project of re-functionalization of a significant area of the Castle therefore aims to combine the enhancement of the urban fabric of a part of the historic center with the preservation of historical and symbolic values related to the issue of legality and justice that the building represents.

Keywords: *Capuano Castel, ancient prisons Vicaria, urban regeneration, public history, civic awareness*