

1979. The museum 'on the banks' and the 'outline project'.

In the municipal archives, the outline project, the first and most developed known project for an 'art centre' in Maccagno, is extensively illustrated with plans. In the exhibition, it is shown almost in its totality for the interesting solution and the excellent graphical rendering.

The project is not dated; however, it was approved in 1979.

Set on a square surface of almost 80 metres, the project included the different functional uses that were still at the heart of Giuseppe Parisi's programme (and before in the plan by Noris) in a single modular block distributed mainly on one floor.

The plan was gigantic and was perhaps conceived without a precise knowledge of the place and the economic and social conditions of the area.

Moreover, as already described, it was planned on the banks of the river.

In any case, it was a good preparation and already included the 'keys' of the final project and the actual museum, interpreting forms dear to Sacripanti like the mountain ranges of the Alpine landscape: the cupola skylight and even – although conceived 'on the banks' - the idea of an 'empty' pivot in the centre of the construction, which corresponds to the actual cavedium open to the running water of the river.

Therefore, the plans with variations on the theme of the cavedium attached to the 1979 'Outline project' are very impressive. Here the architect is enjoying the idea of excavating two or more levels to create a view into the depths.

“My whale”

Maurizio Sacripanti's museum on the Giona river in Maccagno

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Photo: Allegra Martin.