



## The long history of the "museum over the waterfall"

This exceptional perspective of the almost final version of the Civico Museo 'Parisi Valle' project dates back to around 1982 and represents one of the keys to this exhibition: the high graphic quality with which the architect Maurizio Sacripanti carried out every single compositional variation of his work, which made him a 'master' for many generations of professionals. In this version, the lift shaft is still missing, and it was drafted only after the construction of the museum, started in 1981, had already been going on for a while.

The drawing is the result of a long conceptual process, the complete chronology of which can finally be retraced.

An initial concept was presented by Maurizio Sacripanti in May 1978, while a plan by the engineer Giuseppe Noris was still in force, with which the Maccagno municipality and the 'Parisi Foundation' were trying to raise funds and approvals. There remains no graphic version of this project by Sacripanti, only a detailed description of his intentions.

In 1979, the first project was completed, the so-called 'Outline Project' drafted by the team led by Sacripanti (with engineer Giuseppe Noris and architect Roberto Colella) for a museum and educational centre, which was located on a bank of the river and, therefore, planned with some levels underground.

This was followed, finally, by the first bridge project, submitted between April and May 1980, 'the whale' as Sacripanti called it. The bridge, however, was still closed and had no windows except for some skylights in the ceiling. In any case, it was considered as the final project by the professionals and became a construction site from 1981.

On the basis of this project, different versions were developed, which led to the construction of the museum in its actual shape: in August 1980, windows were introduced on the mountain side and to the south, but the entrance was still planned in the middle of the bridge across the river. In 1982 the entrance was moved to the northwest corner. Finally, in 1983, under the strict control of Maurizio Sacripanti, the ultimate modifications were outlined: an external ramp system, a lift (with related alterations of the access stairs to the bridge on the lake side), a rooftop bar and a vault, the latter underground and detached from the museum body.

### “My whale”

*Maurizio Sacripanti's museum on the Giona river in Maccagno*

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