

Pordenone, former public bathrooms

The public bathrooms were built in 1907 to offer a service that could improve the living conditions of the citizens, as most of the inhabitants still exploited the spring water that surrounded the city to satisfy common hygienic needs, the residential building was not adapted to the standards of sanitary engineering and the sewage system was completely inadequate.

The construction of the building was carried out by a mixed company formed by the Municipality of Pordenone and some private individuals. It was decided to intervene in an area along the new road to Udine, in front of the municipal slaughterhouse, at the time full suburb. The building was built in a modern style, externally it had the appearance of a villa, a little set back from the road. It had a plant characterized by a large hall on the ground floor, which led from one side to the wing dedicated to men and from the other to that reserved for women. A small hexagonal room served as a hinge to this simple composition. The tower on the first floor, which corresponded to the space dedicated to the offices, took up some examples of extra-urban villas. The south facade was almost completely perforated, in the entrance hall the tripartite windows were very large, while in the area of the baths the transparencies were created under the eaves. The public bathrooms, to meet the needs of an increasingly numerous population, were expanded in 1934 and 1949. The plant remained in operation until the 1970s, then the change in the lifestyles of the citizens of Pordenone rendered its function superfluous. Today the building is in a state of complete abandonment.

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