

Pordenone Palazzo Pera and Palazzo Sbrojavacca

Palazzo Pera has been, together with Palazzo Sbrojavacca, the seat of the Province of Pordenone since 2005. Examination of the external facade and the internal masonry, carried out before the last restorations, showed that the building represents the result of the annexation of more buildings from the fifteenth century. In the central part of the main facade there are several fragments of frescoes, some with fake bricks and others with geometric-floral motifs. Around the 16th century the building was extended towards the backyard and the ceiling was raised. This last statement is confirmed by the discovery of beams decorated with floral motifs and masks in the floor slab on the second floor, dating back to that era. Inside the palace are preserved frescoes dated 1774 by the monogramist B.B., depicting landscapes and sea views. It is known that the Pera family, originally from Trentino, arrived in Pordenone from Portobuffolè and became part of the Pordenone nobility starting from 1770. Behind the residence, the Pera family owned one of the five private mills in the city, fed by the irrigation ditch, for grinding the wheat. The palace is known for having received in 1738 the sumptuous retinue of Maria Amalia Saxony and Poland, wife of the Infant of Spain Charles, king of Naples and Sicily, future king of Spain with the name of Charles III. In addition, on the facade there is a plaque that recalls that in August 1825 the former Podestà Luigi Pera hosted Emperor Francis I of Austria, his consort Carolina Augusta, the hereditary couple and the viceroy Ranieri in his sumptuous home. In April 1987 the Pera and Sbrojavacca palaces were purchased by the provincial administration of Pordenone. From the late 1990s to the early 2000s, the two buildings underwent careful consolidation and restoration works which, once completed, restored them to their former glory.

Palazzo Sbrojavacca has been, together with Palazzo Pera, the seat of the Province of Pordenone since 2005. Recent renovations of the building have brought to light in the oldest part of the building, datable to the end of the fifteenth century, in particular traces of ancient frescoes, attributable to Gianfrancesco da Tolmezzo (1450-1515). During the period between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, the building was affected by several structural changes, through which it obtained the appearance that it still preserves today. After the Great War the central hall was entirely repainted by Tibulzio Donadon.

The Sbrojavacca family arrived in Pordenone in 1740 and rented the palace with the intention of settling here forever. They were attached to the city council and in 1790 they were able to hold the office of podestà. The Sbrojavacca can include among their descendants warlords, jurists, writers and podestàs. Like the adjoining Palazzo Pera, Palazzo Sbrojavacca also gave hospitality to illustrious people: in particular Francesco Maria Fenzi, archbishop of Corfu (1784); the sovereigns of Naples and Tuscany, Maria Carolina and Maria Luisa Amalia, traveling from Gorizia to Venice (1791) and the Duke of Modena Francesco d'Asburgo d'Este (1814). At the beginning of the 2000s Palazzo Sbrojavacca underwent careful consolidation and restoration works.

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